



# PRESS RELEASE

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## CITY OF YAKIMA GANG-FREE INITIATIVE OPENS FIRST YOUTH AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTER IN NORTHEAST YAKIMA

**Yakima, WA**– the City of Yakima Gang-Free Initiative (GFI) will host an Open House Tuesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at the Miller Park YPAL Community Center. The event will feature information on the Yakima Gang Free Project (GFP) and the services available at the Northeast Youth and Family Development Center housed within the facility located at Yakima Police Activities League (YPAL) 602 N. 4th Street, Yakima WA.

The Yakima Gang Free Project represents the efforts of the Gang Free Initiative in a coordinated, partner-driven, and evidence-based response to the gang problem in Yakima. Services made available to youth and families include Tutoring, Mentoring, Life Skills Education, General Recreation, Mental Health Treatment and Family Support Services.

The Open House will showcase Yakima Gang Free Project Partners including YPAL, YMCA, Madison House and Central Washington Comprehensive Mental Health. The event also marks the inauguration of the first ever gang prevention and intervention hotline. The *Gang-Free Yakima Connections* is a new service provided by People for People 211. Parents, youth and concerned citizens are encouraged to call 211 to streamline access to GFP services.

The Open House is from 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. with a light dinner available to participants. This event is free and open to the public.

For more information please visit, [cityofyakimagangfreeinitiative.townsquareinteractive.com](http://cityofyakimagangfreeinitiative.townsquareinteractive.com) or call 509-575-6180.

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