

WINTER 2011/2012

NEWSLETTER

“I believe that all students would benefit from the experience of Tools for Peace. These are profound and important skills for youth to have to deal with the stresses which exist in the lives of everyone.” — Paula Egan, Aim High



NEW YEAR, REVISED CURRICULUM!

AS WE HEAD INTO THE NEW YEAR, we are reminded of all of the great Tools for Peace (TFP) events and activities that happened last year. In

particular, one student noted how TFP made an impact in his life: “I want to thank you for kind of helping me open up with everything. Tools for Peace helped me learn how to control my emotions in certain situations and, in a way, find out a little bit about myself. I think Tools for Peace is going to change a lot of lives,” says Emilio, a student at **Peninsula High School** in San Francisco, CA.

This year, we are growing our facilitation team so that we can expand the number of classes and campuses we serve with existing and new partners, and simplify our workbook for ease of use in the classroom.



We will have available our simplified Tools for Peace Personal Mandala Workbook for schools called *Stop, Breathe & Think* (SB&T). *SB&T* is focused on social-emotional learning for students by helping them develop positive attitudes, resolve conflicts, cope with difficulties, develop self-motivation and self-confidence, and feel willing, able, and equipped to help others.

Additionally, integrated into the curriculum, students will be engaged upfront through our Compassion-in-Action (CIA) service-learning projects. CIA projects provide opportunities for students to collaborate with peers and members of the community. Ultimately students will be able to address a community need in their classrooms, on campus or within the wider community.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 20 - 22, 2012

Teen Camp Reunion,
Tehachapi, CA

May 22 - 26, 2012

TFP Workshop in Switzerland

June 22 - June 25, 2012

Annual Facilitator Training,
Tehachapi, CA

July 27 - 28, 2012

Peer Mentor Training,
Tehachapi, CA

July 29 - August 4, 2012

Annual Teen Summer Camp,
Tehachapi, CA

WE NEED YOUR HELP

You can help keep our programming going so that we can continue to provide positive tools for students who need it the most. We ask that you consider supporting Tools for Peace through a donation. Your donation will help to underwrite program implementation costs so that we can continue to serve at-risk and underserved communities at no cost. We can't do this without your help! It costs \$198 per student, per semester to bring *SB&T* into the classroom. To learn more about how to make a donation online or via the mail, go to www.toolsforpeace.org. Thank you for your consideration and any support that you can offer.



BANCROFT MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS PROUDLY SHOWCASE THEIR HERB AND VEGETABLE GARDEN. PHOTO CREDIT: L.A.C.E.R AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

COMPASSION-IN-ACTION IN SCHOOLS

Using our CIA project as the launching pad, students at **L.A.C.E.R.** (Literacy, Arts, Culture, Education & Recreation) **Afterschool Programs** enjoyed their time planting fresh herbs and vegetables in the school garden at **Bancroft Middle School** in Hollywood, CA. They were able to make the connection back to our *SB&T* curriculum on cause and effect by learning positive actions through planting and nurturing their garden.

SPECIAL THANKS

We couldn't have hit the milestones above and other milestones without our partnerships with **L.A.C.E.R. Afterschool Programs** at **Bancroft Middle School** (Hollywood, CA), **Aim High** (San Francisco, CA), **Peninsula High School** (San Bruno, CA), **Metropolitan Arts and Tech School** (San Francisco, CA) and **Northern Light School** (Oakland, CA). We're looking forward to working with our school partners this year!

ARE YOU IN A K-12 INSTITUTION LOOKING TO LEARN MORE?

Are you a school or know of a school who can benefit from our *SB&T* program? Please connect with us at info@toolsforpeace.org and let us know you're interested. We can set up an introduction lesson to get you acquainted with our program.

SOCIAL NETWORKS AND NEW MICRODOC

We have recently updated our social network sites at our YouTube Channel and on our Facebook page. To view videos of previous events and to see our programs in action, go to www.youtube.com/toolsforpeace. You can also "Like" us on our Facebook page at <http://goo.gl/U38gh>. We would love to hear from you – friend us or leave us comments on our YouTube Channel or Facebook pages!

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

It's also that time of year where we clean up and update our database. If your contact information has changed, please share with us your new information and email address at the web address below. Future iterations of our newsletter will be sent out via an eNewsletter. To stay up to date, please provide us your email address by filling out our quick form: <http://goo.gl/yldzG>.

IN-KIND DONATIONS REQUEST

Our planning for the 2012 Spring Reunion and Teen Summer Camp seasons are already underway. We have a long list of items that if donated, would help us provide better and more meaningful experiences to our student campers. If you are a corporation or know of a company that would be willing to provide us with snacks/food, camping

supplies, first aid kits, stationary, arts & crafts, etc., please connect with us at info@toolsforpeace.org or give us a call at 626.564.0700. Gift card donations and general donations are also acceptable.

Help your students build self-confidence, deal with stress and lead successful lives. Bring Stop, Breathe & Think into your school today!