



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) Awareness Workgroup of the Active Balanced Community Initiative is presenting a workshop on *BARJ In Our Community*.

Anyone interested in learning more about Balanced and Restorative Justice, or those who may be interested in joining the BARJ Speakers Bureau should plan on attending. The workshop is scheduled for April 4, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, at the Monroe County Intermediate School River Raisin rooms 1 and 4.

Monroe County's Active Balanced Community Initiative is implementing a comprehensive five year plan to support collaboration to mobilize the community to make a positive difference in the lives of our youth and family. Working together local leaders from government, business, education, healthcare, and labor, along with representatives of public and private groups, the religious community and individuals can bring about system changes and strategies that will work. The Active Balanced Community recognizes that delinquency prevention and immediate intervention are the most cost effective approaches to combating youth crime and violence and bases its process on the Balanced and Restorative Justice principles.

The Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) model is an alternative philosophy that builds on the balance between the victim, the offender and the community. It responds to issues raised by victims, to the needs of offenders to become productive community members, and includes the community in the process. This

balanced approach reminds us that crime against a victim is a crime against the community and creates the framework to support restorative practices and guidance to the juvenile justice delivery system.

Breakfast will be provided and registration is not required. For more information please contact April Corie, Active Balanced Community Coordinator at 242-1331 ext. 13 or visit the website at [www.activebalancedcommunity.org](http://www.activebalancedcommunity.org).

END

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