

PRESS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release

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Girl Scouts' Camp Woodlands Hosts Project Anti-Violence Education Camp: Buddies Not Bullies June 20-24, 2011

Annapolis—Girl Scouts of Central Maryland (GSCM) will host 150 girls from Annapolis elementary and middle schools for their annual P.A.V.E. (Project Anti-Violence Education) summer camp, June 20-24, 2011 at Girl Scouts' Camp Woodlands in Annapolis. Carrying out the mission of the Project Anti-Violence Education program--to empower high school-aged teens, through education and leadership development training, to become examples and mentors in their communities--the P.A.V.E. camp is designed to help elementary and middle-school aged youth develop the courage and character to resist participating in bullying, gangs and other detrimental behaviors. Teen peer counselors, who have received training and instruction on the P.A.V.E. curriculum, mentoring, team building and effective communication, implement the week-long camp with help and support from adult volunteers.

Buddies Not Bullies

Bullying has been a pervasive problem among youth across the country. This year's peer counselors chose **Buddies Not Bullies** as the theme for this year's camp to help campers understand the impact and effects of this behavior and to give them a chance to talk about incidents of bullying that they have experienced or seen. Activities and speakers will address this problem by identifying ways that the campers can avoid perpetuating this behavior and how to get help if they become victims. In addition to these activities the campers will participate in arts & crafts, sports and game activities.

While this is the first year that Girl Scouts of Central Maryland has been able to offer P.A.V.E. camp in Annapolis, volunteers and staff have provided programs in Annapolis elementary schools, including Germantown, Georgetown East, Mills Parole and Tyler Heights. The Council hopes to be able to provide P.A.V.E. camp again next year in Annapolis.

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