



Bridge Builders Bulletin

News for Friends of The Bridge Teen Center

October 1, 2009

Featured In This Issue

Parents' Roundtable Event

"Teens In Trouble" Article Series

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Greetings!

The community is buzzing about The Bridge Teen Center. This has been a busy week for us, as we have been actively promoting the upcoming Parents' Roundtable event and fielding many calls and emails in response to the powerful "Teens In Trouble" article series that ran in this week's Southtown Star. The need for a facility like The Bridge Teen Center has never been more apparent...

BTC Partners With United Way For Parents' Roundtable Event

In response to the recent "Teens In Trouble" Southtown article series, The Bridge Teen Center and United Way are partnering to present a free resource for parents on Tuesday, October 6th from 7:30-9:00 PM at the Jane Barnes Annex at the Orland Park Civic Center.

Parents'
ROUNDTABLE

The purpose of this event is to open a dialogue about issues teenagers are facing, giving parents a forum in which they can ask tough questions and gain valuable insight about navigating through the teenage years. A diverse and experienced panel of professionals has been assembled for the event, including:

Doreen A. Zaborac, M.A., L.C.P.C., NCC Director
Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor

Durriyyah Kemp, M.S.
Youth Development Educator
University of Illinois Extension

Mike Locke, M.Div.
Youth Minister, Moraine Valley Church

Carol Ingrisano, MS, FNP, CDE
Family Nurse Practitioner

Moderated By:

Priscilla Steinmetz, Founder and Executive Director
The Bridge Teen Center

Parents are encouraged to submit questions via email, anonymously at the event, or "live" to the panelists at the event. This event is being offered free of charge, and is open to the public.

Please spread the word about this event to any parent or guardian of a teenager (or pre-teen) that you know. A printable PDF flyer for the event is available on the main page of our website - www.thebridgeteencenter.org.

"Teens In Trouble" Article Series Creating Community Buzz

Beginning last Sunday, the Southtown Star ran a very emotional and powerful 4-part article series entitled "Teens In Trouble" - featuring real interviews with local teens who have dealt with issues such as sexting, eating disorders, alcohol abuse, and self-injury. We are proud to say that The Bridge Teen Center, with the support of two local youth workers, collaborated with the Southtown on these articles.



TEENS IN TROUBLE
A FOUR-PART SOUTHTOWNSTAR SERIES

We applaud the efforts and sacrifices of the young people who bravely shared their stories in the articles. This was not an easy choice for them to make, but their stories have already had a profound impact on many families we have talked to. We are excited about the awareness these articles have raised in the community, and we look forward to opening our doors so we can "be there" for students who are tempted by these issues on a daily basis.

PDF files of the original articles will be available soon, but in the meantime, here are links to the articles on the Southtown Star website:

<http://www.southtownstar.com/news/1790964.092809selfinjury.article>

<http://www.southtownstar.com/lifestyles/1794423.092909eatingdisorders.article>

<http://www.southtownstar.com/lifestyles/1790868.092709sexting.article>

<http://www.southtownstar.com/lifestyles/1794984.093009drinking.article>

If you or someone you know is interested in getting involved with The Bridge Teen Center, don't delay - let us know. Our momentum is strong, but this vision will only become a reality with the support of the entire community. Together, we can build a Bridge!

For Our Teens,

Priscilla & Rob Steinmetz

The Bridge Teen Center



The Bridge Teen Center is being built by the community, for the community...which means we need YOUR support. Whether you are able to make a one-time donation or a monthly contribution, every gift is significant. Please contact Priscilla or Rob Steinmetz at 708.466.8080 or bridgeteencenter@aol.com for more information about giving opportunities!

Want to make a difference? Help spread the word. Tell your friends, neighbors and co-workers about The Bridge Teen Center!