

Lafayette crowd remembers bullying victims

Dylan Peers McCoy, dmccoy@jconline.com Published 11:17 p.m. ET June 4, 2015 | Updated 12:22 a.m. ET June 5, 2015



(Photo: Dylan Peers McCoy/Journal & Courier)

A crowd of friends, family and strangers gathered in downtown Lafayette for a candlelight vigil in memory of Angel Green and other victims of bullying Thursday night.

Angel's mother, Danielle Green, shared the story of Angel's suffering at the hands of bullies and her suicide. Other speakers offered support to children who are victims and spoke in favor of legislation to end bullying.

Perhaps the most affecting moment came near the end of the vigil, when Green brought another parent forward. Don Myers lost her son to suicide March 6, 2015.

He was 13-years-old.

During the vigil, Myers was frozen by grief, eyes filled with tears as she clutched a candle. She barely uttered a word. Instead, she stood with Green as she spoke for Myers, telling of her son's passion for sports and his dog Riley.



26 Photos

PHOTOS: vigil in memory of bullying victims

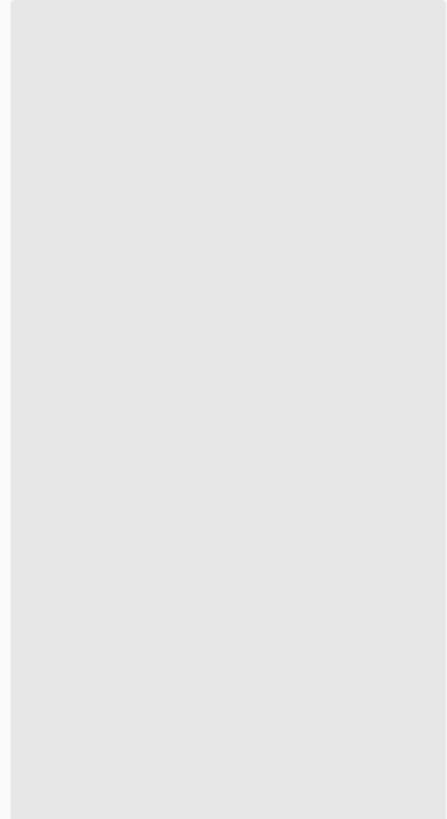


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"Unlike my daughter, her son displayed no signs. He kept the smiling face," Green said, sharing what Myers had told her. "He didn't tell anybody that he was being bullied at school or anything was wrong with him."

The vigil, which took place in front of the Tippecanoe County Courthouse, drew more than fifty people. It was organized by Eyes on Lafayette, a community group that was founded last fall with the aim of protecting children, and Angel Green's mother Danielle Green.

Angel Green died by suicide in March 2013, after enduring severe bullying in school, at home and online, according to her mother. Angel was 14 years old, a middle school student, at the time of her suicide.



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student, at the time of her suicide.



Danielle & Angie's Fight to Stop Bullying in Schools

In the wake of Angel's death, Green joined with other parents and successfully pushed through anti-bullying legislation in Indiana.

But Green isn't satisfied yet.

Now, she and Angie Stagge — whose daughter was also a victim of bullying — are campaigning for federal anti-bullying legislation.

A [petition](#) they posted on Change.org garnered more than 98,000 signatures over the last four months, and Green is [raising money](#) for a foundation in her daughter's name.

"We have our goals in sight, and I'm not going to stop fighting for them," Green said. "My daughter — she didn't have all the strength that she needed to combat against this bullying. And what strength that she had left she gave to me for me to fight for her."

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