

**Registration Deadline: Friday, September 17, 2010**

(11-47-119)yg Please Print Clearly.

It is the policy of the State Education Resource Center (SERC) that no person shall be discriminated against or excluded from participation in any SERC programs or activities on the basis of race, color, religion, age, marital or civil union status, national origin, ancestry, sex/gender, intellectual disability, physical disability, political beliefs, or sexual orientation.

Faith/Community Organization_____
OR
District/Region_____
School/Program_____

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Home Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone\_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address\_\_\_\_\_

Position/Role\_\_\_\_\_

Please check if needed:  Vegetarian Lunch  
 Interpreter (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Home Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone\_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address\_\_\_\_\_

Position/Role\_\_\_\_\_

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Home Phone\_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address\_\_\_\_\_

Position/Role\_\_\_\_\_

Please check if needed:  Vegetarian Lunch  
 Interpreter (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Return by Friday, September 17, 2010 to *Faith, Families & Schools Conference*, SERC, 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT 06457 or fax to (860) 632-8870.



25 Industrial Park Road  
Middletown, CT 06457  
1-800-842-8678

Faith, Families & Schools Conference  
Friday, September 24, 2010

Connecticut's  
**3<sup>rd</sup>**  
Annual

# Faith, Families & Schools CONFERENCE

2010

## Working Together for Student Success



Friday, September 24, 2010  
8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Cromwell, CT

A collaboration among:  
Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE)  
CT Parent Information and Resource Center (CT PIRC)  
State Education Resource Center (SERC)



Preparing the ground, sowing the seeds, and nurturing the growing partnerships with the right tools to ensure a good harvest...

# Faith, Families & Schools CONFERENCE 2010

***“Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase.”***

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

For the third year, the *Faith, Families & Schools Conference* is an opportunity for faith and worship leaders, educators, and families to come together. Participants will share ideas about the practices that help families support student learning and hear about new activities that can be incorporated into the rich fabric of the faith and worship community.

Research has demonstrated again and again that family engagement is one of the major indicators of student success. Schools across the country are discovering that faith-based leaders and community groups are often very effective in enhancing family involvement and are key allies in improving educational outcomes for all students.



1-800-842-8678



www.ctpirc.org

The CT Parent Information and Resource Center is coordinated by the State Education Resource Center (SERC), a nonprofit organization. It is partially funded by a grant through the U.S. Department of Education. The CT PIRC and its primary partners, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) and SERC, support school-family-community alliances by building on the strengths of one another.

Keynote Speaker:

**Audrey Rowe**

Deputy Administrator for Special Nutrition Programs  
Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Audrey Rowe has had a long, distinguished career in the private sector and in public service, from serving as vice president and chief operating officer of the National Urban League to becoming Lieutenant Governor Eunice S. Groark's running mate in the 1994 Connecticut gubernatorial campaign. Her other roles have included deputy mayor for human resources in New Haven, social services commissioner for the State of Connecticut and Washington, D.C., and a fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government Institute of Politics at Harvard University. Ms. Rowe came to the federal government with extensive experience working at the state level and in the private sector on issues related to programs under the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Today, as deputy administrator at the FNS, Ms. Rowe has traveled the country highlighting the Obama administration's priorities for children's health and improving school meals while Congress considers reauthorization of the Child Nutrition Act. Since her days as a community activist, Ms. Rowe has been passionate about fostering partnerships to improve the quality of life of America's children.

Special Guest:

**Brenda Thomas**

Senior Program Facilitator  
Center on School, Family, and Community Partnerships  
Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

As senior program facilitator, Brenda Thomas helps schools, districts, states, and organizations develop, implement, and improve programs of school, family, and community partnerships. She serves as the Maryland Director of Partnership Program Development, a collaborative project of National Network of Partnership Schools with the Mid-Atlantic Equity Consortium and the Maryland State Parental Information and Resource Center. In this position, she helps districts in Maryland strengthen their schools' partnership programs and meet federal requirements for family involvement. Ms. Thomas has many years of experience as a teacher, district facilitator for partnerships, and coordinator of parental involvement in the Baltimore City Public School System. She has worked with district leaders across the country and is an experienced professional development leader.

Breakout sessions may include the following topics:

Substance Abuse Interventions  
Achievement Gaps  
Dropout Prevention  
Family Involvement  
Mental Health  
School Reform  
Socio-Emotional Issues  
Teen Pregnancy



Come Visit Our  
Resource Café!



Conference participants will have opportunities throughout the day to visit our Resource Café featuring Connecticut family oriented organizations and agencies. Representatives will be available to answer questions and provide information on their wide variety of services. Participants are welcome to use complimentary computer stations to access additional resources.

## Registration Information

This conference can accommodate three hundred (300) faith and worship leaders, family members, educators, and other community members. Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Priority consideration will be given to team applications, although individual applications will be considered as space allows. The closing date for accepting applications is *Friday, September 17, 2010*. Applications received after that date will be accepted only as space permits. Lunch will be provided.

There is a fee of \$25.00 per applicant for the conference. Please make check payable to *Rensselaer at Hartford*. Purchase orders will be accepted, but payment must be received prior to the conference.

Please direct questions regarding registration to Yolanta Garcia, Project Assistant, SERC, (860) 632-1485, ext. 264. Content questions should be directed to Veronica Marion, PIRC Co-Coordinator, (860) 632-1485, ext. 391.

Please complete the application form located on the reverse side and return to:

Faith, Families & Schools Conference  
SERC  
25 Industrial Park Road  
Middletown, CT 06457  
or fax to (860) 632-8870



**Please Note:**

*SERC will be photographing and videotaping the conference for possible use for Web and print publications.*