



# Talking Points for Active Balanced Community

## PLANNING YEAR

[www.activebalancedcommunity.org](http://www.activebalancedcommunity.org)

### ***THE INITIATIVE***

Michigan Building Restorative Communities program is a year-long strategic planning effort at the county level that focuses on integrating the juvenile justice system into a comprehensive community collaboration that supports healthy youth and families.

In Monroe County this is the **Active Balanced Community Initiative**.

### ***OUR VISION***

Making a positive difference in the lives of youth and families.

### ***OUR MISSION***

Engage our community and its resources in the ongoing effort to create a healthy and protective environment in Monroe County that encourages responsible families and positive behaviors in youth.

### ***OUR WORKGROUPS***

1. Steering Committee
2. Data Collection
3. Resource Assessment
4. Juvenile Justice System Analysis
5. Outreach/ Communications/Media
6. Youth

### ***OUR GOAL***

Implementation of the strategic plan for community action.

## ***VALUES FOR BUILDING A RESTORATIVE COMMUNITY***

### **Strengthen the family**

- Create a multifaceted team that will evaluate the needs of the entire family
- Establish a collaborative network that can provide the services necessary to support the family

### **Support core social institutions**

- Work within the existing health and human services available in Monroe County
- Support local organizations/agencies that have established programs

### **Balance prevention and intervention**

- Continue/establish early childhood programs that teach prevention (respect for family, community, legal system etc.)
- Invite the victims to participate in the process.

### **Intervene with graduated sanctions**

- Provide a system that will allow schools, parents, churches and community to report and request assistance for inappropriate behavior that has not yet escalated to the criminal level.
- Create a linkage with HSCN to intervene/collaborate on the truancy program.

### **Repair harm to victims and communities**

- Establish a sentencing/recommendation panel to review offender's background, severity of the crime and make a recommendation for restoration to the victim and community.

### **Engage the community**

- Establish a speaker's bureau to present Active Balanced Community to the community.
- Invite the community to be a part of the process, get involved, work with Active Balanced Community to create awareness and provide for a safer community.

### **Foster responsibility**

- Hold each offender accountable for his/her actions.
- Judicial system ensures no child and/or family is lost in the system.