

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



Chicago Summer of Service 2006 **Training Chicago Youth as Community Service Leaders**

Chicago, IL (July 31, 2006)—**Service For Peace** announces the kick-off of the **4th Annual Chicago Summer of Service 2006**, estimating 80 youth volunteers and adult leaders. engaging throughout Chicago in service learning through community service.

Jul 31-August 4th marks the **4th Annual Chicago Summer of Service For Peace** where youth from the Chicagoland area travel to underserved communities with great support from **Alderman Shirley Coleman 16th Ward, Alderman Toni Preckwinkle 4th Ward, Congressmen Bobby Rush along with noted educators and speakers. Chicago Police Department 18th District** hosts our students and community leaders in their Community Room daily. Our work is to build a sense of peace and hope among our youth through service learning. Activities include studies of yoga each day, planting a peace garden and a peace pole at **Donoghue Elementary School**; paint out graffiti around **Cabrini Green**; interview people about their hopes for living in peace; and for **Englewood**, make a quilt with families of youth lost to violence as well as create a mural of hope titled *Paint is Peace*, led by artistic director, Moroccan born, Boubou. Closing Ceremonies August 4th at **Washington Park** bring together dance interpretation, drummers and other music celebrations as each child proudly receives their own **Peace Certificate of Leadership**.

This weeks service learning activities set the stage for a documentary to promote peace, directed by the Peace Journey, who is also completing a powerful PSA for peace with support from **CAN-TV, Department of Peace Alliance, Chicago's own J.L.Kirkwood, author and Def Poetry Jam "Poet of the Month" and local director, Rocco Calado**. This entire body of work, including the documentary, PSA, art and personal journals of hope for the world, will be presented by our youth to Chicago City Council on September 21, 2006, the International Day of Peace.

Service For Peace is a global organization that works to connect diverse groups and individuals through transformative service learning experiences that improves communities and fosters peace. Locally, **Service for Peace** is partnering with **sponsorKIDS Peace Journey**, a nonprofit dedicated to guiding global friendships by connecting youth through international travel, cultural exchange while capturing their stories through documentaries. The Peace Journey just won a **Telly Award** in collaboration with **BET J** for a documentary titled: *Peace Journey*.

Nationwide more than 343 supporting organizations including Wal-Mart, SAMS Club, Home Depot, Pepsi, Sara Lee, Frito Lay, State Farm Insurance, American Red Cross, Boy Scouts, municipal agencies and non-profits partner with **Service For Peace** during the **MLK Season of Service**.

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