

Cynthia L. Bischof Conference on Youth Anti-Violence Resource Guide

- **Gender Justice United for Societal Transformation (GenderJust) / www.genderjust.org**

GenderJust is a multi-racial, multi-ethnic, and multi-generational grassroots organization of Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender, Queer, and Allied (LGBTQA) young people, LGBTQA people of color, and LGBTQA grassroots folks developing leadership and building power through organizing. The goals of Gender JUST are to hold LGBTQA communities accountable around race, class, gender, age, religion, disability, size, and all factors necessary for a multi-dimensional and powerful movement & to move the LGBTQA struggles forward by organizing through a racial, economic, and gender justice framework.

- **Females United For Action (FUFA) / www.fufayouth.org**

FUFA is a Chicago-wide social change organization for people who identify as young women and gender-queer youth, with the leadership of youth of color at the center of our organizing. Media justice is one of many tools we use to end violence in our communities. We transform the lives of young women and genderqueer youth in Chicago, especially youth of color and working class youth, by developing our leadership, improving the conditions in our communities and changing the story that is told about us.

- **Southwest Youth Collaborative (SWYC) / www.swyc.org**

SWYC is a community-based network of youth and community development organizations working together in five diverse neighborhoods on the southwest side of Chicago. Our mission is to work with youth between the ages of 5 and 19 from diverse racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds to unleash their potential to become successful and actively contributing members of society. To this end, our programs work to build self-esteem, personal and social growth, cooperation, leadership, cross-cultural understanding, and community awareness among our youth. At the same time, our organizing efforts work to build youth and community involvement in decision-making processes affecting children, youth, and families.

- **Arab American Action Network (AAAN) / www.aaan.org**

AAAN strives to strengthen the Arab community in the Chicago area by building its capacity to be an active agent for positive social change. As a grassroots nonprofit, our strategies include community organizing, advocacy, education, providing social services, leadership development, cultural outreach and forging productive relationships with other communities. Our vision is for a strong Arab American community whose members have the power to make decisions about actions and policies that affect their lives and have access to a range of social, political, cultural and economic opportunities in a context of equity and social justice.

- **Take Back the Halls (TBTH)**

TBTH is a teen dating violence prevention and community activism program. TBTH gives teens the opportunity to examine issues such as domestic violence, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and sexual abuse, as well as a variety of social structures that support violence in our culture. It creates a space for students to talk about issues affecting their lives, and to advocate for change in their schools and communities.

- **Community Justice for Youth Institute (CJYI) / www.communityjustice4youth.org**

The mission of the CJYI is to build community capacity to resolve youth crime and conflict through restorative justice training, technical assistance, and advocacy. Community Justice for Youth Institute values (1) Responding to youth crime by addressing the harm and meeting the needs of youth, victims and communities (2) Engaging communities in the resolution of conflicts involving their youth (3) Advocating for youth to have access to resources and opportunities to reach their full potential (4) Helping to build strong community relationships as a means to keep communities safe.

- **AquaMoon, SpokenExistence, Inc. / www.spokenexistence.org**

AquaMoon, camil.williams and veronica precious bohanan, is a Chicago-based writing, performance and teaching-artist team. The duo advocates for reproductive, social, transformative and restorative justice. camil and veronica bridge the gap between the streets, hip-hop feminism/womanism, performance activism, and academia. They write, direct and produce engaging interdisciplinary stage productions and multi-media art shows, using the arts as popular education—as well as work with education and community-based organizations to effect social change.