# GREATER FOX RIVER VALLEY OPERATION SNOWBALL Meets Every Thursday!

All General Meetings are held on Thursdays at the Regional Office of Education (Old Sixth Street School) 210 South Sixth Street, Geneva

#### **Participating GFRVOS High Schools**

Aurora Central Catholic High School
Aurora Christian High School
Batavia High School
Burlington Central High School
East Aurora High School
Geneva High School
Illinois Math and Science Academy
Kaneland High School
Marmion Academy
Rosary High School
St. Charles East High School
St. Charles North High School
West Aurora High School
Yorkville High School

GFRVOS is proudly sponsored
by the
Kane County Regional Office
of Education

"If I have a positive impact on you...

you can have a positive impact on someone else...

and the effect

### SNOWBALLS!"



GFRVOS Teen Directors
Sam Keilty
Rachel Rutter

GFRVOS Adult Directors Tim Baker (630) 877-1308 Melissa Byrne (630) 730-2022

Visit us at www.gfrvos.org



GREATER Fox River Valley

Operation Snowball

#### Follow us on social media!





#### It's a Toxic World Out There!

If you're a teen (or a parent of a teen) you know that today's world is a tough place to grow up in. You're faced with challenges that previous generations never had to deal with. You're bombarded every day with pressure to make unhealthy choices. In fact, we at *Operation Snowball* refer to today's world as "The Toxic Culture".

#### So, how do you survive?

One way is to surround yourself with teens and adults who encourage and support good decisions and healthy lifestyles. That's where *Operation Snowball* comes in.

The Greater Fox River Valley chapter of *Operation Snowball* (GFRVOS) is an adult directed/teen led organization that has served our communities for more than 28 years. Comprised of teens from 14 Fox Valley High Schools, we are much more than a drug and alcohol prevention group! We provide leadership training and other activities that prepare teens for college and beyond.

#### Have <u>FUN</u> doing it!

Operation Snowball meets every Thursday at 7 P.M. at the Regional Office of Education in Geneva. Our meetings are always different. Sometimes we have guest speakers like local soldiers who just returned from Iraq and Ramblin' Ray Stevens and Lisa Dent from US99. Sometimes we'll do things to help out the community, like collect supplies for Lazarus House or distribute toys to the less fortunate. And, sometimes we just have fun! We also sponsor two weekend retreats every year (awesome stuff!) that have become legendary in the Fox Valley.

#### How do you join?

You can learn more about *Operation Snowball* by visiting our website at **www.GFRVOS.org**. There, you'll find contact information for our Teen and Adult Directors. If you don't have access to a computer, you can call our Adult Directors: Tim Baker at (630) 877-1308 or Melissa Byrne at (630) 730-2022

Check us out - You'll be glad you did!

### What is a Snowball Event?

A Snowball Event is a 3-day weekend that starts in Geneva. You'll join approximately 130 teens from 14 different high schools in the Fox River Valley and travel by bus to Lorado Taft Campus, Oregon, IL. While at the Event, you'll participate in numerous activities designed to promote a healthy lifestyle. Sound boring? *Not!!* You'll have fun—and probably *the time of your life!* 

#### A Special Note to Parents

A Snowball Events and Thursday night meetings are a wonderful way to help kids enhance their self esteem, develop responsible decision making skills and create positive peer influence. It is designed to keep healthy kids healthy. It is a safe, well organized, and highly supervised weekend that has been sponsored by GFRVOS over 28 years.

## What participants say about Operation Snowball

- \* "I have grown in my relationships with family, friends, and people I meet along the way"
- \* "I've learned to accept myself for who I am—I know that I am unique"
- \* "It gives me a chance to put my life in perspective, I get a 'time out' in my life so I can evaluate it."
- \* "I think I learned a lot more about how to handle pressures in life"
- \* "The biggest way I have grown is that now when I look at people, I don't prejudge them by looks or gossip"
- \* "I have become more accepting of people and situations."
- \* "I've learned how to build healthy, honest relationships."
- \* "Snowball has made me much more outgoing"
- \* "Snowball helped me stop making some stupid decisions that I had made in the past."
- \* "Snowball has helped me realize that I'm not the only one. It helped me realize that some things I did weren't worth it."
- \* "I learned that I was not as different or alone as I thought."
- \* "My senior year is causing me to make many decisions and Snowball has made me come to some of the right ones."