



The Peace Alliance



STUDENT PEACE ALLIANCE

Organization At-A-Glance

The Peace Alliance

- ◆ Established in March 2004
- ◆ Mission: Empower civic activism for a culture of peace
- ◆ Work: Advocate for legislation; support and practice peacebuilding in personal lives and communities; train citizens in advocacy and media; build coalitions with others to support our policy efforts and applied peacebuilding initiatives.
- ◆ The Peace Alliance takes the work of peacebuilding from the margins of society into the centers of national discourse and policy priorities
- ◆ Current policy initiatives: Youth PROMISE Act (HR 1064/S 435) and the Department of Peace
- ◆ Active in all 50 states with forty-two (42) volunteer State Coordinators in 31 states and volunteer Congressional District Team Leaders in 193 of 440 Congressional Districts

Student Peace Alliance

- ◆ Established in March 2006
- ◆ Mission: Engages communities and policy-makers in building sustainable peace.
- ◆ Work: Advocates for legislation and policy that enhances our ability to reduce violence and build sustainable peace while actively engaging in local peacebuilding efforts on campuses and in communities.
- ◆ Current policy initiatives: Youth PROMISE Act (HR 1064/S 435) and the Department of Peace
- ◆ Works in partnership with The Peace Alliance on policy and community service initiatives
- ◆ Over 80 chapters in high schools, cities, colleges and universities nationwide
- ◆ Leadership in the structure of a National Coordinating Committee and a National Organizing Team

Initiatives

Youth PROMISE Act (HR 1064)

- ◆ A bipartisan effort supported by 231 members of the U.S. House of Representatives
- ◆ Supporting resolutions and letters of support by the governing bodies of 11 cities, including Los Angeles, Philadelphia and East Cleveland.
- ◆ Endorsed by over 240 organizations, including the Children's Defense Fund, the Justice Policy Institute, National Juvenile Justice Network, and the American Psychological Association.
- ◆ Referred to four House committees: Education and Labor, Judiciary, Energy and Commerce, and Financial Services
- ◆ Companion legislation introduced into the Senate as S. 435 with 12 cosponsors
- ◆ Innovative piece of legislation aimed at empowering community stakeholders to drive local violence prevention and intervention efforts. YPA will provide funding and infrastructure to build the entire field of youth violence prevention efforts with locally tailored implementation plans and feedback on best practice.

Department of Peace (currently proposed by HR 808)

- ◆ Supported by 70 members of the U.S. House of Representatives
- ◆ Supporting resolutions passed by the governing bodies of 41 city, county and other local administrations, including Atlanta, Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles and San Francisco, representing more than 13 million people
- ◆ Endorsed by 55 organizations, including Amnesty International, NOW and Physicians for Social Responsibility
- ◆ Referred to four committees: House Oversight and Government Reform, House Foreign Affairs, House Judiciary, and House Education and Labor

- ◆ The most comprehensive bill in Congress to date that provides the strongest structural support to sustainably prioritize violence prevention and peacebuilding efforts in the Executive branch of our government

Applied Peacebuilding

- ◆ Through local alliance building, community education, personal peace practices and service efforts in our communities, we will do the peace work on the ground for which we advocate. Together we will demonstrate -- through our actions -- what peace looks like. We encourage all volunteers to get involved in their community by supporting pre-existing programs and organizations.
- ◆ The Peace Alliance supports volunteers getting involved in a sustainable way through training, program development and partnerships.
 - **Training:** We connect our grassroots organizers with partnering trainers around the country to train in nonviolence, nonviolent communication, conflict mediation and personal peace practices.
 - **Partnerships:** By forming strategic coalitions and partnerships with cutting edge peacemaking organizations, we connect network organizers with professionals in their community for possible partnerships, collaborations or other resource sharing or cross-promotional efforts.
 - Possible areas include
 - Peace Education and Training (ex. Receiving training in non-violent conflict resolution and then setting up an afterschool program once a week at the local elementary school)
 - Domestic Peace Activities (ex. Working with a local gang violence prevention program)
 - International Peace Activities (ex. Volunteering for refugee reacclimation)
- ◆ Peace Alliance staff and volunteers host educational events to disseminate data on violence and its solutions to the media and general public. The Peace Alliance works to actively support the release of reports from the Global Peace Index, the United States Institute of Peace, and Centers for Disease Control.