

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**JUVENILE COURT TO RESUME DISCUSSION SERIES**

Summit County Juvenile Court Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio and the Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Planning Committee will resume a series of discussions designed for youth, parents and community leaders to engage in meaningful dialogue about a diversity of issues.

*"Takin' It to the Streets"* will be held at The House of the Lord located at 1650 Diagonal Road on the corner of S. Hawkins Street. The discussions will take place each Tuesday from 6pm until 8pm beginning October 6<sup>th</sup> and concluding November 17<sup>th</sup>.

The DMC Planning Committee was formed to take a thorough look at trends that indicate that there are too many minority youth involved in the juvenile justice system. The project is funded through the Ohio Department of Youth Services, which acts as the administrative agent for the funds generated from the federal initiative created by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 2002.

The topics and dates are:

October 6<sup>th</sup>: ***You and the Law***

October 13<sup>th</sup>: ***Your Court, Your Community*** with Judge Teodosio

October 20<sup>th</sup>: ***Hip Hop and the Media***

October 27<sup>th</sup>: ***The System***

November 10<sup>th</sup>: ***A Focus on Parents***

November 27<sup>th</sup>: ***Truancy and Youth***

*Takin' It to the Streets* was held in the summer of 2008 in sites in East Akron and West Akron. The program yielded some encouraging results. In tracking completed by Dr. RaJade Berry of The University of Akron, youth referrals to the Juvenile Court dropped from 10% to as much as 46% in the targeted areas where the discussions were held.

For more information concerning sessions these sessions, please contact Steve Stahl at 330-643-7625.

Food and refreshments will be provided at each session.

**END**