

PRESS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release

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Girl Scouts Host Project Anti-Violence Education (P.A.V.E.) Camp at New Urban Program & STEM Center in Baltimore City

Baltimore—Girl Scouts of Central Maryland (GSCM) will host 150 girls from Baltimore City elementary and middle schools (Cherry Hill, Dr. Bernard Harris, Featherbed Lane Elementary, Matthew A. Henson, Patapsco Elementary/Middle and Sinclair Lane) for their annual P.A.V.E. Summer Camp, June 20-24, 2011 at Girl Scouts' Urban Program & STEM Center—located at 4806 Seton Drive in Baltimore.

Carrying out the mission of the 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. The 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 amongst youth in the Baltimore area and across the country. This year's peer counselors chose **Buddies Not Bullies** as the theme for this year's camp to help the 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.

The Council is able to host summer camp at its headquarters due to expansion and remodeling that was completed in October 2010 that includes the addition of a dance and exercise studio, STEM

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center, multimedia computer room and teaching kitchen—all of which will be used during the week-long camp.

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