

PARENTS AND CHILDREN FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE

Summary:

SPC investigate the creation of an ongoing program providing resources and support to parents and children on issues of peace and social justice. An actual program might include ongoing educational programs for parents as well as training for people in daycare centers or home daycare providers and could also include ongoing children's/teen programming.

This proposal suggests only an exploration and program development initiative, rather than the creation of a specific program at this point.

Goals:

- Explore the feasibility of creating and resourcing such an ongoing program.
- Increase the age diversity of SPC's participants/supporters.
- Make SPC a more family-friendly organization.
- Foster activism among younger people.
- Help SPC expand our vision into more positive programming--ie. "Parenting for Peace and Social Justice."

Activities/Steps:

1. Create a committee of people interested in this idea
2. Research similar efforts in other communities as well as what already exists in the Syracuse area which is similar to or might serve as a companion to our efforts.
3. Develop a specific program proposal for consideration sometime in 2006.

Some possibilities for actual programs could include:

- ongoing spc programs reaching out to schools beginning with preschools and on up about peace, nonviolence and social activism.
- peace camps for children of various ages.
- ongoing educational programs for parents/caregivers on raising children nonviolently and seeking to instill a commitment to social justice.

Timeline:

This would take between six and twelve months depending on the energy and resources which are available.

Resources:

For this program development stage I would suggest that the project not draw on staff time, but would require one person or several people willing to coordinate it. The PNL and listservs would be valuable outreach tools, though wouldn't ongoing space or use.

Relating to SPC Guidelines:

This campaign fits very into the Program Guidelines.

By seeking to connect activist work for peace and social justice with the ongoing daily tasks of parenting, it makes a valuable link between global violence and everyday issues experienced by most families.

It has great potential to increase participation among people with young children, a group which isn't currently well represented within SPC.

It requires outreach to other organizations with whom we've had minimal contact such as Child Care Council of Onondaga County.

I am unaware of other groups addressing this specific issue.

I, unfortunately, have much more interest in the project than I currently have time to work on it.