



Dear Upstander,

I hope that this letter finds you and your loved ones safe, healthy, and successfully managing the stressors of the season. I am sure many of you, for many different reasons, can relate to the bittersweet emotions of joy and excitement all mixed together with sadness and emptiness that I experience during this most wonderful season of hope, love, lights, and abundant celebrations with friends and loved ones.

**But no one should ever experience this mix of emotions because of bullying behavior.**

We began the Tyler Clementi Foundation in 2010 after Tyler's death by suicide, when he was cyberbullied because of his sexual orientation, to prevent anyone else from having to experience the trauma caused by bullying behaviors. Our goal then, as it still is today, is to prevent the pain and despair caused by bullying behavior.

Please consider [donating](#) to the Tyler Clementi Foundation for your 2021 end-of-year donation in loving memory of Tyler. Your investment is life-saving and 100% of your donation will go towards building a future where everyone is treated with kindness, respect, and empathy.

Although we have come a long way, there is still so much more that needs to be done. In September, the Center for Disease Control shared that the rate of suicide among those aged 10 to 24 **increased nearly 60%** between 2007 and 2018. This increase is worrisome, and it is why our programming is uniquely designed to promote Upstander behavior to prevent the trauma caused by bullying behavior. When Upstanders intervene, the bullying behavior stops within **10 seconds 57% of the time.**

### **Creating More Safe Spaces:**

- To date, over 1 million individuals have taken a public stand against bullying by signing our Upstander Pledge. As we approach 2022, we invite you to share the pledge with your friends and family to create an additional 1 million more Upstanders!
- In 2021, our Youth Ambassador program engaged and supported 39 youth leaders ages 13 to 19 to present capstone projects that spread the message of kindness, compassion, and Upstander behavior to their local communities, in 14 states.