

Invest in children to help prevent crime

The local press recently has endorsed the key initiatives of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Illinois — after-school programs, Healthy Families Illinois to promote parenting skills and prekindergarten programs.

These are all worthy of adequate funding from the state not only because they offer important services but because we know early intervention and prevention programs save the state money in the long run.

We are particularly supportive of restoring and enhancing funding for the Teen Reach programs. The Lake County After School Coalition is working to expand options for all communities to offer after-school and "out of school" time activities that promote healthy choices and positive behaviors for our youth. The state's investment in Teen Reach is multiplied because the Coalition Leadership Team communicates best practices and grant opportunities to establish and maintain quality programs.

We are pleased to partner with law enforcement, education, local government, children and families to make

sure our kids have access to the programs with proven track records of reducing crime and abuse, enhancing academic performance and promoting positive self-esteem. We invite your support and participation.

Kathy Ryg
State Representative
59th District
Vernon Hills
Ray Rose
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