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Adoption Agency Educates Rye Middle School Students on Adoption



Vanessa Bush, a social worker from Forever Families Through Adoption, at Rye Middle School

On January 3, Forever Families Through Adoption (FFTA), a local agency and resource center in Rye Brook, sent two social workers, Vanessa Bush and Becca Leitman, to Rye Middle School for a day of interactive adoption education activities for approximately 100 students.

Students shared their knowledge of and questions about adoption. The discussions highlighted topics such as the different types of adoption, the adoption process, making an adoption plan, the steps involved for a pregnant woman/couple who is/are considering adoption, famous adoptees and famous birth parents and adoption language.

Students were eager to share their responses and the room became full of exciting dialogue.

The students then participated in a physical activity called "step the line," where they were asked to step forward in response to statements made about adoption that applied to them.

Bush stated that "It was amazing to see how many students in the classroom were connected with adoption in one way or another; it affects the lives of so many, which just emphasizes, even more, the need for adoption education in the community."

FFTA has been providing workshops for hundreds of middle and high school students throughout New York and Connecticut as part of their community outreach programs since 2007.

"It's important to raise awareness on adoption issues, provide basic information and correct misconceptions and myths about adoption in order to increase sensitivity towards those who were adopted, have made adoption plans, or are adoptive parents," said FFTA Executive director Joy S. Goldstein, LCSW, ACSW, a local resident and adoptive mother of three.

For more information, contact FFTA at 914-939-1180 or www.foreverfamiliesthroughadoption.org.