

STK MISSION & BELIEFS

Save the Kids, is just that, we try to save kids from a future of violence and incarceration by supporting them in building their future in a positive direction. STK is a collaborative project between universities, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, and corporations.

We believe that all youth need support, love, and skills in order to achieve their goals. We believe that all youth are amazing and wonderful no matter the actions they have committed. We make a clear distinction between actions and kids; actions can be bad, but not kids. We are committed to helping youth because they are our future and if we do not help them, we will not have one. STK believes in respecting all no matter what their gender, ability, race, economic status, sexuality, religion, ethnicity, or nationality. We hope one day all youth with be placed in community-based programs rather than incarcerated or institutionalized.

**Transformation
not
Incarceration**

Save the Kids (STK) is a grass-roots nonprofit organization founded in 2009 dedicated to establishing a movement that advocates for alternatives to incarceration that are peace oriented services for youth and the community, which helps to transform the juvenile justice system and end community and institutional violence.

STK serves youth between the ages of 10 to 17 years old.



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“Keeping kids out of incarceration and away from violence.”



STK Strategy

Our programs are two-fold, first they are dedicated to provide life skills such as conflict management, career based skill building, leadership, group-building trainings and workshops, creative expressive projects, and other fun activities for institutionally targeted youth and second, to interact and build relationships with positive nonviolent goal directed adults (mostly traditional college students) that are committed to helping them when they are released, reiterate back into their community.



STK YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMS

5K Fun Run, Holla If You Hear Me, and Annual Poetry Slam these three projects are for the community to promote fund raising and the work of youth that are, or have been incarcerated and are re-entering their community.

Job Readiness and G.E.D. Program is an inside program dedicated to prepare kids with the skills to graduate high school and to obtain and KEEP a job.

Books Through Bars is an international program that is dedicated to giving books to those that are incarcerated. STK specifically focuses on youth detention facilities.

Youth Empowerment & Leadership (YEL) Project a group-building and team-building workshop in the evenings at Hillbrook Youth Detention Center facilitated by college volunteers.

Computer Skills as society enters a high speed internet and virtual world youth need to keep up. STK provides basic, moderate, and advanced classes.

Know Your Rights and the Criminal Industrial Complex 101 this work educates youth about their rights around police and how "The System" works.

Help Increase the Peace (HIP) a project of the *American Friends Service Committee*. "HIP, teaches young people and adults communication skills for conflict resolution. And it does more. HIP confronts prejudice and renews our hope to be agents for positive social change. The training introduces alternatives to violence and bullying and allows participants to practice various options by modeling and role playing. The accumulation of these skills then leads to a focus on community action and social change." – www.afsc.org/hipp/

Poetry Behind the Walls (PBW) is the only ongoing journal in the world that is dedicated to writings from youth that are incarcerated. PBW is a collaborative project between SUNY Cortland, Hillbrook Youth Detention Center, and Le Moyne College.

Global and Cultural Awareness promotes the opportunity to learn about global issues and cultures which includes eating fruit, vegetables, and foods, from around the world.

Health and Well Being is dedicated to nurturing the kids' mental, physical, and spiritual state among themselves and the rest of the worlds.

Help Open Possibilities (HOP) is based on the *Ten Steps 4 the Real World* which are ten tasks for youth between ages 10-16 to accomplish.

Recreation and Athletics gives kids discipline, knowledge, and desire for sports and health living.

Hip-Hop, Punk, and Kids' Studies is dedicated to youth expressing themselves in a multitude of ways, such as: music, singing, rapping, dance, art, and writing. This program is also dedicated to scholars at universities and colleges, researching, writing and teaching about hip-hop, punk, and other kid cultures, for the purpose of understanding, appreciating, and providing legitimacy and creditability to the kids' voices and experiences.