Key Messages

- Partner, Partner, Partner! Find groups / organizations that are in line with your vision.
- Keep it Simple - no need for excessive forms, policies or jargon to complicate the desired outcome.
- Timeliness: meet with the young person as soon as you can to keep the incident ‘fresh’ in their memory.
- Emphasize accountability of the young person, parent, organization and agencies.
- When it is time to expand your program go slow to maintain integrity.
- Monitor and evaluate progress monthly ensuring the program is meeting its objectives and goals.
- Work out all concerns as they happen and adapt program to ensure that continued success.
- Have the young person take ownership of the predicament that they are in and the opportunity given to them by their community. They will have a better chance of success if they feel they were in control of the outcome.
- Explore root causes of offending behavior in a safe environment.
- Educating the young person and family to resources in their community.
- Opportunities/consequences need to be meaningful and timely.
- Parents are important role in the change process. They too need to be inspired, encouraged, motivated to help their child make positive changes.
- Work to build a network of youth friendly, youth focused resources in your community.
- Young people need to be lead, inspired, and motivated to make changes.