

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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### ***The Behavior Isn't the Kid.***

*The behavior is a symptom of what's going on in their life.*

With recent controversy regarding a student thrown from her desk because she didn't obey orders - Project Harmony presents [PAPER TIGERS](#), a feature length documentary that explores the impact of adverse childhood experiences on struggling teens. Their teachers are armed with new science and fresh approaches that are changing their students' lives for the better.

Paper Tigers will run (tonight) Tuesday, November 10, at 6 p.m. at the AMC Westroads 14 Theater. A panel discussion will follow led by:

- Deb Anderson, Director of Connections at Project Harmony
- Eric Nelson, Principal at Fontenelle Elementary
- Ree Reimers, Training Specialist at Project Harmony
- Tiffany White-Welchen, Director of Behavioral Health Services at Charles Drew Health Center

"Project Harmony appreciates the opportunity to share Paper Tigers with the Omaha community and audiences who care deeply about improving outcomes for the next generation," says Project Harmony Executive Director Gene Klein.

"Paper Tigers is a profoundly important film that offers critical insights into one of the most widespread educational and health challenges in American society. It should be mandatory viewing for teachers and principals across the country, and anyone who works with vulnerable youths," said David Bornstein, New York Times author and Co-Founder of The Solutions Journalism Network.

The film follows a year in the life of Lincoln High Alternative School in Walla Walla, Washington. After radically changing its approach to disciplining its students, Lincoln High saw a dramatic turnaround in everything from the number of fights to test scores to graduation rates. The school has become a promising model of how to break the cycles of poverty, violence and disease that affect families. Paper Tigers is a testament to what the latest research on childhood adversity is proving: that one caring adult can change the trajectory of a young person's life.

Despite the upheaval in their home lives, the students find the support they need at Lincoln to make academic progress, and find less destructive ways of coping. They also find hope for becoming healthy and productive adults as they go out into the world.

### **ABOUT PROJECT HARMONY**

Project Harmony is a nonprofit, community-based organization that has served more than 25,000 children during the past 19 years by providing a child friendly environment in which specially-trained professionals work together to assess, investigate, and resolve child abuse cases. In one centralized location, Project Harmony co-houses with Omaha Police Department Child Victim/Sexual Assault Unit, Nebraska Health & Human Services/Child Protection Service Initial Assessment and Child Abuse Hotline, Lutheran Family Services and Child Saving Institute. Project Harmony exists to protect and support children, collaborate with professionals and engage the community to end child abuse and neglect.

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