



**PRESS RELEASE**  
For immediate distribution

**CONTACT:** Maite Durán 415 717-1099  
Michael Scippa 415 548-0492

## **Youth for Justice Summer Academy Begins Monday July 24th At Alcohol Justice In San Rafael's Canal Neighborhood**

### **2 weeks of leadership training for local youth on good nutrition, physical exercise, drug & alcohol use prevention and direct action**

SAN RAFAEL, CA (July 21, 2017) – The 4<sup>th</sup> annual Youth for Justice Summer Academy, funded by [Alcohol Justice](#), and the Marin County Juvenile Probation Department, will meet for two weeks beginning Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, concluding Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, at the offices of Alcohol Justice, 24 Belvedere St., San Rafael.

*“We expect to have 20-25 participants mostly from the Canal neighborhood, ages 10-20 years-old,”* said Maite Durán, Community Organizer at Alcohol Justice and Youth for Justice Leader. *“From our lens of alcohol and marijuana prevention, we’ll be exploring community organizing principles while connecting with nature in beautiful Marin places such as Stinson Beach and Muir Woods. We will be guided by park rangers and learn about the indigenous wisdom of plants, food and nature as medicine, and enjoy our closeness and coming together as community through cooking and sharing tasty meals.”*

The academy enjoys continuing support from the County of Marin Juvenile Probation Division whose Director, Kevin Lynch stated, *“We’re interested in investing in prevention efforts that lead to safe and healthy communities for the youth of Marin. We recognize that youth who are engaged in these activities are far less likely to become involved with the juvenile justice system.”*

*“We are helping a new generation of young people from the Canal become the future leaders of Marin, added Durán. “We want to give these young people the whole picture, not just that ‘alcohol and drugs are bad’. We want them to take away that truly successful leaders are people who take care of themselves, are healthy and strong, physically, mentally and spiritually, and that alcohol or other drugs do not play a role in the lives of young leaders.”*

For more information about Youth for Justice, contact Maite Durán at 415 257-2488.



Youth for Justice rally against alcopops sales in the Canal neighborhood of San Rafael, CA (2014)

###