



July 21, 2023 For Immediate Release

Tanenbaum Launches Transforming Conflict Curriculum for Educators

New York, NY, July 19, 2023: The Tanenbaum | Center for Interreligious Understanding is excited to launch *Transforming Conflict: Tools for Building Respect in Our Diverse World*, a free curriculum advancing how conflict can be used as an opportunity to build respect for difference, rather than something to fear or avoid. *Transforming Conflict*, for grades 6 – 12, utilizes practical approaches for how to build respect for difference in their communities. Its interactive lessons help students create caring, respectful spaces where everyone can feel safe.

"What sets *Transforming Conflict* apart is the focus on conflict transformation, rather than just resolution. It encourages students to view conflicts as opportunities for collaboration and curiosity, empowering students with skills for respectful engagement in our diverse world," said Mark Fowler, Tanenbaum's CEO.

Recognizing the challenges educators face integrating social and emotional learning into existing curriculum, *Transforming Conflict* can be easily incorporated. This curriculum fosters social and emotional growth through lessons that encourage students to:

- Recognize that conflict is a normal part of living in a diverse world.
- Understand factors that shape conflict.
- Practice skills of self-understanding, respectful communication and empathy for others.
- Apply acquired skills to transform conflicts.
- **Learn** about Tanenbaum's *Peacemakers in Action* who are engaged in transforming conflicts around the globe.
- Explore how to use conflict transformation skills in everyday life.

Transforming Conflict allows students to practice handling conflict through cooperation and mutual respect. It teaches social and emotional skills that are vital to understanding and thriving in multicultural communities, and to value others' unique perspectives.

Tanenbaum's mission is to promote justice and build respect for religious difference. Our programmatic work transforms individuals and institutions to reduce religious prejudice, hatred, and violence. In our Education program, this means helping students learn behaviors of respect for diversity, including religious diversity. Teaching constructive responses to conflict is a key component of our mission. Understanding how our unique identities impact conflict situations, and learning to honor those identities, allow us all to transform conflicts into opportunities for personal and communal growth.

For more information, contact Dasha Tanner, Assistant Director of Communications – Media & PR, at dtanner@tanenbaum.org or (323) 828-0386.

Tanenbaum promotes justice and builds respect for religious difference by transforming individuals and institutions to reduce prejudice, hatred, and violence. More information about Tanenbaum's offerings can be found here: https://tanenbaum.org/