



News Release

FROM: Chambers of the Chief Judge
19th Judicial Circuit
Lake County
Waukegan, Illinois 60085-4359

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Waukegan, Illinois

GIRL-WISE CONFERENCE

The Nineteenth Judicial Circuit along with the Lake County Juvenile Justice Council and the College of Lake County continue to partner with agencies in the community to present the Annual Girl-Wise Conference. This year's conference is the 6th Annual and will take place at the College of Lake County on Saturday, May 2, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. The conference is geared toward junior high and high school age females and offers various workshops that promote creativity, healthy bodies, healthy minds, relationships, internet safety and substance abuse awareness. "Plan to bring a friend who can share the experience with you," said Chief Judge James Booras. "It is a wonderful opportunity for young ladies to learn how to make right decisions that could impact their lives in the future."

The planning committee of the conference includes representatives from Juvenile Probation Services, Omni Youth Services, Girl Scouts of America, the Regional Office of Education, A Safe Place, Waukegan High School, the College of Lake County, and women in the community. All funding used for this conference is acquired through donations from various agencies in the community, as well as personal donations from representatives of the committee.

Juvenile Court Judge Sarah Lessman will introduce the girls to the activities for the day. The day will begin with the participants having an opportunity to visit different resource booths to gather information about available programming in the community. Additionally, staff from the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit will present the Jr's Challenge Course and have the girls participate in activities that promote teamwork, self-esteem, leadership, and "thinking outside the box."

The Regional Office of Education will provide lunch for all of the girls. Following lunch, the girls will watch a play performed by Omni Youth Services Reality Troupe, who will present a performance highlighting adolescent struggles. The day will conclude with door prizes and a raffle. Every girl will be considered a winner as they will leave the conference with a goodie bag and a tote bag donated by The College of Lake County.

The conference is open to all girls in the community who are currently in junior high or high school, and there is no fee to attend. Advanced registration is requested and can be completed online at <http://19thcircuitcourt.state.il.us/> under "Find It Quick" or by telephone at 847.377.7800.

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