

TEENS, CRIME, AND THE COMMUNITY

YOUTH IN SERVICE

SKILL BUILDING WITH *COMMUNITY WORKS*

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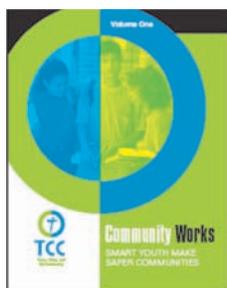
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The *Community Works* program is designed to teach youth how to examine violence and law-related issues in the context of their schools and communities and to apply what they learn to real-life circumstances. *Community Works* instructors should begin their programs with the sessions included in Volume One. These 11 sessions lay the foundation for the program, allowing young people to see the “big picture” of their community. They learn about the different types of crime, the costs and consequences of crime, conflict management strategies, how crime affects communities, and what community prevention programs and services are available to them.

***Community Works* is a skill-building program and the sessions in Volume One should be taught in consecutive order.** The sessions in Volume One build on each other, first introducing factual information, then giving young people the opportunity to practice critical thinking, communication, and problem-solving skills. The sessions in Volume Two focus on serious youth-related topical issues such as bullying, dating violence, gangs, substance abuse, underage drinking, and police-youth relations.

START WITH *SESSION ONE: CREATING A COMMUNITY VISION*

Although you may be tempted to jump right into the specific law-related content introduced in Session Two, Session One really sets the tone for your *Community Works* program. In this session, teens create a group vision for a safe community and learn what to expect from the *Community Works* program. Your students are also introduced to strategies for handling and resolving conflict and together develop guidelines and practice the skills needed to handle difficult situations assertively and communicate effectively. Expect to use two class periods to complete this session.

Remember to administer the *Community Works* pretest to assess your students' crime prevention knowledge and attitudes. Go to www.ncpc.org/tcc and click on “*Community Works* Session Enhancements” to download the pretest and other tips.

***COMMUNITY WORKS*' CYBERBULLYING SESSION**

A supplemental *Community Works* session, *High-Tech Harassment: Understanding and Preventing Cyberbullying*, is now available. The session teaches teens to

- Define cyberbullying and provide examples
- Identify the costs of cyberbullying to the individual, the family, and the community
- Employ key strategies for dealing with and preventing cyberbullying
- Share information about cyberbullying with others through service learning

To download the new session, go to www.ncpc.org/tcc.

**MCGRUFF® IS ON
MYSPACE!**

McGruff now has his own page on the popular MySpace social networking website. His page features a blog, videos, sound clips, and advice on Internet safety, teen victimization, and more. The content on McGruff's MySpace page is written for teens and offers them a chance to participate in crime prevention conversations through MySpace's comment section. To visit McGruff's new page, go to www.myspace.com/mcgruffthecrimedog.

TEENS, CRIME, AND THE COMMUNITY

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



National Children's Advocacy Center and the Association for Sexual Abuse Prevention present the 8th National Conference on Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Prevention from September 19–21, 2007, in New Orleans, LA. Contact www.nationalcac.org/professionals/trainings/prevent_conference.html.

October is Crime Prevention Month!

National Crime Prevention Council's *Community Works* Implementation Training is from October 1–2, 2007, in Atlanta, GA. Cost is \$175 per participant, which includes a copy of the curriculum. Contact www.ncpc.org/tcc.

Alliance for Children and Families' 2007 National Conference from October 17–19, 2007 in Anaheim, CA. Contact www.alliance1.org.

PLANNING FOR SUCCESS

It is important to have a good plan in place before implementing your *Community Works* program. One of your first steps should include forming a planning group. A planning group can help you think about the best way to implement *Community Works* in your setting. Be sure to include administrators, key staff people, youth, and a school resource officer, if possible. Ideally, these people will be available to provide support, advice, and encouragement throughout the program. Here are a few questions for your planning group to consider.

- What are your program's goals, objectives, and desired outcomes?
- How will you document your program's successes along the way?
- How will you evaluate the program?
- What community resources are available?
- What is your timeframe?

Remember, TCC staff are available to assist you in planning your program and can provide you with written materials like the *Community Works* Implementation Guidelines to help you introduce the program and ultimately implement with fidelity. If you have questions about gaining support for your site or for program planning assistance, contact TCC staff at tcc@ncpc.org or 202-466-6272.

NCPC'S 8TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PREVENTING CRIME



The National Crime Prevention Council's 8th National Conference on Preventing Crime: *Helping Build Safer Communities* is from October 3–5, 2007, in Atlanta, GA. The conference's training sessions include the following tracks:

- Crime prevention for business
- Partnering with government and law enforcement
- Promoting crime prevention and personal safety basics
- Protecting children and youth
- Leadership in crime prevention
- Emerging crime trends

The conference is designed for law enforcement officials; crime prevention practitioners; community-based leaders; policymakers on the local, state, and national levels; government officials; state leaders; youth organization staff; and other concerned citizens. This is an opportunity for colleagues with a common interest to come together to share resources and ideas and to work toward collaborative solutions.

For more information about the conference, visit www.ncpc.org/NationalConference2007. If you have further questions about the conference, please contact conference@ncpc.org or 202-261-4165.

If you have a question or comment regarding TCC or the *Community Works* program, please contact tcc@ncpc.org.