

*OPERATION
SNOWBALL, INC.*



Dear Interested Youth Advocate:

Enclosed, please find an application for a youth advocate to the Operation Snowball, Inc. Board of Directors. The youth and adult partnership concept is the cornerstone to the success of the Operation Snowball program. Youth advocates work side by side with adult Board members to make the key program and policy development decisions that will benefit individual chapters across Illinois.

Youth advocates attend at least half of the four Board meetings a year. Board meetings are held on Saturdays usually via conference call or face-to-face meetings in central Illinois. Youth advocates also take part in committee work and in the Snowball conference and trainings. Youth advocates are also asked to write letters or articles for the OS publication, *Impact Your Community*. Youth advocates are expected to demonstrate the drug- and alcohol-free lifestyle of Operation Snowball.

Once a youth application has been received, the prospective youth advocate will be contacted in order to set up an interview with the Youth Advocate Committee of the Board. Once the interview process is completed, the youth will be notified of the committee's decision.

I have also enclosed a policy sheet entitled "Role of the Youth Advocate" to provide you with more information. If you would like to further discuss the youth role on the Board or you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 800/252-6301 ext. 18.

Thank you for your interest in becoming a youth advocate to the OS, Inc. Board of Directors.

Sincerely,

Mary Jo Davies, CSADP, CPPE
External Program Manager
Operation Snowball, Inc.



OPERATION SNOWBALL, INC.

The Role of a Youth Advocate Board Member

With the Board of Directors, develop policies to:

ensure Operation Snowball, Inc. meets the needs of Chapters and of groups interested in becoming Chapters;

Operation Snowball, Inc. exists to serve people. The bottom line of every decision you make should be, "Will this decision make service to Chapters better?"

The Operation Snowball, Inc. Board of Directors will consist of a maximum of six youth advocates, nominated by their local Operation Snowball chapters.

Each youth advocate:

- 1) will have a minimum of one year Snowball experience.
- 2) will submit one letter of recommendation from Chapter's adult contact.
- 3) must be no younger than sophomores in high school and no older than 21.

Youth advocates appointed to the Board of Directors will:

- 1) maintain an equal partnership in roles and responsibilities as adult Board members including voting, except for all financial issues.
- 2) attend at least one-half (1/2) of all scheduled Board of Directors meetings.
- 3) serve a term of one year. At the conclusion of their term, they must be nominated for reappointment.
- 4) work in conjunction with the adult board member(s) in their regions.
- 5) provide feedback regarding how board decisions effect students.
- 6) prepare a presentation for annual OS conference as a group.
- 7) one of the six youth advocates will write an article for each issue of the *Impact*

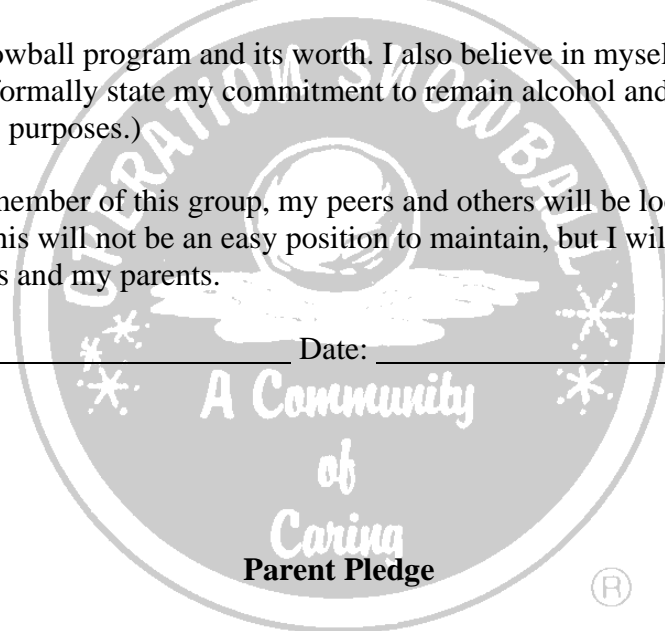
Drug-Free Youth Pledge

I, _____, as an active member of the Operation Snowball, Inc. Board of Directors Youth Advocate's do swear to maintain and uphold the ideals of Operation Snowball, Inc.

I believe in the Operation Snowball program and its worth. I also believe in myself and my worth as an individual. Therefore, I now formally state my commitment to remain alcohol and drug free, year round. (This excludes any use for religious purposes.)

I recognize the fact that as a member of this group, my peers and others will be looking to me to set good examples. I also realize that this will not be an easy position to maintain, but I will always have the support of the members, the adult leaders and my parents.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



I, _____, as the parent/guardian of an active Operation Snowball member, pledge to support and encourage my child in this activity. I understand that making the commitment to be drug free is a very difficult one, and I admire and respect my child's position.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

_____ nominates _____
nominator nominee
to be a Youth Advocate member of the Operation Snowball, Inc. Board of Directors.

The application and subsequent personal interview is based on the criteria which are listed below. Please keep them in mind as you complete the application as your responses should reflect these concerns:

1. Alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs (ATOD) free lifestyle.
2. Previous Operation Snowball experience
3. Attendance at Board meetings
4. Demonstrates leadership
5. Experience in group work
6. Responsibility
7. Dependability
8. Maturity
9. Sense of humor
10. Non-judgmental
11. Non-prejudiced
12. Responsive to others

Interviews will be scheduled once we have received your application.

Please return completed application to:

Operation Snowball, Inc.
937 South Second Street
Springfield, IL 62704

If you have any questions or need assistance please call 800/252-6301, extension 18.

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

School _____

Would you be available to attend a personal interview? _____

How many Snowball events have you attended? _____

How many times have you been on Operation Snowball staff? _____

How long have you been involved with Operation Snowball? _____

Please answer the following questions. Please type or word process your answers on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Describe the leadership qualities you possess which would be beneficial as a Youth Advocate Board Member.
2. What personal gains have you made as a result of being a part of Operation Snowball?
3. What would be your greatest strength as a Youth Advocate?
4. What do you believe to be your personal weaknesses?
5. What outside activities do you participate in which may conflict with Operation Snowball, Inc. Board meetings?
6. State your personal position about alcohol, tobacco and other drugs (ATOD) use/abuse. How is your position viewed by others?

PERSONAL STATEMENT: Explain why you wish to apply for a Youth Advocate position. Please feel free to add any further information you feel would be important in completing this application.