



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Akron PeaceMakers Offering Summer Orientation Classes for Prospective Members

June 26, 2012 (Akron, Ohio) - The Akron PeaceMakers are now offering two summer orientation classes for students entering 9-12 grades. Those completing a four day summer orientation class will be invited to join the Akron PeaceMakers. The PeaceMakers were created by the Mayor as part of a civic/anti-crime youth program, and they have grown to become the City's premiere youth volunteer group.

Summer applicants will have a choice of one of two classes scheduled for July 24 to July 27 or August 7 to August 10. Classes are from 10 am to 2 pm, with lunch being provided at no cost.

Applicants will learn how city government works and the importance of community organizations. They will also get a first-hand look at the different aspects of the justice system.

The PeaceMakers have been serving the community for four and a half years and have volunteered more than 10,000 hours. PeaceMakers serve on many boards and committees and are active in their schools and other organizations. They also sit on various advisory councils including: Summit County Juvenile Court, the Akron Police Department, and the Mayor's Office. The PeaceMakers represent every high school in Akron, including parochial and private schools.

The Akron PeaceMakers are dedicated to keeping Akron strong and safe for all children. Last year, the PeaceMakers major objective was to make youth aware of the violence around them and encouraged fellow students to resist becoming involved.

This year, bullying is their target. A new PeaceMakers' anti-bullying program will be unveiled in August to support those youth being bullied. The PeaceMakers also hope their campaign will help the bullies realize that what they do is wrong, and encourage them to have a more peaceful relationship with others.

“The PeaceMakers successfully work to promote peace in our city and to make Akron a stronger, safer community,” said Mayor Don Plusquellic. “These teens spend their free time mentoring middle school-aged youngsters and performing countless community service projects. They are a model group of young involved citizens.”

After the four-day orientation, the July class of participants will be invited to join the PeaceMakers at their 4th Annual Teen Expo on Thursday, August 2, at Lock 3, in downtown Akron. The new PeaceMakers will also take part in the 28th Annual Night Out (Against Crime) on Tuesday, August 7, at one of 15 city-wide sites.

The Akron PeaceMakers are about serving the community and the program provides a great opportunity for students to fulfill their school's community service requirements.

Applications are available online at: www.AkronPeaceMakers.org or by calling Willa Keith at (330) 375-2712.

The Akron PeaceMakers is a program of the Mayor's Office of Community Relations. For information call Billy Soule, Assistant to the Mayor for Community Relations, (330) 375-2660.

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