



Dare 2 Care



CHOOSE  
PEACE  
STOP  
VIOLENCE

# An Evening on the Front Porch

## For Communities and Neighborhoods

**WHEN:** September 19, 2012

**WHAT:** “An Evening on the Front Porch” - Do you know your neighbors? Are you connected to your community? In decades past, folks would spend many evenings sitting on their front porches and visit with neighbors. “An Evening on the Front Porch” is all about helping neighbors connect, form relationships to build a sense of community and become engaged in their neighborhood.

“An Evening on the Front Porch” can be organized in the form of a “Potluck Dinner”, a “Meat and Greet” (pull out your grills, B.Y.O. meat), an “Art Swap Night”, an “Ice-cream Social”, a neighborhood “Coffee and Dessert Tour”, a “Tasting Tour” on your street (everyone sets up food and table on front porch). It may include activities for kids such as chalk drawings on the sidewalk, face painting, dance, or include neighbors who play instruments and play music etc.

**WHY:** **Building a Stronger Community** - By knowing your neighbors, you build communities with strong social ties and more civic engagement. “An Evening on the Front Porch” brings people together in conversation in a casual way. It creates the opportunity to build relationships, exchange ideas, share resources and **Build a Stronger Community**. The event can be used to introduce a neighborhood improvement project or discuss a plan that will help strengthen the community, or an encouragement for participation in volunteer opportunities such as cleaning up a vacant lot, planting a community garden, cleaning a neighborhood park, or painting a building.

**WHERE:** **Across Broward County** - Gatherings for “An Evening on the Front Porch” can be organized for front porches or as simple as lawn chairs out on the driveway for lack of a front porch. A range of alternative outdoor spaces can also be used, such as sidewalks, driveways, a neighborhood street or block, parking lots, front gardens, and/or neighborhood parks.

**WHO:** **Neighborhoods and Communities** - We encourage meaningful conversation between friends, strangers and assorted experts to share their concerns and ideas to enrich their community.

“An Evening on the Front Porch” can be organized by neighbors, friends, family, co-workers, faith-based groups, neighborhood, associations or groups, and/or communities. We suggest extending invitations to the people you share every day of your life with including local leaders, community organizations, neighborhood watch groups, local law enforcement, fire departments, community businesses, faith-based leaders and local clubs which provide services in the area to participate.

Create a Facebook event page for your “Evening on the Front Porch” and “share” with the Choose Peace/ Stop Violence Facebook page to get the word out.

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# An Evening on the Front Porch

September 19, 2012

You're invited to  
Celebrate our community and meet your neighbors!  
Bring your lawn chairs, ideas and neighbors along to share in this  
collaborative event and become a visible part of your community.

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Event Specifics:

Make plans with your neighbors to strengthen our community!  
Are parks or schools dirty or neglected and/or unsafe? Is there a particular area where violence  
and/or bullying occur? Are people hungry, homeless or ill?  
The assistance of just one adult can make a difference in helping children  
and supporting families in the community.  
No matter where you live, there's a need nearby.

When thousands of people across the community band together you can make your community  
a stronger and healthier place to live!