

The Relationship Centered Care Network of Southwest Michigan Presents

Deadly Relationships: Guns, Drugs, Sex & Street Wars



Date: Monday, September 16, 2013
Cost: \$25.00 **Undergrad Students** \$10.00
Time: 5:30 pm-8:30 pm (Meal @ 5:30. Program @ 6:00)
Location: Lakeland Healthcare, 1234 Napier Avenue, St. Joseph
 Frederick Upton Education Center Rooms 5 & 6

Explore a feared and poorly understood segment of the community that brings too many avoidable tragedies into Emergency Rooms.

Bill Reed, Executive Director of the FORUM of Greater Kalamazoo and Coordinator of the SW MI RCC Network, has spent the last year working on a Fetzer Institute funded project with these two former drug dealing gang leaders who have changed their ways and are helping others change theirs.

Michael Wilder, 5'3," known as **Too Short** on the streets of Covert, Benton Harbor, South Haven, and Chicago, was a long-time drug dealer and gang banger with a feared reputation. After his third prison stint he gave up that life, found a new purpose, and will soon graduate from KVCC.

Yafinceio Harris, 6'6", 360 lbs., street name **Big B**, grew up with racism and poverty in Arkansas. Expelled from school for fighting, he moved to Chicago and earned the gang rank of Chief of Security. Following the money, he became a gun toting, drug hustler in several mid-west states before landing in Kalamazoo. Since prison, he has transformed his life and will soon graduate KVCC.

These two men have a dead body between them. One had a family member killed by the gang of the other. They spent years in a feud, intent on killing or being killed by the other. They broke street code, made peace, and founded www.PeaceDuringWar.org, using their life experience to steer young people away from street life toward an education and safer options for lasting success in life.

They are gifted communicators who can explain social and financial dynamics that pull youth and adults into street life. Bring your questions and be prepared for a sober look at drug dealing, drug use, prostitution and unsafe sex, violence and gun use. Street "norms" of pride, revenge, and loyalty to "family" and "homies" will be discussed and related to the Relationship-Centered Care model.

Registration Procedure: Pre-registration with payment in advance required: Mail RSVP below with check to "The Forum-RCC" by September 10, 2013. Late registration may be available but meal availability can not be assured. Direct questions to Bill Reed 269-324-0512 or rccswmi@gmail.com

PLEASE POSTMARK RSVP BY TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

Yes, register me for the RCC SWMI event at Lakeland on September 16th, 2013.

Name: _____ **Email** _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Work phone: _____ **Home:** _____ **Fax:** _____

Vegetarian Meal: Yes No

Mail RSVP with payment to: The FORUM-RCC, 1120 Lakeway Ave - Suite 2, Kalamazoo, MI 49001