

March 9, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

The organizations that make up the Restoring the Village Coalition of Youth Activities (VCOYA) and the Lincoln Park Advisory Committee(LPAC) feel that collaborative efforts are now, more than ever, needed to address the violence in our community. Many leaders from these organizations and youth have experienced the violence personally through the tragic loss of family members and friends whose lives were cut short by gunfire. We must come together now, not as separate organizations working in our own silos, but as a united front against these tragedies.

The National Conference on Preventing Crime in the Black Community is taking place in Miami, Florida on May 25-27, 2016. This conference is designed to foster collaboration, communication and action among practitioners and youth by sharing innovative ideas, best practices and research relating to criminal justice, causative factors and prevention strategies unique to the Black community. It will profile national initiatives and community strategies that have been successful in reducing violence and other inappropriate behavior. Special attention is directed toward positive approaches to the problems associated with juvenile crime. Resources for training, development and enhancement of crime prevention initiatives are included.

In the past, this conference has been attended separately by different organizations, which has made it difficult for organizations to come back and implement some of the tools they received at the conference. This year, VCOYA and LPAC are planning to join forces to take approximately 50 teenagers to this conference to represent our community as one. By attending the conference together, the teenagers and adult chaperones can jointly come up with plans and pool resources to utilize in our community to make it a safer place for all.

We are asking the city and county municipalities, organizations, community leaders, individuals in the community for funding to take our youth to this conference. Attached is an outline of the purpose of conference, why we need to attend, students and organizations who will attend and requirements, ideas for collective activities or events to do upon our return and expected outcomes and results from attending the conference. Ultimately, our goal is to incorporate this trip as part of an overarching community-wide youth leadership development initiative.

Please review the attached document and consider supporting our efforts. All checks should be made to the Roundtable of St. Lucie County, which will serve as the fiscal agent on this initiative. Please put Preventing Crime in the Black Community in the memo line. Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated.

Thank You in advance,

Denise Sirmons, LPAC Chairperson
Roundtable Kids at Hope Community Coordinator

Kevin Howard, VCOYA Chairperson
Healthy Start Teen Choices Coordinator

PROPOSAL

PREVENTING CRIME IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY NATIONAL CONFERENCE

MIAMI, FL

MAY 25-27, 2016

Purpose

The National Conference on Preventing Crime in the Black Community is designed foster collaboration, communication and action among practitioners and youth by sharing innovative ideas, best practices and research relating to criminal justice, causative factors and prevention strategies unique to the Black community. It will profile national initiatives and community strategies that have been successful in reducing violence and other inappropriate behavior. Special attention is directed toward positive approaches to the problems associated with juvenile crime. Resources for training, development and enhancement of crime prevention initiatives are included.

Why We Need To Attend

The organizations that make up Restoring the Village Coalition of Youth Activities (VCOYA) and the Lincoln Park Advisory Committee(LPAC) feel that this is a way for Youth Organizations to collaborate to address the violence in our community. Many leaders and youth from these organizations have been affected by the continual violence plaguing their neighborhoods personally through family members or friends who have been affected. By attending this conference we would like to come up with plans and resources that we can utilize in our community to make it a safer place for everyone.

Student and Organizations Attending and Requirements for Attendance

In the past this conference has been attended separately by different organizations which has made it difficult for organizations to come back and implement some of the tools they have received at the conference.

The following organizations will provide Students, Parents, Staff or Chaperones to attend the conference:

- Ft. Pierce Police Athletic
- Boys and Girls Club(Infinity Teen Center, Garden Terrace and Chuck Hill)
- Liberty Truth and Deliverance
- Community Outreach Youth Program
- Sword Ministries
- PACE Center for Girls
- Parents of Murdered Children (POMC)
- Kids at Hope
- Restoring the Village Youth Initiative

Requirements to attend:

- Organization will attend mandatory meetings about the conference.
- Each Organization will pay the registration for the Adult Chaperones that will represent their organization (If possible). Funds raised through this initiative will go directly towards the costs of the program for youth, as well as for any adult family members of murder victims in our community (i.e., such as POMC).
- Each organization will provide 3-7 students who will attend the conference.
- Students will be required to participate, either before or upon return, in the Roundtable's Youth Leadership and Development Initiative, or a comparable program.
- Students must perform at least 20 hours of community service work and chores around their home in order to be sponsored to the conference.
- Students will be required to complete an essay from one of the following topics:
 - WHY DO BLACK LIVES MATTER
 - WHAT MOTIVATES YOU TO BE BETTER FOR YOURSELF AND COMMUNITY
 - HOW CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE TO REDUCING CRIME IN YOUR COMMUNITY
- Students must attend and participate in any fundraisers for the event.
- Students will be required to attend meetings about implementation plan.
- Students will be required to commit to participation in post-conference activities to implement lessons learned at conference.
- Students must be Ages 13-18, with parental consent and waiver of liability forms signed.

Implementation Plan

Prior to attending the conference, youth will be required to commit to participate in some or all of the following events. If they fail to keep this commitment, they will not be eligible for sponsorship for future conferences:

- **City of Fort Pierce Youth Leadership Council:** A group of students who attend the conference will be eligible to apply to the City of Ft. Pierce's Youth Leadership Council. If selected to sit on the council, the youth will advise city and community leaders on issues affecting youth. The council will also work collaboratively with other students who attended the conference to facilitate community events and activities.

- **Roundtable Youth Leadership and Development Initiative:** The Roundtable's Kids at Hope Youth Leadership and Development Initiative will prepare community youth to meet the challenges of adolescence and adulthood and achieve their full potential through a curriculum, activities and experiences that help develop social, ethical, emotional, physical and cognitive competencies. The training and mentorship provided will help the young person develop (a) the ability to analyze his or her own strengths and weaknesses, set personal and vocational goals, and have the self-esteem, confidence, motivation and abilities to carry them out and (b) the ability to guide and influence the positive behavior of peers and serve as a role model.
- **Youth Leadership Group:** will work with leaders to talk about violence and community projects for youth
- **Youth Resource Fair:** This resource fair will give the youth an opportunity to create resumes, and involve them in learning opportunities about the proper way to fill out a job application, how to dress for success, mock interview sessions and other life skill classes.
- **Youth Summit:** This summit will ask the questions of WHY LIVES MATTER OR WHY DO LIVES NOT MATTER and HOPE IS **NOWHERE** OR **NOWHERE**.
- **Youth Peace Rally and Fun Day:** This rally will bring together youth and adults for a fun and peaceful day in the community.
- **Community Awareness:** Youth will participate in bringing education and awareness to the community about important health and social justice issues.

Results

Youth Leaders will become stakeholders in planning solutions to the issues in St. Lucie County. Our County will be represented at the conference as a united front. Plans and ideas from the conference by youth and leaders will be used to organize events to engage youth in promoting peace and hope for the future of St. Lucie County.

Budget

This is an estimated budget for the cost of taking 50 Youth and 10 chaperones to the conference. This budget also includes a request for funding to implement youth events upon return from the conference.

Name	#	Cost per person	Actual
Youth Registration	50	\$150.00	7,500.00
Adult Registration	10	\$265.00	2,650.00
Rooms (20)	60	\$ 130.00	7,800.00

Shuttle Bus, Parking and Additional Fees	60	\$ 75.00	4,500.00
Meals (Breakfast(4), Lunch(2), Dinner(3))	60	\$30.00	1,800.00
Additional Cost for activities (Implementation Plan ideas and youth activities at conference)	2	\$2,000.00	4,000.00
Shirts for students & Chaperones	240	\$8.00	1,920.00
Total	482	\$2,658.00	30,170.00

