Contact these national organizations for information and ideas:

National Association for Mediation in Education 205 Hampshire House University of Massachusetts Amherst, MA 01003 413-545-2462

Serves as an umbrella organization for hundreds of mediation programs nationwide. Provides a newsletter and written materials, audio tapes, videos, and training on starting and evaluating programs, substance abuse, and conflict resolution.

National Teens, Crime, and the Community Program Center c/o National Institute for Citizen Education in the Law 711 G Street, SE Washington, DC 20003 202-546-6644

Created to meet the growing demand for program information and training and technical assistance for the Teens, Crime, and the Community (TCC) program. TCC combines classroom lessons on crime, its consequences, and its prevention with projects in the community to address specific crime problems. Provides training, materials, technical support, and conference presentations.

Youth as Resources National Crime Prevention Council 1700 K Street, NW, Second Floor Washington, DC 20006-3817 202-466-6272

Developed on the premise that young people need not wait until they reach adulthood to participate in community life. Capitalizes on youths' creative energy, enthusiasm, and altruism by offering small grants for community service projects that are chosen, designed, and carried out by young people with adult support. The National Crime Prevention Council also conducts October is Crime Prevention Month. Youth Service America 1101 15th Street, NW, Suite 200 Washington, DC 20005 202-296-2992

Promotes opportunities for young people to be engaged in youth service programs. Sponsors an annual conference and National Youth Service Day.



National Crime Prevention Council 1700 K Street, NW, Second Floor Washington, DC 20006-3817 and

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TEEN ALERT! WE NEED YOU.



WILL YOU HELP OUT? ired of hearing about society's problems? Things won't change unless you lend a hand. Join young people across the country who are helping their schools and communities become safer, better places.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Reduce violence and other crime in schools by learning conflict management and mediation skills, starting a School Watch modeled on the Neighborhood Watch idea, starting a student court that hears real cases and imposes real sentences, holding assemblies that help peers think about problems or needs that affect their lives.
- Reduce substance abuse by talking to younger kids about practical ways to resist the pressures to try alcohol and drugs, producing radio public service announcements against drug abuse and getting permission to play them over the school's PA system, performing skits urging younger children to stay drug free, setting up a hotline which can address substance abuse.
- Improve the neighborhood by joining a graffiti removal team, picking up trash and litter from a park, planting flowers and shrubs around your school, working with other groups to organize a community clean-up day, helping to renovate a playground.
- Help others by tutoring or mentoring younger children, taking an elderly neighbor to the grocery store, supporting a friend who's been a victim of crime, volunteering to help out in after-school programs or daycare centers, setting up a warm line to help young students who are home alone after school.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

- Why not start a contest and give prizes for the best violence prevention essay, video, poster, or rap?
- Why not take part in a national event Crime Prevention Month, National Youth Service Day, National Night Out, or Victim Rights Week, for example?



■ Why not work to prevent violence and other crime in a new, different way? Try a school pride day, a rally against drugs and violence, an alcohol and drug-free prom or graduation party, an original play or puppet show for younger kids, a week when everyone in your class agrees to "turn off" violent entertainment — TV shows, videos, games, and movies?

WHO CAN HELP YOU GET

Check out the helping organizations in your community — suicide hotlines, rape crisis centers, volunteer clearinghouses, local PTA chapters, Boy and Girl Scouts, battered women shelters, service clubs, or government services listed in the phone book.