

SOUTH SUBURBAN RESTORATIVE JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

On behalf of the Jane Addams Juvenile Court Foundation, the Cook County State's Attorney's Office, and several other community-based and educational organizations in the Chicago southland, we invite you to participate in several events in January 2009 that aim to promote awareness about restorative justice principles and practices for the benefit of our communities and schools.

At the urging of the Cook County State's Attorney's Office, and with the support of the Southland Chamber of Commerce, the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association, and the South Suburban Association of Chiefs of Police, we will launch a restorative justice and community safety awareness campaign in January 2009, through an administrators' forum on Wednesday, January 14th, and a follow-up community summit on Saturday, January 24th (please see the attached information sheet).

As an experienced restorative justice advocate and practitioner, we hope you will join us for one or both of these events, and display or present information about your program and your experiences at a resource table that we will make available to you during the event.

We want our community stakeholders and residents to become very aware of restorative justice practices that work, so that they will become educated consumers and so that they will work with us, harder, to secure resources and political support for restorative approaches to school and community safety.

Each event will be approximately one-half day in length, and will provide you with opportunities to explain your work and how you or your organization might be helpful to our communities.

Please think about joining us for one or more of these events, and please consider especially making yourself (and some of your program staff and participants) available at one or both of these events for the purpose of displaying information about your work and experience with restorative justice.

Please use the enclosed registration form to indicate your interest in joining us for one or both of these events. We will provide a table and chair(s) for your use. Please also let us know if you need any additional support (e.g., access to an electrical outlet, easel) and we will do our best to accommodate you. There is no cost for participating in these events.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Bankhead
Chief, Juvenile Justice Bureau
Cook County State's Attorney's Office

