

## Why are fulfilling the 5 promises important in our community?

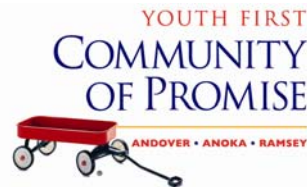
- Children who experience the 5 Promises are 5 to 10 times more likely to succeed as students, citizens, parents, and employees.
- 78.2% of students YFCoP currently works with are living in poverty and are considered at-risk.
- The percentage of youth in the Andover, Anoka and Ramsey community is higher than the state average. Our cities continue to experience rapid population growth which can contribute to community disintegration.
- Data from area high schools point to higher percentages of alcohol use, drinking and driving behaviors and methamphetamine use than the state average.

## Experiencing 4 or 5 Promises will:

- Reduce the academic achievement gap (measured by A-F grades) between white and minority students ages 12-17 and nearly eliminate the gap for students ages 6-11
- Nearly eliminate disparities in school attendance between white and minority youth ages 12-17
- Nearly eliminate disparities in school attendance between 12-17 year-olds from high- and low-income families
- Nearly eliminate the disparity in drug use for 12-17 year-old youth

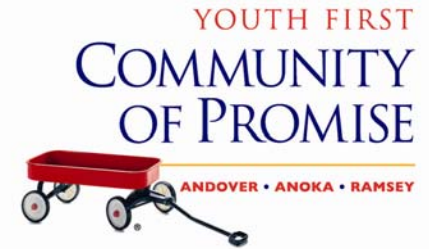
**Youth First is a Minnesota 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation.** We rely on the generosity of community and corporate sponsors to ensure that all young people in Andover, Anoka and Ramsey have the resources they need to be successful: safe places with structured and unstructured activities; on-going relationships with caring adults; a healthy start and future; an effective education; opportunities to give back through community service.

Youth First Community of Promise is a local community initiative established out of a working group of the Northwest Anoka County Community Consortium (NWACCC). This collaborative entity includes the cities of Andover, Anoka, Ramsey, Anoka County and Anoka-Hennepin School District 11.



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## 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Mayors' Prayer Breakfast

**Friday, March 19, 2010**

**7:30 – 9:30 am**

*Lord of Life Church*  
**14501 Nowthen Blvd NW**  
**Ramsey, MN 55303**

**Ticket Prices**  
**\$20 each/\$145 table**

**Call (763) 421-8530**

*Come for breakfast . . .  
invest in your community.*

## The Mayors' of Andover, Anoka & Ramsey cordially invite you to attend the Annual Mayors' Prayer Breakfast



The annual breakfast is an opportunity for Youth First to showcase their work in the community with youth and families. It is also a chance to celebrate local government, faith communities, schools, civic groups, businesses, law enforcement and individuals working together to ensure that ALL children in Andover, Anoka and Ramsey receive the 5 promises.

This year we will be asking you to SUPPORT the work of YFCoP. We have moved into a time when we need financial support as well as moral support from the community. With your help, we can continue to provide for our youth in Andover, Anoka and Ramsey.

## Who We Are

Since 1999, Youth First Community of Promise (YFCoP) has actively served the youth and families in the cities of Andover, Anoka and Ramsey.

Our program is modeled under a national framework established by "America's Promise" that was founded by General Colin Powell. The program identifies and delivers 5 Promises that children need to succeed through established "Sites of Promise."

As a "Site of Promise" we have taken a pledge to actively engage not only our community youth, but the community itself, in fulfilling 5 specific promises:



1. Safe places with structured and unstructured activities
2. On-going relationships with caring adults
3. A healthy start and future
4. An effective education
5. Opportunities to give back through community service



**We collaborate with businesses, faith communities, schools, governments, law enforcement and individuals to make sure that the youth in our communities are given every opportunity to receive these promises.**

## What We Provide

YFCoP currently operates three neighborhood centers in Andover, Anoka and Ramsey, for youth in Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. We provide FREE programs which operate four days a week after school at each site, as well as summer programming to create a continuous stream of services for youth and their families.



Every day incorporates a minimum of 30 minutes of homework which is supported by active communication between teachers in each student's school and YFCoP staff.

We are aware of each student's academic needs and actively engage them, as well as their families, in achieving school success. The remainder of the program day is broken into a variety of activities to expose them to new experiences and focus on their special interests.



**By ensuring that our community youth are given the opportunity to consistently experience these promises, we are building a future where they are more likely to succeed academically, socially, and civically, regardless of ethnic or economic boundaries.**