

# Community Tampa Bay™

Cultivating Leaders • Changing Communities  
Promoting Dialogue



Our vision is a community free from discrimination.

Our mission is to promote dialogue and respect among all cultures, religions and races by cultivating leaders to change communities.

We have a 25 year partnership working in and with Pinellas County Schools to create respectful learning environments so every child can achieve their highest potential and a twenty-one year history providing the award winning ANYTOWN™ program in Tampa Bay.

**Cultivating Leaders-one person at a time**

**Changing Communities-so every member is treated with dignity and respect**

## School based opportunity for students...Youth Conferences

Goal: Promote safe learning environments to maximize student achievement by empowering students to be agents of change for unity.

- Youth Conferences/Unity Days are school-based and designed to allow up to 60 students to develop dialogues on critical issues at school and share insights and concerns with one another in small and large group discussions. Each day-long leadership conference includes community teambuilding, transformative dialogue, and realistic action planning. A variety of methods are used to empower students and create an optimum learning experience such as small group dialogues, videos, experiential activities, role plays and lectures with different curricula for different age groups. Student planning committees, which are coordinated by the schools, decide which critical issues (bullying, gangs, discrimination, body image, stereotypes, etc.) will be addressed at the school. Action plans are developed to ensure students practice how to apply what they have learned with the intentions of making their schools safe, respectful learning environments. Thus, a community is created that continues to function after the Unity Day as a mechanism to promote a positive school climate to impact students learning and achievement.
- Starting mid-August, any time during the school year
- Up to 60 students and relevant school staff per event. Students who are part of the planning team will be supported to work as peer leaders on the day of the Conference.
- **Cost-\$1700 for full day conference (50-60 youth) for new partners. Includes pre-conference planning meeting and optional follow-up. Individual schools in Pinellas County may qualify for a reduced fee of up to 50%. Application available [www.communitytampabay.org](http://www.communitytampabay.org) Contact [sogdie@communitytampabay.org](mailto:sogdie@communitytampabay.org) for more information.**

## **Community based opportunity for students...ANYTOWN™**

Goal: Empower diverse groups of young people to create more inclusive and just schools and communities where all individuals can be treated with respect and understanding.

- A dynamic youth leadership and diversity awareness program that fosters respect and unity through meaningful cross-cultural relationships. Begins with residential stay at Eckerd College for 5-days/4-nights and continues with enrollment in Be Intentional Institute (trainings and service learning) year round. *Since diversity is key to our process, our participants are of all different cultures, religions, geographic areas and leadership abilities.* The program engages youth and young adults in purposeful, goal-directed dialogue to increase their awareness of the development of attitudes and behaviors that contribute to prejudice, stereotype and discrimination. As they begin to understand their own social identities, we provide opportunities for delegates to confront issues that divide their homes, schools, and communities. Through experiential workshops, dorms, dialogue groups, and more, participants are offered the opportunity to explore and address the complexities of discrimination relating to race, gender, sex, nationality, ethnicity, sexual orientation, class, age, ability, and faith. In learning from each other, throughout the year-long program, participants gain valuable leadership skills involving problem solving, group dynamics, conflict management, coalition building, intergroup relations, communication, and advocacy. High-school students ages 14 to 18 are invited to apply.
- **Cost-\$25 application fee and \$100 commitment fee upon acceptance. Full and partial scholarships and space reserved for 50 PCS students annually.** Call for more information. 727.568.9333.

## **Community based opportunity for students...FLY-Facilitating the Leadership of Youth**

Program description: A youth-led group, the FLY goal is to empower young people to organized and deliver Youth Summits in Pinellas County on topics of interest to teens.

- Leadership and advocacy development through youth-adult partnerships. Weekly meetings at Tropicana Field offices to participate in team building, leadership and Summit planning. Select participants will attend ANYTOWN™ and may be selected as Rays Interns during the summer. Participants may also assist with facilitation of Youth Conferences at area schools.
- Young adults ages 14 to 20 from Pinellas County
- A year round opportunity. Meetings are Wednesday evenings
- **Cost-free to Pinellas youth. Funded by the Rays Baseball Foundation. Call office or contact [tearl@communitytampabay.org](mailto:tearl@communitytampabay.org) for more information.**