



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**8th ANNUAL CEASEFIRE WEEK (June 5 – 12, 2010)  
WILL BRING CHICAGO COMMUNITIES TOGETHER TO PROMOTE PEACE**

(Chicago, IL) – Hundreds of Chicago residents from 19 communities will participate in nearly 50 events planned for the 8th annual CeaseFire Week. The week is meant to celebrate life, promote peace and remind Chicago residents to take a stand against violence.

A press conference will be held Friday, June 4 at 11 a.m. in front of the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health at 1603 West Taylor Street, Chicago, IL 60612.

Tio Hardiman, director of CeaseFire Illinois, said as summer gets underway, violence often rises.

“CeaseFire Week is timed to set a tone for the peak months – that violence is unacceptable. CeaseFire is a scientifically proven model. It works, not only for saving individual lives, but entire communities,” Hardiman said.

Attending the press conference will be several community partners from Chicago’s CeaseFire zones including Logan Square/Humboldt Park, Englewood, Little Village, North Lawndale, Decatur, Southwest, Waukegan, Austin, Grand Boulevard, Maywood, Rogers Park, Auburn Gresham, Roseland, Garfield Park, North Chicago, East Garfield, East Saint Louis and Albany Park.

Barbecues, candlelight vigils, basketball tournaments, a peace walk and performances by local artists are some of the major events planned for CeaseFire Week. A calendar of events can be found at [www.ceasefirechicago.org/CEASEFIRE\\_CALENDAR\\_2010.pdf](http://www.ceasefirechicago.org/CEASEFIRE_CALENDAR_2010.pdf).

CeaseFire is a national anti-violence program statistically proven effective at reducing shootings and killings by a U.S. Department of Justice study. In the past year, CeaseFire has responded to 67 shootings and killings and has prevented more than 350 conflicts that could have resulted in violent acts. Currently, CeaseFire outreach

workers are helping 535 individual program participants, including youth, redirect their lives in a more positive direction by getting back into school, finding jobs or accessing community resources. CeaseFire is an initiative of the Chicago Project for Violence Prevention at the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health.

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