

# NATIONAL YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION WEEK

Minneapolis, Minnesota

March 21-25 2011

## MINNEAPOLIS TOOLKIT

### Activities for Youth, Families and Community Partners

- *Activities for Youth*
  - Take the Peace Pledge and wear a “Peace 24/7 It Begins with You” wristband. To get one contact [diane.haugesag@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:diane.haugesag@ci.minneapolis.mn.us)
  - Peace Print your own cards using the attached PDF or contact Community Power Against Violence at to get copies of the pledge card, wristbands and user guide.
  - Host a mini “Mix It Up Day” (<http://www.tolerance.org/mix-it-up>)
  - Create a quilt of diversity using fabric or other mediums that represent each students’ cultural heritage
  - Conduct facilitated discussions on Youth Violence Prevention-related topics: stress management, resolving conflicts without violence, busting the myth of snitching, avoiding peer pressure. Use youth as facilitators or invite specialists. For more information about possible speakers, contact Julie Young-Burns, MPS Department of Student Support Services at: [jyb@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:jyb@mpls.k12.mn.us)
  - Make a Peace Makers Hall of Fame bulletin board in your school that pays tribute to local, national and international figures who have resolved conflict peacefully
  - Offer your time to community based organizations working on violence prevention
  - Utilize various social networking mediums (YouTube, Facebook, MySpace) to raise awareness of violence prevention. Create your own video/tool or support others that have created one
  - Organize a service project where you and your friends volunteer with youth-serving organizations that promote violence prevention.
  - Ask your teacher to have a classroom discussion on ways to reduce violence in school
  - Ask your school principal or park supervisor if you could paint a peaceful mural over graffiti in school or parks

- *Activities for Families*
  - Talk to your kids about ways to avoid violence and what you have done in your life to resolve situations which could have led to violence
  - Ask your kids to visit resources/organizations on the web that promote youth violence prevention and have them talk to you about them
  - Have a discussion with your kids about ways to “cool down” when angered
  - Offer your time, talent and energy to help out with local events during the week
  - Start or join a neighborhood discussion on violence prevention
  - Become a mentor. Call the Mentoring Partnership of Minnesota **(612-370-9148)**
  - Contact your legislator and ask what the state is doing to implement the Youth Violence Prevention Act of 2009
  - Take the Peace Pledge and wear a “Peace 24/7 It Begins with You” wristband. To get one contact [diane.haugesag@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:diane.haugesag@ci.minneapolis.mn.us)
  
- *Activities for Community Stakeholders/Partners*
  - Promote Youth Violence Prevention week throughout your organization
  - Encourage your staff to become mentors or to volunteer this week with youth-serving organizations that promote violence prevention
  - Promote Youth Violence Prevention week in your department/company newsletter
  - Contact the Minneapolis Department of Health and Family Support or the Minnesota Department of Health to see how your company can employ at risk youth
  - Adopt a school or organization that promotes violence prevention activities
  - Add a web banner that supports Youth Violence Prevention week. Add a link to web-based violence prevention resources
  - Encourage a brown bag lunch and invite a guest speaker or parents to discuss unlearning the culture of violence being promoted to youth
  - Faith groups can hold prayer gatherings or peace vigils that promote violence free communities and/or violence prevention strategies in religious sermons/gatherings
  - Faith groups can ask congregation members to support local youth violence prevention activities

## Web Resources

- *Minneapolis*
  - Minneapolis Blueprint for Action: [www.minneapolis.mn.us/vyp](http://www.minneapolis.mn.us/vyp)
  - Minnesota Youth Intervention Programs: [www.mnyipa.org](http://www.mnyipa.org) or [www.kidschange.org](http://www.kidschange.org)
  - Youth Coordinating Board: [www.ycb.org](http://www.ycb.org)
  - Mentoring Partnership of Minnesota: [www.mpmn.org](http://www.mpmn.org)
  - Community Power Against Violence: [www.peace247.org](http://www.peace247.org)
  - Minneapolis Public Schools: [http://sss.mpls.k12.mn.us/Safe\\_and\\_Drug\\_Free\\_Schools.html](http://sss.mpls.k12.mn.us/Safe_and_Drug_Free_Schools.html)
  
- *National*
  - Prevention Institute: [www.preventioninstitute.org](http://www.preventioninstitute.org)
  - National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center: [www.safeyouth.org](http://www.safeyouth.org)
  - Centers For Disease Control and Prevention:  
[www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/youthviolence/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/youthviolence/index.html)
  - Students Against Violence Everywhere: [www.nationalsave.org](http://www.nationalsave.org)
  - National Youth Violence Prevention Campaign: [www.nyvpw.org](http://www.nyvpw.org)
  - Harvard Youth Violence Prevention Center: [www.hsph.harvard.edu/hyvpc](http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/hyvpc)
  - *In the Mix: Reality Television for Teens* (PBS): [www.pbs.org/inthemix](http://www.pbs.org/inthemix)
  - National Center for Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention:  
[www.promoteprevent.org/publications](http://www.promoteprevent.org/publications)
  - Office of Justice Programs – Youth Violence Prevention:  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/programs/youthviolenceprevention.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/programs/youthviolenceprevention.htm)
  - Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence: [www.colorado.edu/cspv/index.html](http://www.colorado.edu/cspv/index.html)