

Name: _____ School or Parish: _____

PEACEBUILDERS INITIATIVE – Peace Project Progress Report **FALL RETREAT 2010**

What is a Peace Project? The Peacebuilders Initiative does not end after the Summer Program. Nor is its impact limited to those students who attend. Through the Peace Projects initiated by the participants, the program's impact reaches beyond the circle of the participants. Over the course of the year, you will enhance your Christian leadership skills by creating and developing a project to advance peacebuilding and reconciliation in your school, parish, or community. You can address any one of the many issues, which divide society and prevent peacebuilding and reconciliation from thriving. You develop the project in consultation with the Peacebuilders Partner from your school or parish and your Mentors. As you prepare and implement the project, your Partner and Mentors will help you reflect on the way such activities deepen and express your faith.

Criteria – Though a Peace Project can take many different forms, depending on the needs or opportunities present in your particular community, there are certain elements that must be a part of every project. Catholic Social Teaching provides specific principles (indicated in **bold**) that should guide the creation and implementation of the Peace Project. Additionally, action on behalf of justice must be rooted in and sustained by prayerful reflection. Therefore, every Peace Project should:

1. Be rooted in your local community. (**Dignity of the Human Person, Participation**)
2. Build and strengthen relationships between individuals and between communities. (**Participation, Solidarity**)
3. Involve and honor the voices of everyone your project will affect. (**Dignity of the Human Person, Participation**)
4. Address a need or opportunity within your community to build peace and justice, especially one concerning the poor, vulnerable, and/or young. (**Option for the Poor, Solidarity**)
5. Incorporate prayer and/or reflection for and with all those affiliated with the project. (**Participation, Solidarity**)

During this peace project process, please reflect on what you are learning about in the following areas:

1. Yourself

2. Your community

3. Working for justice

4. The Church

Please describe your project:

1. Where are you in the timeline of your project? Halfway done, just started, almost complete?

2. Have you encountered roadblocks? If so, please tell us who you worked with and how you dealt with these roadblocks together.

3. How has your project been affirmed by your peers, local community and Church?

4. What skills do you need to develop during this process of implementing your project?

5. What help do you need from your peers, partner contact, mentor, etc.?