

Name: _____ School or Parish: _____

PEACEBUILDERS INITIATIVE – Peace Project Proposal **Due October 1, 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**)

Vision Statement – A vision statement should describe in three to five sentences the values of an organization and energizes those who work for the organization to live out those values. In creating a vision statement for your Peace Project, first state the values of Peacebuilders Initiative. Then, state the values of your Peace Project. Combine the two sets of values in a few sentences with the goal of energizing and motivating the people involved in your Peace Project to live out those values. To help you brainstorm, think of long-term goals that stem from your project (your “dream”), about the above criteria, and about the images that inspire your project (e.g., building bridges, crossing the road, walking *with*, etc.).

Goal #1: What specific actions must you take to accomplish this goal and who are your partners in these action steps?

➤ **Action Step #1:**

➤ **Action Step #2:**

➤ **Actions Step #3:**

➤ **Additional Action Steps, if needed:**

Goal #2:

➤ **Action Step #1:**

➤ **Action Step #2:**

➤ **Actions Step #3:**

➤ **Additional Action Steps, if needed:**

Timeline (for accomplishing each Action Step and overall Goal – it may help to think backwards):

Name/Signature _____ Date _____

PARTNER (Adult Minister)

Name/Signature _____ Date _____

PEACEBUILDERS INITIATIVE STAFF

Name/Signature _____ Date _____