

SPARK THOUGHT, CREATE CHANGE!

CALL FOR WORKSHOP PROPOSALS



17th Annual Youth Conference May 8th, 2008

Hosted by the Community Coalition for Teens

The Community Coalition for Teens (CCT) invites youth, and adults who work with youth, to submit brief proposals for interactive workshops to be held at the 17th annual CCT Youth Conference. This conference will take place May 8th, 2008 at Mahar Middle School in Orange, MA.

BACKGROUND

CCT is dedicated to promoting the health and well-being of youth in the Franklin County and North Quabbin region. The Coalition's major event of the year is a day-long youth conference, planned and attended by students from local middle and high schools, out-of-school youth, and adults. Average attendance is approximately 250 teens and 50 adults. If you would like to look at last year's conference program to get a better idea of what the conference is all about, please contact Lani Blechman at 413-774-1194 x 118 or youthconference@frcog.org. Last year's program will give you the general format of the conference, but each year brings a new planning committee and, of course, new ideas.

The Youth Conference Planning Committee has been meeting since January. We are from all over the Franklin County region, with most of us from the North Quabbin. We range in age from 12 to 21 and we're interested in making youth empowered and bring positive change to our communities. **We want everyone to know about how youth are engaged in the arts, in social change, and in the future, and we also want everyone to be aware of the problems, the -isms, that are present in our communities.**

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

The theme of the 17th annual CCT Youth Conference is "Spark Thought, Create Change!" The Youth Conference Planning committee has identified the following as important topics that we'd like to see addressed at this year's conference: **racism, ageism/adults fearing youth, discrimination and prejudice, sexism, homophobia, performing and visual arts, positive media/using media, empowering youth, youth jobs, knowing -isms, dealing with drug abuse and violence, civil rights in the GLBTQ community, comprehensive sexuality education, knowing our histories and historical figures and learning from the past.** This list is a starting place for workshop proposal ideas. If you have any others, we're very interested to see them!

As the Youth Conference Planning Committee begins planning the theme of the 17th annual CCT Youth Conference, we welcome **ALL TOPICS** that are of interest to teens. Workshops may be offered by youth, adults, or youth-adult combinations (it's up to you as the workshop leader). Some workshops will be attended by youth only, some by adults only, and some by both youth and adults (this is also the leaders' choice). Please plan your workshop to fill 90 minutes and it absolutely **MUST be CREATIVE and INTERACTIVE** and not a typical lecture.

Another option, either in addition to or instead of presenting a workshop, is to set up a table with information about your organization or community resources that conference participants will be able to browse through during lunch. Please contact us for more information if you're interested in this option.

HOW TO APPLY

Proposals should be received by February 15th, 2008. As we are on a strict time line, we will be giving preference to proposals received by this date. Please use the proposal form included in this packet and feel free to make copies for other interested people. Send your proposal to:

Attn: Lani Blechman
The Community Coalition for Teens
278 Main St., Ste. 411
Greenfield, MA 01301

Or Fax it to 413-774-3169. If you fax your proposal, please mail the original as well, so that we can make clear copies.

You may also email proposals to Lani at: youthconference@frcog.org

For more information or to receive a workshop proposal form, please contact Lani at (413) 774-1194 ext. 118, or Rachel at ext. 116.

Workshop Proposal Form
17th Annual Youth Conference
SPARK THOUGHT, CREATE CHANGE!
May 8th, 2008

Please type or print clearly. You may re-type the form on a word processor, if desired. Please submit a separate form for each workshop proposal. Remember that the Conference Planning Committee will evaluate all proposals based on the clarity of the workshop outline and goals, and relevance to the conference theme, so please be as specific as possible.

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If you would like to fax your proposal, you may do so at 413-774-3169, or email to Lani at: youthconference@frcog.org. **Please follow up ALL faxed materials with originals in the mail.**

Contact Name: _____

Name(s) of workshop leaders(s):

Organizational Affiliation: _____

Address:

Daytime Phone: _____

Evening Phone: _____

FAX: _____

E-mail: _____

Have you ever run a workshop at the CCT conference? If so, what was it? If not, then please give contact information on someone that knows your work.

Topic/title of proposed workshop/activity: _____

Are you willing to present twice?

Workshop/Activity is for:

Youth only

Adults only

Youth and Adults

What supplies or equipment would you like us to provide?

How do you want the space to be set up (provide a picture if you'd like)?

Please describe the goals of this workshop. Complete this sentence: **By the end of the workshop participants will be able to...**

Please give us a brief plan for the workshop including areas to be covered, techniques used, and what is to be accomplished. Complete this sentence: **During the workshop participants will...**

Please also give us a brief history of your experience working with youth on this issue.

Please describe/summarize the workshop with one to four sentences. (Make sure to include why participants would want to attend! This is the description that will be used in the registration materials if your workshop is selected.)