

ANTI-BIAS PROGRAM Negative Stereotyping Awareness and Education

The Anti-Bias Committee (ABC) of UNICO National serves an essential purpose by educating the public, thereby creating awareness of negative stereotyping and discrimination against Italians and Italian Americans. This committee achieves its goals in a number of ways:

The Mille Grazie Award, A Thousand Thanks, is presented to those who exemplify the positive image of the Italian and Italian American culture, stand up for their Italian American heritage, and speak out against defamation and stereotyping.

The committee provides support programs and seminars expounding the positive aspects of the Italian and Italian American culture, arts and literature at schools, corporations, and communities throughout the country.

Films, such as, "Anti-Italianism: Discrimination and Defamation in the History of Italian Americans" are brought to the public's awareness.

UNICO's ABC program brought to light the outstanding efforts of the Italian people during World War II to save Jews who had fled to Italy to avoid persecution. The organization worked with the defamation arm of B'nai B'rith on "A Debt to Honor," which details these heroic efforts.

Seminars to educate students of this forgotten part of Italian history have been held. Additionally, this chapter of Italian history has been added to the curriculum of the state of New Jersey schools.