



· SUMMER OF · PEACE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

THE CRISIS & OPPORTUNITY

Our society is steeped in a culture of violence. We are emerging from the bloodiest century in recorded history, with an estimated 191 million people killed in conflicts around the globe. Our violence towards the environment has put our planet on the brink of disaster with global warming, species destruction and other ravages. Far from an exception, the Bay Area has some of the worst national profiles in rates of homicides, youth suicide and other areas. Yet despite this picture, there are many rays of hope. On every level, from the individual to the ecological, there have been stunning examples of breakthrough transformations of conflict and violence. What if these inspired breakthrough programs collaborated on a demonstration project for creating a culture of peace?

VISION & MISSION

The *Summer of Peace* is designed to accelerate the shift from a culture of violence to a culture of peace through local collaborations, best practices, region-wide civic engagement and inspirational events in the San Francisco Bay Area, which can then be replicated nationally and globally. The Summer of Peace will bring the most inspirational peacemakers and the most effective peacebuilding programs together to create dramatic, measurable reductions in crime, domestic violence, ecological violence, and other forms of conflict. A series of dynamic programs will engage citizens in the process through conferences, trainings, concerts, neighborhood circles, school interventions, civic leadership gatherings, peace pledges and more. Our efforts will be researched and scientifically studied.

PROGRAMS

- **Cities of Peace Initiative** – a “top-down” approach that leverages legislative, judicial and other mandated forms of change. Designed to work with local government and civic leaders, and local citizenry, to create systemic shifts.
- **PeaceWeek 2009 and Summer of Peace 2010** – a “bottom up” approach that focuses on grassroots community-oriented involvement, and highlights the work of program partners. Provides ways to engage the general public in inspirational events, trainings, and other activities.
- **Peace Practices** – an “inside-out” strategy that harnesses the most effective practices for “inner” transformations that contribute to peace, especially focused on serving most-vulnerable populations and transforming “hot spot” areas of conflict or violence throughout the Bay Area. This approach leverages the underutilized skills of coaches, mediators, mediators, teachers, therapists, and others.
- **Web 2.0** – an “outside-in” approach that leverages media and web technology to turn interest into engagement, citizen circles, and enduring networks that support a culture of peace.

SUMMARY

By galvanizing broad-scale civic support for peacebuilding, bringing together best practices, and generating inspired media and social networks around peace, we intend to contribute to the historic shift beyond cultures of violence to a culture of peace, a gift that our descendants will enjoy for generations to come

CONTACT

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See our website for more info and full descriptions of our programs: www.summerofpeace.net

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JOIN US IN MAKING A HISTORIC CONTRIBUTION TO A CULTURE OF PEACE!

The Summer of Peace is an Official Project of the Tides Center of San Francisco

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