
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

August 10, 2011

Bill Arnold
(414) 286-3285

Milwaukee Youth Council Members Prioritize Positive Youth Actions

Scheduled news conference showcases leadership and action over State Fair violence.

Members of the Milwaukee Youth Council (MYC), a group of students selected to represent the 15 districts of Milwaukee, will host a news conference on **Thursday, August 11 at noon in the City Hall rotunda**. The event is scheduled to give the press and the public an opportunity to hear about the positive actions, the leadership initiatives and the success of Milwaukee's youth in light of recent events at Wisconsin State Fair Park.

Youth Council **President Zachary Komes (District 10)** has called the event to bring attention to Milwaukee's young leaders. "The Youth Council has done incredible work this term," Komes said. "We've worked to take a legislative stand against the marketing of alcoholic malt beverages to young people, we've urged changes to the state budget, we've reviewed proposals for youth development funds and we're setting the example: just this week youth from Chicago who are trying to establish a council of their own have come to study how we operate and lead."

Last week's event at Wisconsin State Fair Park where many young people engaged in criminal activity has prompted the MYC to engage the public and the press to bring continued attention to the positive work young leaders bring to Milwaukee.

-More-

Youth Council/ADD ONE

Other young leaders have been invited to present as guests of the Youth Council members including those involved in Pearls for Teen Girls, the Be the Change project, Urban Underground, Urban Diversity and Voces de la Frontera.

“The events at State Fair Park earned so much attention from the public,” President Komes said, “We want to show the public that there are youth making positive efforts to build a better Milwaukee and there is great dedication among the young leaders in our community. The violent actions of a few shouldn’t be showcased over and above the continued efforts of many.”

The Milwaukee Youth Council was established in 2004 under an ordinance sponsored by Alderman Joe Davis, Sr. "I strongly believe that creating a youth council is a legitimate way of giving our young people a voice in their affairs while also getting them engaged in civic life and, hopefully, sparking their interest in public service," Ald. Davis said.

Student terms are one year long and the group meets formally once a month and informally as an executive committee once a month at City Hall. The group’s meetings are open to the public and the formal meetings are televised on City Channel 25. News of the students’ efforts is also available on Facebook or through Twitter, @mkeyouthcouncil.