

TAKING BACK OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

Peace March & Rally

Organized by the  Peace Network

Press Release

10 September 2007

YOUTH AND ADULTS DELIVER POWERFUL PEACE MESSAGES ON SEPTEMBER 11

LEGISLATORS, COMMUNITY LEADERS AND FAMILIES IMPACTED BY VIOLENCE SUPPORT 'SECOND ANNUAL TAKING BACK OUR NEIGHBORHOODS PEACE MARCH AND RALLY'

BOSTON, MA — As the number of violent crimes and senseless killings increase in urban and suburban neighborhoods across the United States, people around the greater Boston area are taking action by building civic and community partnerships. One such initiative — the HT3 Peace Network — is carrying their message to the streets with the **Taking Back Our Neighborhoods Peace March and Rally**, the second annual citywide invitation to help bring peace and solidarity back to our communities.

On Tuesday, September 11, 2007 people from around the region will travel to The Freedom House at 14 Crawford Street in Boston's Dorchester neighborhood (corner of Warren Street, one block from Grove Hall post office) for registration at 5pm, the Kick-off Rally at 5:30pm, the Peace March starting at 6pm (Grove Hall area route posted to ht3fund.org), and Closing Vigil at 8pm back at the Freedom House. Organizers expect to surpass the first TBON Peace March and Rally (9/11/06), which welcomed some 500 people to the rally, more than 2,000 to the march, and approximately 200 to the vigil; Maine resident traveled farthest in 2006.

NOTE: Press conference with elected officials and families/individuals effected or affected by violence begins at 5pm (see speakers; * denotes confirmed for press conference).

Herman Taylor III chose to lead a peaceful life but was not destined to achieve his goal of becoming a successful college student and role model. He became Boston's 37th of 74 victims of gun violence in 2006 on July 12th of that year. Although only 18 years young, his loss touched the lives of youth and adults from several urban and suburban communities around the region. As a result, the HT3 Peace Fund's growing network of concerned citizens was born to help inspire positive change in our neighborhoods and on our streets.

"It is our shared responsibility to make sure that Herman Taylor's story is not forgotten, and that we continue to work towards combating the violence in Boston that is terrorizing our streets. Making Boston a place where all residents in all neighborhoods feel safe from gun and gang violence requires effective partnerships between community members and city leaders. Our peace march tonight is evidence that we are on the right track to taking back our neighborhoods."

The HT3 Peace Network is organizing its second march and rally to continue bringing awareness, peace, and healing to urban and suburban neighborhoods impacted by violence in the Greater Boston area. On the sixth anniversary of 9-11, the HT3 Peace Network invites parents, students, teachers, and other concerned citizens of all ages and ethnic groups, to walk for peace to:

- Pay tribute to 9-11 victims, honor soldiers, and pray for peace on foreign shores
- Send a message about the critical need for peace and solidarity in communities terrorized by violence on America's streets

