

HELPING AMERICA'S YOUTH NEWS FLASH

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Helping America's Youth is a nationwide effort, led by Mrs. Laura Bush, to motivate caring adults to connect with youth in three key areas: family, school and community.

Tune in to Hear Mrs. Bush

Tune in to hear Mrs. Laura Bush, youth researchers, and federal officials live via webcast from Saint Paul, Minnesota at the Helping America's Youth Regional Conference.

Date: Friday, August 3

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. CST - Keynote by Mrs. Bush: 11:45 a.m. Website: www.helpingamericasyouth.gov

Agenda, speaker biographies, and online exhibit hall available online. Join us for the Helping America's Youth webcast.

A Community in Action: Nashville, TN

A spike in Nashville's murder rate in 2005 caused local citizens to be concerned, especially because many of the perpetrators and victims were youth.

In 2006, the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention funded Meharry Medical College in Nashville, TN to conduct research on youth violence. Along with the

funding came specific instructions: involve the whole community in solving this problem.

And so the Commu-Nashville nity Coalition for Youth Safety (NCCYS) was formed. Composed of organiza- Youth Safety meet to discuss how to prevent youth violence. community

tions, NCCYS works with the Nashville Urban Partnership Academic Center of Excellence on Youth Violence Prevention (NUPACE)—a program at Meharry Medical College—to make decisions about how to address youth violence through research, evaluation, planning, com-

munication and dissemination. This Coalition includes Vanderbilt University, the United Way of Metropolitan Nashville, the YMCA and many

other organizations.

In April 2007, Coalition members attended the 3rd Helping America's Youth Regional Conference held at Tennessee State University where they were introduced to the Community Guide to Helping America's Youth. Since then, the partnership has used the Guide's overview of risk and protective factors to educate their Coalition members. They've also used MapIt, an online mapping tool, to look

up useful census data on the condition of youth in Nashville and to see which community organizations are receiving federal funds.

With a strategic plan in place, the Nashville community partner-172 members from 86 Nashville, TN. Members of the Nashville Community Coalition for Ship plans to conduct prevention research.

> identify promising interventions, implement a surveillance system, monitor changes in rates of violence and promote communication about violence in their community.

> Tell us how your community partnership is using the Community Guide to Helping America's Youth by emailing us at the following address: comments@helpingamericasyouth.gov.

Helping America's Youth in Action



hoenix, AZ. Mrs. Laura Bush speaks to the media during her visit on May 25, 2007, to the Childhelp Children's Advocacy Center in Phoenix. Mrs. Bush commended the work of organizations that serve abused or neglected children, and highlighted the role that caring adults can play in preventing and reporting child abuse.

White House photo by Shealah Craighead



Washington, D.C. Mrs. Laura Bush meets with students at Washing ton Middle School for Girls on May 29, 2007, in Washington, D.C. The First Lady encouraged the girls to make reading a summertime priority. White House photo by Shealah Craighead.

A Caring Adult in Action: Mike Gottfried



Mobile, AL. Mrs. Laura Bush and Mike Gottfried, CEO of Team Focus, watch Team Focus participants run a relay race on June 21, 2007, in Mobile, AL during a visit to Team Focus' National Leadership Camp. White House photo by Shealah Craighead.

Read about Mike Gottfried and his efforts to serve fatherless boys at: http://www.helpingamericasyouth.gov/acaringadult.cfm. If there is a caring adult in your life that you'd like us to know about, please email us at comments@helpingamericasyouth.gov.

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