

YOUTH CRIME WATCH OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

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PROTECTING OUR FUTURE

“THE YCW VISION”
ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER
FALL-WINTER 2010 EDITION

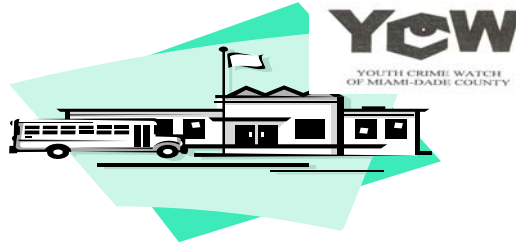


Mission Statement:

***To foster a safe school environment
impacting student well-being through
awareness & involvement***

***YOUTH CRIME WATCH OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY IS A PROGRAM
OF CITIZENS' CRIME WATCH OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY***

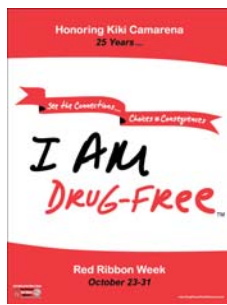
Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County is partially funded by
Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners and Miami-Dade County Public Schools



Youth Crime Watch (YCW) of Miami-Dade has received a multitude of requests for YCW services from the Miami-Dade schools for the 2010-2011 school year. Various schools have already implemented or reinstated YCW programs (clubs) at their school site. Although we have not been able to fulfill numerous YCW presentation requests from the Miami-Dade schools due to our budget being reduced in half, we are very grateful to M-DCPS Superintendent Alberto Carvalho, M-DCPS School Board Chair Perla Tabares Hantman, and M-DCPS School Police Chief Charles Hurley for the funding they obtained for us. Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County welcomes new M-DCPS School Board Members: Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall (District 2), Carlos Curbelo (District 7), and Raquel A. Regalado (District 6).



Bullying and Cyberbullying Prevention education is a key component in curbing the tragedies that occur due to Bullying & Cyberbullying. Numerous of the YCW presentation requests from Miami-Dade schools are for Bullying & Cyberbullying Prevention presentations and assemblies. In lieu of recent Bullycide incidents, Bullying & Cyberbullying has received an increase of national, governmental, and media attention in addressing the problem. However, many people still see Bullying as a “rite of passage” and “part of growing up”. Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County’s Bullying & Cyberbullying presentations focus on dispelling that myth and instructs students on various aspects of Bullying & Cyberbullying; including its ramifications and legal consequences, prevention/responding skills for victims, the role of the bystander, and on anonymous reporting methods. YCW utilizes the iconic McGruff the Crime Dog with his “It’s A Beautiful Life, not a Bullyful Life” Safety Celebration dance and messages in many YCW Bullying Prevention Assemblies at the Miami-Dade elementary schools. Evidence-based data has proven that student-led Bullying & Cyberbullying Prevention education has been instrumental in reducing Bullying incidents in many school sites. YCW of Miami-Dade County trains YCW school programs (clubs) on spearheading school-wide YCW Bullying & Cyberbullying Prevention campaigns and activities.



The Miami-Dade Red Ribbon Week Campaign (October 23-31) was once again a success on educating Miami-Dade students on Drug Prevention. Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County along with other law enforcement and crime prevention agencies visited many schools in conducting Drug Prevention assemblies & presentations. This year's Red Ribbon Week theme was "I Am Drug Free, See the Connections-Choices=Consequences". YCW incorporated the theme within the drug prevention presentations at the schools. Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County alone served 10,245 students by conducting 81 Drug Prevention presentations in assemblies & classrooms at 25 Miami-Dade schools during the campaign; McGruff The Crime Dog once again played a vital role in many of the YCW Red Ribbon Week school assemblies & classroom presentations. Numerous YCW School Programs (clubs) also spearheaded their schools' Red Ribbon Week Campaigns.



The Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) Be Safe: Anonymous Reporting System is an effective anonymous reporting system where students can report crimes, weapons, drugs, or any safety concerns in a safe anonymous manner. It was developed by M-DCPS Mental Health & Crisis Management Services and the M-DCPS School Police Department. It features several reporting methods. Students can call in the information to the M-DCPS School Safety Hotline 305-995-COPS (2677), submit the tip online to <http://besafe.dadeschools.net>, and also text the tip via a cell phone to 274637 (CRIMES) keyword: Besafe. The M-DCPS "Be Safe" anonymous reporting system is constantly mentioned in YCW Presentations, Assemblies, and Club Meetings. A few of the YCW programs (clubs) in the secondary schools are planning to coordinate campaigns in order to publicize the "Be Safe: Anonymous Reporting System" in their schools.

YCW School News

August-December 2010



Dr. Michael Krop Senior High's YCW "crime educators" school program (club), guided by YCW School Advisor Kim Ferreira, has once again demonstrated their consummate dedication on educating students on youth crime prevention by coordinating various activities and campaigns during the first half of the 2010-2011 school year. The student members created a powerpoint presentation on "Driving Under The Influence and Texting while Driving Dangers" and presented it to more than 1,700 students. They once again coordinated "The Clothesline Project" at the school. The project addresses the issue of domestic & dating violence. It is a vehicle for people affected by violence to express their emotions by decorating a shirt. They then hang the shirt on a clothesline to be viewed by others as testimony to the problem of domestic & dating violence. It also brings awareness to the issue. Members of YCW Crime Educators worked very diligently in decorating the shirts and putting up the display. This year they took it a step further by also displaying statistics of domestic/dating violence alongside the shirts. The YCW "crime educators" program coordinated an "Anonymous Text Reporting" campaign by creating posters of the M-DCPS: "Be Safe" Anonymous Text Reporting System and displaying them in the school's corridors. They also coordinated the school's Red Ribbon Week campaign by planning & participating in the following Red Ribbon Week activities: "Promise to be Drug-Free" balloon decorations, Drug Prevention quotes postings, Wear Red and get candy for lunch, YCW "Crime Educators" Drug Prevention Booth with materials & brochures to disseminate, DUI Prevention display boards, Hula Hoop contest, and more. The program continues to schedule numerous experts on crime prevention as guest speakers for school assemblies. Dr. Matthew Welker, the school's Principal, was recognized as the Citizens' Crime Watch "Principal of the Year" for the 2009-2010 school year at the Citizens' Crime Watch (CCW) of Miami-Dade 35th Annual Awards Ceremony on Friday, October 1. YCW Student President (2009-2010) Aboubalie Salvador was also recognized at the CCW Awards Ceremony as the "YCW Student of the Year" for the 2009-2010 school year.

YCW School News

August-December 2010



Miami Carol City Senior High's YCW school program (club), under the leadership of YCW School Advisor Erica Jimenez, took the lead to educate and promote the importance of Drug Prevention in their school's YCW "I Am Drug Free" Red Ribbon Week campaign. They set up a YCW Exhibit Materials Booth to disseminate Drug Prevention materials to the entire school, and also participated in the City of Miami Gardens "Red Ribbon" Parade. They are currently coordinating youth crime prevention activities, campaigns, and events for the rest of the school year. The YCW student members are going to set up several school-wide YCW Exhibit Materials Booths to disseminate educational materials on a variety of safety topics such as: School Violence Prevention, Anonymous Reporting, Sexting Prevention, Teen Dating Violence Prevention, Texting While Driving Dangers, and Bullying/Cyberbullying Prevention. The student members will also be conducting youth crime prevention presentations to their peers in school events, and to parents at PTSA Meetings. They have scheduled several youth crime prevention experts as guest speakers to present at the school. They are also planning to conduct Bullying Prevention presentations at middle schools in their feeder pattern. Principal Nelson Izquierdo was very instrumental in getting the YCW school program reinstated at Miami Carol City Senior High.

West Miami Middle started its YCW school program (club) this year with many student members eager to become part of the club since last year. Not only has YCW School Advisor Anthony Valido and his YCW student members coordinated numerous youth crime prevention activities at the school, but they also have serviced the community in several ways. They held a Thanksgiving Drive in November and also coordinated a Cookie Fundraiser to raise money for their YCW club. At their YCW club meetings, the student members are very vocal in addressing safety issues at the school and contributing their ideas on school violence prevention.

YCW School News

August-December 2010



Eugenia B. Thomas K-8 Center's YCW school program (club) continues to demonstrate a commitment to "take a bite out of crime" with their youth crime prevention endeavors. YCW School Advisor Silvia Fernandez has another group of motivated YCW student members in her delegation. The school's YCW program did a phenomenal job in the National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) "Crime Prevention Month" Poster Celebration in October. The poster event was sponsored by NCPC and it asked children & youth to create posters depicting their vision of a safe community, how to show respect to friends & family, and to send a 30th Birthday greeting & message to McGruff The Crime Dog. Some of the school's YCW student members created posters and also encouraged other students to do the same. Over 20 posters from Eugenia B. Thomas K-8 Center were submitted

North Miami Elementary's YCW school program (club) excelled in their coordination of the school's Red Ribbon Week Campaign. YCW School Advisor Jill Hyman and the YCW student members decorated the school with red ribbons in most areas of the school; they also displayed Drug Prevention posters/signs, and disseminated educational materials on Drug Prevention. The YCW student members performed Drug Prevention skits and presented Red Ribbon Spirit poems to their peers. They invited guest speakers to conduct presentations on Drug Prevention at school assemblies which included Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County Coordinators.

Oliver Hoover Elementary's YCW school program (club) also participated in the National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) "Crime Prevention Month" Poster Celebration. YCW School Advisor Patti Benitez and the YCW student members presented information on the NCPC Poster Celebration at the school in order to encourage students to participate. Oliver Hoover Elementary's YCW school program continues to excel with their well-structured patrolling duties.

YCW at Youth-Oriented Community Events August-December 2010



- **Florida Marlins’ “Community Clubhouse” participation at Florida Marlins Baseball Game** on Thursday, August 5 (YCW Exhibit Materials Booth and McGruff the Crime Dog appearance)
- **Yolly Roberson’s 7th Annual “Back To School” Wellness Day Event** at Miami-Dade College North Campus on Saturday, August 7 (YCW Exhibit Materials Booth and McGruff the Crime Dog appearance)
- **History Miami Museum “Safety Event”** on Saturday, August 14 (YCW Exhibit Materials Booth and McGruff the Crime Dog appearance)
- **Miami-Dade Police Department’s South District “Back To School” Health Awareness Event** at Everglades Community on Friday, August 20 (YCW Exhibit Materials Booth and McGruff the Crime Dog appearance)
- **Miami-Dade Public Library “Safety Education” Event at Palm Springs North Library** on Thursday, September 16 (Personal Safety and YCW McGruff presentations)
- **Miami-Dade College’s Medical Campus “Campus Safety Day” Event** on Monday, September 20 (CCW-YCW Exhibit Materials Booth and CCW-YCW Services presentation)
- **Miami-Dade Police Department’s Hammocks District “Celebrating Safe Communities” Event** at Kendall’s Target Store on Thursday, October 28 (CCW-YCW Exhibit Materials Booth and McGruff The Crime Dog appearance)
- **The Falls Shopping Center’s “Miracle on 136th St.” Holiday Parade** on Saturday, November 20 (McGruff the Crime Dog appearance)

YCW Weekly Award Recipients
August-December 2010



Sponsored by: WLYF 101.5 LITE FM

YCW Principal of the Week *August 16-20*
Kim Cox of Carol City Middle

YCW Advisor of the Week *August 23-27*
Jacqueline Hazel of Phillis Wheatley Elementary

YCW Advisor of the Week *August 30-September 3*
Kim Ferreira of Dr. Michael Krop Senior High

YCW Student of the Week *September 6-10*
Gina Milan of Dr. Michael Krop Senior High

YCW Advisor of the Week *September 13-17*
Anthony Valido of West Miami Middle

YCW Student of the Week *September 20-24*
Tyler Fordham of Dr. Michael Krop Senior High

YCW Student of the Week *September 27-October 1*
William Arias of West Miami Middle

YCW Advisor of the Week *October 4-8*
Donavan Cherry of Carol City Middle

YCW Advisor of the Week *October 11-15*
Jill Hyman of North Miami Elementary

YCW Weekly Award Recipients
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YCW School of the Week *October 18-22*
Coral Reef Elementary

YCW School of the Week *October 25-29*
Melrose Elementary

YCW School of the Week *November 1-5*
Miami Carol City Senior High

YCW Advisor of the Week *November 8-12*
Silvia Fernandez of Eugenia B. Thomas K-8 Center

YCW Student of the Week *November 15-19*
Jeffrey Schroeder of Eugenia B. Thomas K-8 Center

YCW Student of the Week *November 22-26*
Nikita Sood of Eugenia B. Thomas K-8 Center

YCW Advisor of the Week *November 29-December 3*
Erica Jimenez of Miami Carol City Senior High

YCW Student of the Week *December 6-10*
Ossie Leandre of Dr. Michael Krop Senior High

YCW Principal of the Week *December 13-17*
Catalina Flor of Phillis Wheatley Elementary