

# MONIQUE BURR FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN | FACT SHEET



MONIQUE BURR  
FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN, INC.  
PREVENTION EDUCATION PROGRAMS

## ABOUT

The Monique Burr Foundation for Children (MBF) is a Florida-based nonprofit organization founded in 1997 by Edward E. Burr, in honor of his late wife Monique Burr, a devoted child advocate. At MBF, we believe every child deserves to be safe. And we are on a mission to change the way prevention education is delivered, to ultimately create a culture change. Research shows that 95% of abuse is preventable through education, so we provide research-based prevention education programs to schools across Florida and in multiple states. Our programs teach students in grades K through 8, 5 Safety Rules to help protect them from bullying, cyberbullying and all types of abuse. We've reached over 2 million students in six years and hope to reach every student in the United States.

## FAQS | What programs are available to schools?

MBF Prevention Education Programs are research-based, primary prevention programs that educate and empower students and all relevant adults with information and strategies to prevent, recognize, and respond appropriately to bullying and cyberbullying, exploitation, digital dangers, and all types of child abuse.

### The programs are:

- **RESEARCHED.** The programs are research-based and utilize prevention research best practices.
- **PRACTICAL.** The programs were developed WITH schools, not FOR schools, and are easy for schools to implement with their limited time and resources.
- **SUPPORTED.** The programs are supported by national subject matter experts, state leaders, and agencies in the education and prevention fields, including Erin Merryn of Erin's Law, David Finkelhor, Ph.D., Director, Crimes Against Children Research Center, University of New Hampshire, and others, and are trusted by parents, schools, and administrators.

### Programs include:

- **MBF Child Safety Matters™ – Elementary School Edition**
  - For students in grades K-5
  - Two classroom lessons per grade level (or 4 shorter lessons)
  - Lesson times range from 20 - 55 minutes each
- **MBF Teen Safety Matters™ – Middle School Edition**
  - For students in grades 6-8
  - Three 45-minute classroom lessons per grade level (or 6 shorter lessons)

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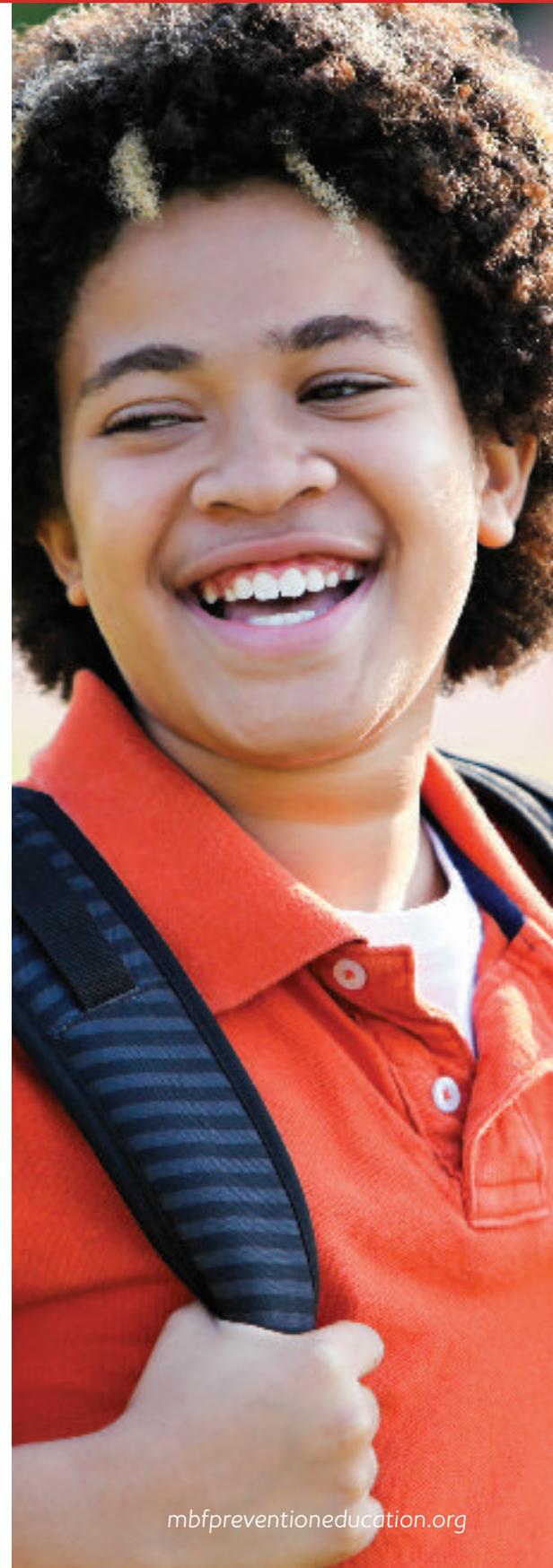
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## Where are MBF programs being provided?

- **MBF Child Safety Matters and MBF Teen Safety Matters are available at no cost to students in Florida public schools, through a generous appropriation by the Office of the Florida Attorney General.**
- **Currently, schools in 64 out of 67 counties in Florida are using the program.**
- **MBF programs are also being used in 9 other states, including:**
  - Ohio
  - Minnesota
  - Oregon
  - West Virginia
  - Alabama
  - Colorado
  - Nebraska
  - New York
  - Indiana

## What are the 5 Safety Rules? What do they mean?

- **Safety Rule #1 – Know What’s Up**
  - Children should know how to dial 911; know the safety procedures at home and at school; know their personal information; and know their family password if they have one.
  - Adults should “Know What’s Up” by understanding the dangers to kids and how they can help keep them safe.
- **Safety Rule #2 – Spot Red Flags**
  - Kids and adults should learn the warning signs that might alert them that a situation is not safe.
  - “Red Flags” are clues that a child, or someone they know, might be in danger.
- **Safety Rule #3 – Make a Move**
  - When children find themselves in an unsafe situation, it can be helpful to know that they have choices to stay safe.
  - Kids can “Make a Move,” such as “Get Away or Stay Away.”
  - Adults can also “Make a Move,” on behalf of kids, such as making a report.



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- **Safety Rule #4 – Talk It Up**

- Kids and adults should “Talk It Up” to safe adults and each other when they are faced with an unsafe situation, need help, or to stand up to someone harming others.
- Kids are also encouraged to use their voice to say no to harmful touches or bullying.

- **Safety Rule #5 – No Blame | No Shame**

- Kids learn they are never to blame if something bad happens to them, and they should not be ashamed to tell.
- Kids are also taught that if they have been hurt in the past and didn’t tell, it’s still okay to tell.
- “No Blame | No Shame” teaches adults that if a child has been hurt, they are not to blame and there is no shame in seeking help.

## **How do schools get the program? Is there a cost?**

Florida public schools are provided with program materials at no cost through a generous appropriation from the Office of the Florida Attorney General.

Private school and organizations, and schools outside of Florida, can purchase the program. Materials are provided at a reasonable cost, and school bundles - which include materials for all grades - are offered at a discounted rate for both programs. Purchasing materials grants access to program updates, online facilitator training, and support for the organization for three years.

To order or purchase materials, email [Info@mbfpreventioneducation.org](mailto:Info@mbfpreventioneducation.org).



# TESTIMONIALS



**MONIQUE BURR**  
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“I just finished the MBF program with our kids. We are a small school and I was able to do all grades K-5. The kids LOVED it and so did I. We did talk about a lot of deep subjects and great conversations. I do a religion class weekly with our kids K-5 so it was a natural fit for me to do the MBF program. Thanks for your work!”

**- Diane M. Lee, Ed. S., Harrison,  
Principal, St. Ann’s School, LeSueur, MN**

“I had a mother of one of my third-grade students request a meeting with me over the summer. As soon as I walked up to greet her for the meeting she burst into tears. She said ‘This isn’t how I wanted to meet you, but I wanted you to know about something that happened in our home.’ At a family party another distant family member approached her girls and asked them to play a special game in the garage. When she got there with him she realized it was a red flag and got away. She told her mother ‘I did just what Ms. Harrison told us to do, Mom.’ Her mother said that information saved her from a horrible event happening to her and she was so grateful. This program works because it gives a clear understanding of what to look out for and what to do. It uses a common language for all grade levels, so it can be reinforced by all.”

**- Michelle Harrison, School Counselor,  
Cornerstone Academy, Orlando, FL**

“It’s all about child abuse prevention. As a school counselor, we are hands on and kids report a lot of information to us, so we are able to inform them and then also inform our staff on what to do in that type of situation. As a school counselor, they make my job easier. The program covers some of the criteria I have to meet as a counselor.”

**- Beth Dudjak, School Counselor,  
Kernan Trail Elementary, Jacksonville, FL**

“We’re currently using MBF Child Safety Matters™ in our schools. The Monique Burr Foundation promotes child safety, prevention and education, and they also bring programs to us that help empower children. Teachers usually stay in the classroom while these lessons are being presented, so sometimes it is an eye opener to them about something they may not have known, and if they have more questions or concerns, we have our in-house facilitator that they can go to.”

**- Marcy Dunavant, Assistant Principal,  
Kernan Trail Elementary, Jacksonville, FL**

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“It wasn’t until I learned about the Monique Burr Foundation that I actually learned that I was teaching my kids in a very unhealthy way – in a fearful, painful way. When I heard about the Monique Burr Foundation curriculum, I said, ‘We are in.’ Child Safety Matters is exactly what this mission is and exactly what this mission is about. Ninety-five percent of abuse is preventable with education. Everything that is impacting our youth today is covered.”

**- Lt. Lakesha Burton, Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office  
Executive Director of the Police Athletic League;  
child abuse survivor**

“I cannot thank the Foundation enough to have other people that are also concerned about my child’s safety – and a lot of kids as well – especially focusing on the prevention side.”

**- Roberta Targino, M.Ed., parent**

“At the core of the mission is really to give hope in the life of a child by teaching them prevention education that addresses the threats that they face. There’s not a child in the world who can’t benefit from this program. There are so many instances where we see children have been damaged and hurt – things happen to them and we think, if they had only had this program, if they had only had the benefit of this education, that may not have happened. And if we can prevent that from happening in a single child, then it is worth all the effort that we put forth.”

**- Edward E. Burr, Founding Chairman,  
Monique Burr Foundation for Children**