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ABSTRACT

Violent crimes, especially those committed with guns, have been increasing at an alarming rate among children and teenagers. This manual is intended to help teach young people in Ohio how to prevent violence and to assist individuals, groups, and organizations in planning and implementing antiviolence conferences, forums, or workshops for children and teenagers. Included in the manual are materials for planning a youth conference or forum. Topics are (1) "Agenda Ideas"; (2) planning a "Timeline"; (3) "Things to Consider," which provides a list of things people can do to enhance the conference experience, supplies that might be needed, and ways to involve people; (4) "Do's and Don'ts of Conducting a Conference," which offers a short list of smart suggestions; (5) "Profiles of Effective Programs Statewide," which offers program resources; (6) "Speakers Resource List"; (7) "Fact Sheets," which includes "25 Things You Can Do to Promote Peaceful Relations" and "Statistically Speaking," which provides a bulleted list of statistical facts; (8) "Evaluation Form," and (9) "Program Profile Form," both of which are to be used to provide feedback to the Ohio Violence Prevention Center. (EMK)

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Youth Conferences, Forums and Workshops to Prevent Violence and Promote Peaceful Relations

GUIDELINES



Ohio Violence Prevention Center
promoting peaceful relations...

June 1996

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Ohio Violence Prevention Center

The Ohio Violence Prevention Center was established by Governor George V. Voinovich in an effort to thwart the escalation of violence in the state of Ohio. The Center was officially opened and dedicated on October 26, 1995. It is a division of the Office of Criminal Justice Services.

The Ohio Violence Prevention Center's mission is to coordinate and facilitate violence prevention efforts statewide, in order to reduce the violence that threatens Ohio's citizens and their communities.

Specifically, the Center's goals are to:

- reduce the level of violence in Ohio;
- encourage and support effective violence prevention strategies that promote peaceful relations in homes, neighborhoods, schools, businesses, and communities; and
- serve as a referral service for Ohio's diverse violence prevention initiatives.

Every citizen should be able to enjoy the comfort and security of safe community living. The Ohio Violence Prevention Center is committed to assisting all Ohioans achieve a more peaceful quality of life.

We are promoting peaceful relations....

George V. Voinovich, Governor
State of Ohio

Michael L. Lee, Director
Office of Criminal Justice Services

Sharon L. Reichard, Coordinator
Ohio Violence Prevention Center
ovpc@ocjs.state.oh.us

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Youth Conferences, Forums and Workshops
to
Prevent Violence and Promote Peaceful Relations

GUIDELINES

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*The speakers and programs profiled in this manual are not endorsed by the Ohio Violence Prevention Center and are offered simply as a resource for groups and individuals planning a conference, forum or workshop about violence prevention.

Introduction

Violent crimes, especially those committed with guns, have been increasing at an alarming rate among children and teenagers, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's 1995 Uniform Crime Report. The U.S. Justice Department predicts that the juvenile arrest rate for violent crime may double in the next 15 years. It is a situation that we cannot ignore.

To help teach our young people how to prevent violence, the Ohio Violence Prevention Center and members of the Governor's Violence Prevention Working Group have produced this manual to assist individuals, groups and organizations in planning and implementing anti-violence conferences, forums or workshops for children and teenagers. The manual is designed to be a "how to" book for initiating educational programs that help Ohio's young people prevent violence and identify peaceful alternatives.

We welcome your feedback on the information included in the manual and ask that you forward your own ideas or experiences to the Ohio Violence Prevention Center so that the manual may be expanded and improved in the future. An evaluation form is included at the end of the booklet.

By working together, we can develop effective methods for stopping the violence around us and for promoting peaceful relations.

Sharon L. Reichard, Coordinator
Ohio Violence Prevention Center

Governor's Violence Prevention Working Group

Phineas Anderson Maumee Valley Country Day School	Liz Evans WTVN-AM, Columbus	Judge Stephen D. Michael Jackson County Juvenile Court
Jesse W. Anthony WKEF-TV, Dayton	Tom Elkins Wilson Sporting Goods	E. Don Nelson Ohio Prevention Education Resource Center
Richard Baughman Ohio Congress of Parents and Teachers	Robert W. Federspiel Nationwide Insurance Company	Helen Paes The Youngstown Vindicator
Hugh Berger United Dairy Farmers	John Grdic WFMJ-TV, Youngstown	Bill Parshall WCWA-AM, Toledo
Dennis Best WWWE-AM, Cleveland	Tom Grote Donatos Pizza	Toral Patel Maumee Valley Country Day School
Carl Broberg Ohio Municipal League	Marsha Harrison Parma School District	Jerry Pletcher Big Bear Stores
John Bryant Cincinnati Youth Collaborative	Domingo Herraz Ohio Crime Prevention Association	Nelson Ramirez El Centro de Servicio Sociales
Bob Canning Ohio Prevention Education Resource Center	Jerry Hoegner Cleveland Plain Dealer	Brad Ritter Paul Werth and Associates, Inc.
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Carol Caruso Ohio Cable Television Association	Mary Ann Kafer Ohio Cable Television Association	Ty Sells Youth to Youth
J.B. Chase WCPO-TV, Cincinnati	Dwight Kelley Worthington Industries, Inc.	Thomas B. Sherrill The Columbus Dispatch
Sandy Clary Clary Communications	Brad Kuenze Bellefontaine Police Department	Tom Smith Ohio Council of Churches
Philip Cole Ohio Assn. of Community Action Agencies	Mary Jane Latta Licking County Prosecutor's Office	Hope Taft Ohio Parents for Drug Free Youth
Robert Cornwell Buckeye State Sheriff's Association	Dale Masten Ohio Council of Retail Merchants	Larry Weiss WBBW-AM, Youngstown
Kristen Corsale The Ohio Grocers Association	David Martin WLW-AM, Cincinnati	

Youth Conference/Forum

AGENDA *Ideas*

Registration/Continental Breakfast: 8:00–8:45 a.m.

- Obtain names and addresses for possible future contact
- Name tags for participants (include school designation if multiple schools are involved).
- Set tone for conference with powerful/lively/interesting handouts, buttons, stickers, pens, etc. that appeal to the students (Consider MTV-style or Nike advertising approaches. Possibly involve local popular radio station for sponsorship of some items.)

Welcome: 8:45–9:00 a.m.

- Representative of primary sponsor calls conference to order (CEO, President, Superintendent, or other respected authority figure)
- Introductions of other co-sponsors and organizers of the event
- Greetings from Mayor or other celebrity-type local individual to set up-beat tone to conference
- Introduction of keynote speaker by Mayor or celebrity

Keynote Speaker: 9:00–9:30 a.m.

- Up-beat, high-energy, motivational speaker who will be respected by the students, such as sports celebrity, actor/actress, law enforcement officer, or someone known for overcoming incredible odds. Consider someone close in age to the audience who can relate personal experiences about violence prevention.
- Possible video to supplement speaker's remarks. (No more than 10 minutes)

Break: 9:30–9:45 a.m.

Small group discussion: 9:45–11:00 a.m.

- Provide separate groups for educators and students.
- Groups of 10 to 15 people.
- Give the groups a problem to discuss. Ask group members to identify at least three recommendations for solving the problem.
- Each group selects a representative who will relay the group's conclusions at the close of the small group discussion to the larger group.
- Last fifteen minutes used to bring the student groups together and the educator groups together so that they may share their conclusions with each other.
- Conclusions are recorded for distribution to attendees following conference.

Break: 11:00–11:15 a.m.

- Teams of educators and students are formed and remain together for the rest of the day.

Lunch: 11:15–11:45 a.m.

Breakout Session: 11:45a.m.–1:15 p.m.

- Interactive workshops where participants are able to talk with experts leading the session.
- Offer at least 3 concurrent sessions to hold down the size of each workshop.
- Design the topics so that they are of interest to the students. Enlist the assistance of students in developing the topics prior to the conference.
- Sessions should be led by a panel of experts who have diverse experience addressing the particular topic.

Break: 1:15–1:30 p.m.

Breakout Session: 1:30–3:00 p.m.

- Offer the same concurrent breakout sessions and the groups rotate to their second choice.

Youth Forum/Conference Timeline Guideline

	1 year in advance	8-9 months in advance	4 months in advance	3 months in advance	2 months in advance	1 month in advance	month of the event	week of the event
Secure date of the event	X							
Register date with Community Calendar	X							
Write event budget	X							
Solicit sponsors		X						
Secure contract with facility		X						
Secure insurance		X						
Secure Master of Ceremonies		X	X					
Secure Parade Marshall (if applicable)		X	X					
Planning Committee meetings	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Arrange for entertainment			X					
Invite honored guests			X					

Youth Forum/Conference Timeline Guideline

	1 year in advance	8-9 months in advance	4 months in advance	3 months in advance	2 months in advance	1 month in advance	month of the event	week of the event
Solicit donations for student "Goodie Bags"			X	X				
Secure sound company (if applicable)			X	X				
Secure large screen video projection (if applicable)			X	X				
Solicit T-shirt design			X	X				
Make arrangements for school signs				X	X			
Obtain participant certificates			X	X				
Develop registration process and distribute forms					X	X		
Receive registration forms						X	X	X
Request police security					X			
Communication with facility					X	X	X	X
Solicit business support				X				
Solicit volunteers				X				

Youth Forum/Conference Timeline Guideline

	1 year in advance	8-9 months in advance	4 months in advance	3 months in advance	2 months in advance	1 month in advance	month of the event	week of the event
Mail invitations to special guests						X		
Meet with Master of Ceremonies						X		
Secure parking arrangements						X		
Develop voucher system for staff and guest parking						X		
Secure parade permit and sound permit (if applicable)					X	X		
Publicize event				X	X	X	X	X
Arrange for photographers/videographers						X		
Assign staff roles						X		
Meet with police						X		
Media preparations						X		
Generate materials for volunteers packets						X		
Develop and send confirmation letters						X		

Youth Forum/Conference Timeline Guideline

	1 year in advance	8-9 months in advance	4 months in advance	3 months in advance	2 months in advance	1 month in advance	month of the event	week of the event
Confirmation calls							X	X
Decorations				X	X	X	X	X
Script							X	X
Stuff "Goodie Bags"							X	X
Pack materials needed for set-up							X	X

Wrap-up Activities

	1 week after event	1 month after event
Write "thank-you" letters	X	
Staff evaluation		X
Event evaluation		X
Return borrowed items	X	
Develop final budget and distribute	X	
Committee follow-up meeting		X

Youth Forum/Conference

Things to consider...

Student "Goodie Bags"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pencils • Pens • Buttons • Hats
Registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design materials • Design flyer • Prepare mailing labels • Make volunteer/staff badges • Make registration table signs
Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage arrangements • Podium • Registration tables • Loading dock • Lighting • Sound • Agenda • Electrician • Borrow bull horns (if applicable) • Slide or video projectors
Volunteer group involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local college organizations • National Guard • High schools • Rotary, Kiwanis, etc. • Local businesses
Staff roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer manager • Volunteer trainer • Stage director • Runners • Emergency contacts (5) • Registration tables (3)
Media Preparations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generate ideas • Develop materials • Develop media packet

Youth Forum/Conference

Things to consider...

Script	Send to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master of Ceremonies and other speakers • Facility • Lighting • Sound • Audio/visual support
Visuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pick-up costumes (if applicable) • Pick-up banners • Develop posters and/or signs
Set-up materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staple gun • Rope to hang banners • Masking tape • Banners • “Goodie Bags” • School signs • Bull horns • Loading cart • Flashlights • Emergency kits • Scissors • Decorations • T-shirts • Extra copies of script, agenda, guest list, school list and volunteer assignments • Parade permit (if applicable) • Copies of all contracts (i.e. facility, sound, etc.) • Parking vouchers • Checks • Petty cash
“Thank you” letters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff • Volunteers • Master of Ceremonies • Parade Marshall (if applicable) • Entertainment • Special guests • Sponsors • Committee members • Facility

Do's and Don'ts of Conducting Youth Conferences/Forums

DO...

- Choose a presenter or keynote speaker who is dynamic and has a strong violence prevention message.
- Research the keynote speaker and other presenters to confirm that his or her beliefs and reputation are consistent with the goals and beliefs of your organization.
- Examine the cause of violence not just the factors. (i.e. poverty, racism, media) when conducting breakout sessions or workshops.
- Allow participants to recognize their role in reducing or perpetuating violence.
- Conduct activities that allow students to examine socialization issues. Asking students to create solutions without educating them about the problem can be counter productive.
- Include exercises that encourage students to develop critical thinking skills. These are the skills that help them identify alternatives, and options when confronted with potentially violent situations.
- Enlist the advice of students when developing possible topics of discussion for the breakout sessions or working groups.

DON'T...

- Use a presenter who is a “recovering gang member,” former convict, or other formerly violent individual. Showcasing their previous behavior often serves to glamorize violent lifestyles. Also, it can give students the impression that it is OK to be violent as long as you reform at some point.
- Choose a keynote speaker or presenter that would not be able to relate to the audience. A speaker that is unable to relate to the audience may not be able to get across his or her message.
- Make small groups in breakout sessions larger than 10 to 15 people.
- Get off schedule! Keep things moving. You don't want to rush the workshops that occur in the afternoon.

CAPA CITY: A Simulation Experience for Teens

- MISSION:** The participants, through skills development, team building, community simulation, and role playing, will recognize their responsibility as it relates to safe communities. Teens and adults, through this experience, gain skills and capacity (Capa City) together to create and maintain a safe environment for its citizens.
- TARGET AUDIENCE:** Sophomore and junior high school students.
- PROGRAM SUMMARY:** As citizens of Capa City, participants (adults and teens participate equally) experience real-life situations within eight different community systems. As the "city" evolves, participants experience both frustration and chaos, prompting them toward collective action. By working through the process, participants realize that together they not only create Capa City, but keep it safe, productive and healthy for its residents. The purpose of this simulation experience is to provide teen participants the opportunity to respond to all stimuli, good or bad, that occur within their community.
- LOCATION:** Sandusky County
- WHEN:** June 24-27, 1996; Duration: Four days
- PARTICIPANTS:** Number of students: 100 Number of adults: 30
- HOW WE DO IT:** Create an agenda with different community activities such as town meetings, block watch meetings, mock car crashes and mock trials that simulate a physical sense of community. Develop team-building exercises to simulate an emotional sense of community. Teens participate in these activities over the four-day period and develop skills to help them assume responsible roles in their real-life community.
- SPONSOR:**
- With support from:*
- Ohio Prevention and Education Resource Center--Coordinator.
 - Ohio Department of Public Safety
 - Mothers Against Drunk Driving
 - Ohio Department of Education
 - Ohio National Guard
 - Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services
 - Ohio Parents for Drug Free Youth
 - Ohio Think First Program
 - Ohio Department of Liquor Control
 - Ohio Department of Youth Services

Note: You must first attend a Capa City conference as a participant or observer before you initiate this youth initiative.

For more information, contact:

Bob Canning, Senior Health Education Specialist, Capa City Director

Ohio Prevention and Education Resource Center

2368 Victory Parkway, Suite 420

1-800-788-7254

FAX: 1-513-751-8795

Pump Up the Power: Increase the Peace in Your Home, School and Community

MISSION: To provide more hands-on tools to help guide students, teachers and counselors on ways to implement violence prevention programs in their schools and the community. The forum focuses on empowerment and ways to direct good violence prevention ideas into action.

TARGET AUDIENCE: Middle school students, teachers, principals and advisors.

PROGRAM SUMMARY: Teams of students and teachers are invited to hear a keynote speaker, participate in small group discussions, educational sessions and workshops. The workshops are led by national and local specialists. The forum focuses on empowerment and ways to put good violence prevention ideas into action.

LOCATION: Cleveland Convention Center, Cleveland

WHEN: Tuesday, April 30, 1996 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

PARTICIPANTS: Approximately 800 students and adults from 207 area schools

HOW WE DO IT: Create a letter that can be sent to area middle schools, informing educators of the upcoming event and the request for students to attend. Attach an agenda and registration form with the letter. Develop three concurrent workshops that will appeal to the youth. Each team of students and teachers signs up to attend two workshops.

SPONSORS:

- The Plain Dealer
- WVIZ-TV, Channel 25
- Task Force on Violent Crime
- BP America, Inc.
- Bellefaire Jewish Children's Bureau
- Kiwanis Club of Cleveland

For more information, contact:

Ms. Joanne Callan

The Plain Dealer

Special Events Department

1801 Superior Avenue

Cleveland, Ohio 44144

216-999-4028

216-999-6398

Violence Issues Theatre and Leadership (VITAL)

- MISSION:** To reduce the incident of violence among Lorain City youth through the production of powerful drama which illustrates the effects of violence on individuals, families and community.
- TARGET AUDIENCE:** Youth and adults in Lorain City
- PROGRAM SUMMARY:** The cast will perform and videotape violence impacting plays to be shown by cable stations and performed at violence prevention events throughout Lorain City. Domestic violence, child abuse, and juvenile crime issues are fully explored through drama. Social workers, police, drug/alcohol counselors and other social service organizations provide personnel for workshops for VITAL participants.
- LOCATION:** Lorain City
- WHEN:** May -- December, 1996
- PARTICIPANTS:** A maximum of 20 youths can participate.
- HOW WE DO IT:** Develop topics that will be performed. Develop workshops and training classes for the participants to discuss the topics and roles they will be performing. Conduct rehearsals. The youth participate in theatre classes, peer mediation groups, leadership training, community workshops and youth casemanagement. Participants perform live at violence prevention events and videotape the live performances to be shown by local cable stations.
- SPONSOR:**
- Ohio Department of Human Services--Family Violence Prevention Grant
 - Nord Family Foundation
 - Nordson Corporation Foundation
 - Community Foundation of Greater Lorain City
 - Stocker Foundation
 - United Way of Greater Lorain County
 - Lorain County Board of Mental Health

For more information, contact:

Ivonne Liado or Michael Ferrer
El Centro de Servicios Sociates, Inc.
1888 E. 31st Street
Lorain, Ohio 44055

1-216-277-8235
FAX: 1-216-277-9236

Young Men With A Future

- MISSION:** To instill religious and cultural values into single-parented minority youth who, according to a February, 1996 report by the National Institute of Justice, are at most risk for involvement in and management by the criminal justice system.
- TARGET AUDIENCE:** Minority males, 10 to 15 years old.
- PROGRAM SUMMARY:** Young Men With A Future is a ten-week program that joins youth and mentors in a central location to eat, listen to lectures and participate in discussions.
- LOCATION:** Columbus: Asbury North United Methodist
- WHEN:** June -- August, 1996
- PARTICIPANTS:** Approximately 120
- HOW WE DO IT:** A "Host Church" is contacted and asked to host the ten-week program. The church provides the meeting place for the participants to hear lectures and take part in discussions. The Program Director and Senior Pastor of the "Host Church" decide on the dates and the subject matter that will be lectured upon and discussed. Youth from other churches and the general public participate in the program.
- SPONSOR:**
- The Ohio Council of Churches

For more information, contact:

Hugh Gibbs

The Ohio Council of Churches

89 East Wilson Bridge Road

Worthington, Ohio 43085

1-614-885-9590

FAX: 1-614-995-6097

Youth to Youth International

“Sewing the seeds of violence”

- MISSION:** The goal of Youth to Youth’s many projects is harnessing the powerful influence of positive peer pressure—making it a force that encourages young people to live free of tobacco, alcohol, other drugs and violence.
- TARGET AUDIENCE:** High school and junior high school students.
- PROGRAM SUMMARY:** “Sewing the seeds of violence” is a day-long workshop where students learn how society is socialized towards violence. The “Sewing the seeds of violence” workshop helps students to broaden the definition of violence, raise their level of awareness to violence as a problem, examine factors of influence and challenge them to look at how they personally can eliminate or violence in their lives.
- LOCATION:** 700 Bryden Road; 3rd Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
- WHEN:** A day-long workshop held during a Youth to Youth national conference.
- PARTICIPANTS:** Approximately 250 students
- HOW WE DO IT:** The participants are divided into teams. A facilitator for each team then asks a series of questions and the students are asked to strongly disagree, disagree, agree or strongly agree. Once the students make their decision, the facilitator then plays devil’s advocate and challenges the students to defend the answers they choose. Prior to the session, the groups also participate in team building activities to help build trust and commarderie among the participants.
- SPONSORS:**
- CompDrug
 - Franklin County Alcohol Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board

For more information, contact:
Lori Frantz, Program Director or
Jill Povol, Administrative Director
Youth to Youth International
700 Bryden Road; 3rd Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

614-224-4506
FAX: 1-614-224-8451

Speakers Resource List

The following individuals are among the broad range of speakers who have a compelling anti-violence message. You should not consider this list as being complete or as being endorsed by the Ohio Violence Prevention Center. These names are offered simply as a resource as you begin to identify speakers for your conferences/forums/workshops.

Amy Bargahiser, Probation Officer
The Partners Program
419-774-6380

Sally Barr, Interim Director
Hocking Valley Community Residential Center
614-753-4400

Deb Brown, Guidance Counselor
Mansfield Senior High School
419-525-6369

William Cress, Program Coordinator
Butler County Juvenile Court
513-887-3830

Marilyn Decourcy, Court Facilitator
Hamilton County Juvenile Court
513-852-8600

Dr. Lewis Dodley, Speaker Consultant
Prevention and Training by Design, Inc.
614-882-2581

Joseph Donnermeyer, Director
National Rural Crime Prevention Center
Prevention and Training by Design, Inc., Speaker
Consultant
614-882-2581

Robert Dugan, Superintendent
Hamilton County Juvenile Court Youth Center
513-946-2644

Dr. Daniel Flannery, Associate Professor of Child
and Adolescent Psychiatry
Case Western Reserve School of Medicine
216-844-1717

Ron Huff, Director of Criminal Justice Research Center
Specialty: gangs & juvenile violence
The Ohio State University
614-292-4544

John Kelly, Director
Paint Creek Youth Center
614-634-3094

Doug McCoard, Director
Huckleberry House
614-294-8097

Dr. Jane Timmons-Mitchell, Clinician/Psychologist
Case Western Reserve School of Medicine
216-844-3436

Susan Mitchell, Intake Coordinator
Hocking Valley Community Residential Center
614-594-2205

Fred Mong, Administrative Judge
Hocking County Juvenile and Probate Court
614-385-3615

Karen Moody, Executive Director
Community Action for Capable Youth (CACY)
419-774-5683

Victoria R. Nash, School Conflict Management
Coordinator
Ohio Commission on Dispute Resolution and Conflict
Management
614-752-9681

Steve Norris, Criminal Justice Planner
Criminal Justice Services Agency
Department of Justice Affairs
216-443-5906

Geno Natalucci-Persichetti, Director
Ohio Department of Youth Services
614-466-8783

Perry Porter, S.W.A.T. Officer
Columbus Division of Police
Prevention and Training by Design Inc., Speaker
Consultant
614-882-2581

Eileen Pruitt, Coordinator for Dispute Resolution
Programs
The Supreme Court of Ohio
614-466-3456
1-800-826-9010

Carl Sanniti, Cleveland Regional Administrator
Ohio Department of Youth Services
216-787-3684

Ruth Satterfield, Coordinator of Prevention and
Education
Center for Alternative Resources
Prevention and Training by Design, Inc., Speaker
Consultant
614-882-2581

Ty Sells, Youth Development Coordinator
Youth to Youth International
614-224-4506

Robin Seymour, President and Speaker
Consultant
Prevention and Training by Design, Inc.
614-882-2581

Dr. Jeremy Shapiro, Director of Research and
Training
The Guidance Centers
216-696-5800

Becki Shriver, Drug and Alcohol Counselor
The Center for Individual and Family Services
Richland County Violence Prevention Center
Planning Committee
419-774-3015

Rita Soronen, Executive Director
Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Frankli
County
614-462-7450

Bonita Sweeney, Superintendent
Scioto Juvenile Correctional Center
614-881-3550

Julie Tabor, Chemical Dependency Counselor
CCDC II
Prevention and Training by Design, Inc., Speaker
Consultant
614-882-2581

Mike Walker, Executive Director
Partnership for a Safer Cleveland
216-523-1128

Carol Rapp Zimmermann, Assistant Director
Ohio Department of Youth Services
614-466-8783

25 Things You Can Do To Promote Peaceful Relations

- √ Love yourself
- √ Respect and value difference in others
- √ Teach children to walk away from potentially violent situations
- √ Say thank you
- √ Be kinder than necessary and be there when people need you
- √ Volunteer at a domestic violence or homeless shelter
- √ Don't be afraid to say "I'm sorry"
- √ Support charities and worthy causes
- √ Vote and tell elected officials how you feel about violence related issues
- √ Be a good listener
- √ Laugh
- √ Make time to talk to children
- √ Attend church or synagogue regularly
- √ Encourage peace at home first
- √ Live so that when children think of fairness, caring and integrity they think of you
- √ Forgive yourself and others
- √ Smile--It's both free and contagious
- √ Help a stranger
- √ Take responsibility for your life
- √ Know where your children are and what is important to them
- √ Provide protection and comfort to others
- √ Encourage other organizations to get involved in violence prevention activities
- √ Support victim rights week
- √ Maintain a positive attitude
- √ Turn the other cheek

Statistically Speaking...

- ◆ Adults arrested for murder in Ohio, per 100,000 population, decreased by 2% from 1988 to 1992 while the rate for juveniles arrested for murder increased by 10% during the same time.¹
- ◆ Currently, youths under 18 account for about 20% of the nation's violent crime.²
- ◆ A child dies in America every 92 minutes from gunfire.³
- ◆ Guns have become second only to motor vehicle accidents as the leading cause of death among children.⁴
- ◆ Since 1979, more children have died from gunfire in the United States than American soldiers died during the Vietnam and Gulf Wars and U.S. Engagements in Haiti, Somalia and Bosnia combined.³
- ◆ More preschoolers died from gun violence in 1993 than police officers or American soldiers killed in the line of duty that year.³
- ◆ Young black males are five times as likely as white males the same age to be gun victims.³
- ◆ 39,595 people a year are killed through firearms.⁵
- ◆ Juvenile arrests for murder increased 150% between 1985 and 1994.²
- ◆ Juvenile killings with firearms quadrupled between 1984 and 1994.²
- ◆ Handgun murders increased 57% from 1987 to 1991.⁶

¹ "State of Crime and Criminal Justice in Ohio," January 1995

² *U.S. News and World Report*, March 25, 1996

³ Children's Defense Fund

⁴ Study of child death statistics from 1986 to 1992 by researchers at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health

⁵ National Center for Health Statistics, "Advanced Report of Final Mortality Statistics," 1993

⁶ Uniform Crime Report (UCR)

Youth Conferences, Forums and Workshops
to Prevent Violence and Promote Peaceful Relations
GUIDELINES

EVALUATION FORM

We want to hear your comments and suggestions.....

1. How did you use this manual?
2. What elements of the manual were particularly helpful? Why?
3. What elements where not helpful? Why?
4. What information would you like to see included in this manual that was not provided?
5. Are you aware of any effective speakers who are not listed with the speakers resource list? If so, who are those speakers and how might we reach them?
6. Are there any violence-prevention programs you are aware of that should be profiled in the manual? If so, please complete the following page and return it to the Ohio Violence Prevention Center at the address or fax below.

Please return this completed form to:

**Sharon L. Reichard, Coordinator
Ohio Violence Prevention Center
Office of Criminal Justice Services
400 East Town Street, Suite 120
Columbus, Ohio 43215-4242**

**PHONE: 614-466-7782
FAX: 614-466-0308**

EXAMPLE OF AN EFFECTIVE VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM

[Please feel free to provide the following information on a separate sheet of paper.]

Program Title: _____

Program Mission: _____

Target Audience: _____

Program Summary: _____

Location: _____

When: _____

Number of Participants: _____

How we do it:
(Explain key steps in
conducting the
program) _____

Sponsors: _____

Please indicate the person to be contacted for more information:

Name of contact _____

Business or Organization _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Fax _____

Submitted by: _____

Please return this form to Sharon Reichard, Coordinator,

Ohio Violence Prevention Center
Office of Criminal Justice Services
400 E. Town Street, Suite 120
Columbus, Ohio 43215-4242

Phone: 614-466-7782

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