

## Camper Application 2008

### What is CAMPpeaceworks?

- CAMPpeaceworks is a summer day camp for Berks County youth ages 13-17 who are interested in issues of social justice and change; participants in the camp will explore important issues relating to the existence of social and community injustices and violence. The purpose of the camp is to give youth a voice, or the opportunity to share their experiences regarding these issues, and to help them become an integral part of the solution.
- By committing to this project, we acknowledge that youth have the ambition and ability to participate in making significant social change. We are aware that creating change requires forming alliances – across race, gender, socio-economic group, sexual orientation, and age lines. We all bring something essential to the table. With this in mind, we are recruiting youth of all different backgrounds to take part in this collaboration.

### When/Where will the camp take place?

- CAMPpeaceworks will take place from **June 23 – 27, 2008**. Two of these days will extend into the evening with activities.
- The camp will be held at the Olivet's Blue Mountain Camp - a facility that offers indoor and outdoor gathering spaces, as well as swimming, canoeing, hiking, and other outdoor activities. **Transportation and meals will be provided.**
- There will be two Camp Reunion Days, one in July and one in August. Tentative dates are July 26 and August 23, locations to be announced.

### What is expected of me?

- Nothing regarding money! CAMPpeaceworks campers attend **"on scholarship"**, or at *no cost*.
- Campers should have an active interest in issues of social justice, community change, and specifically sexism, racism, and other "isms."
- During camp, participants will be provided with the tools and information necessary to brainstorm a social justice project in which they would like to participate post-camp – in their schools or communities. By the end of the camp week, campers will be able to describe and name those projects.
- Further, campers should be willing to actively engage post-camp in an on-going school or community project that promotes peace. They will be provided with the *ongoing* support necessary to work to accomplish this goal.
- Campers will be encouraged to attend two camp reunion days, one in July and one in August, and attend monthly alliance meetings throughout the school year.
- Campers will be given the opportunity to apply to come back as Youth Leaders & Facilitators for future camps.



2. Why are you interested in attending CAMPpeaceworks? How do you think that you, your school, and your community would benefit from your attendance?

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**Contact Information:**

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (please print clearly): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Which of these methods is the best way to reach you? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Return This Application to:**

Berks Women in Crisis  
Attn: Christine Gilfillan; c/o CAMPpeaceworks  
645 Penn Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Reading, PA 19601



## For Parents and Guardians

### Information

CAMPpeaceworks is an exciting project of the professional staff of Berks Women in Crisis' PeaceWorks Department and its community partners both volunteer and professional, with the support of the Allstate Foundation, the Episcopal Churches of Berks County, and various community organizations and entities.

The goal of the CAMPpeaceworks Project is to encourage young people to work together within our community to foster a multicultural society based on love, caring, and justice – with the ultimate goal of *decreasing violence* by creating a more *inherently* peaceful society.

At present, the CAMPpeaceworks team is recruiting a diverse group of 45 – 50 students currently in grades 8, 9 and 10 to participate in a five-day summer day camp which will take place at the Olivet's Blue Mountain Camp near Hamburg from June 23 – 27, 2008. Activities will extend into the evening on two days. All campers will attend "on scholarship," or free of charge. Food and transportation will be provided.

The camp utilizes the curriculum "*Making the Peace*," by Paul Kivel, Allen Creighton, and Nell Myhand, of Oakland, California. The "*Making the Peace*" curriculum provides the framework for understanding violence, and the role of gender, race, class, and economic status as the issues which contribute to it. Further, the program was written to help young people break away from violence, develop self-esteem, and regain a sense of community.

The CAMPpeaceworks Project begins with a five-day camp, but does not end there! A critical, integral, and necessary part of the project is the development of ongoing activities and initiatives within schools and faith-based institutions, and as part of community projects, that will continue the work begun at the camp. PeaceWorks' staff and volunteers will follow and help nurture these projects throughout the year. CAMPpeaceworks is an annual event.

We believe this project is a new beginning for a new approach to enlist young people to aid in the elimination of violence, the fostering of respect, the promotion of social justice, and ultimately *peace*, within our community. For additional information about the CAMPpeaceworks Project, contact Christine Gilfillan, PeaceWorks Coordinator, at 610-373-1206 or email [christinev@berkswomenin crisis.org](mailto:christinev@berkswomenin crisis.org).

### Parent or Guardian Approval

If my child's application is accepted, I give permission for him or her to attend Camp PeaceWorks from June 23 – 27, 2008 at the Olivet's Blue Mountain Camp. (All parents/guardians will have the opportunity to communicate any special needs their child may have prior to the camp. An information session for parents/guardians will be held in May.)

Parent/Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please print your name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_