**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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2009 **Live B4U Die Summit**

YOUTH SUMMIT SAVES LIVES

Atlanta, GA, February 15, 2012 *- “Live before you die”!*  This is precisely the message of a provocative summit that will be presented by Community Council of Metropolitan Atlanta, Inc. (CCMA) on Saturday, April 14, 2012 at Ebenezer Baptist Church. The *Live B4U Die Summit: A Wake-Up Call for Teenagers and Youth*, begins with a New Orleans-style mock funeral of a young male who lost his life to the streets, and concludes with an interactive forum involving teenagers and resource panelists. It is the vision of Norma Joy Barnes, President and CEO of CCMA, who was inspired to develop this summit because of the many factors that lead to the statistically high mortality rate of our young people.

The summit highlights homicide, suicide, auto accidents, and HIV/AIDS because these are leading causes of *preventable* deaths; and are four areas where teenagers and youth can proactively and substantially participate in reducing their mortality rate. Barnes states, “We have a communal responsibility to enlighten, support and empower our young people to live better lives. The CCMA is determined to do this through its free life skills programs and the collective resources of others who are committed to making a sustainable difference.” The summit is supported by a network of community individuals, businesses, churches, and organizations that are collaborating to provide education, counseling, healing, and other support services for our youth

The first *Live B4U Die* Summit was presented on June 13, 2009 at Central United Methodist Church in Atlanta, and drew a standing-room only crowd. The next summit is scheduled for Saturday, April 14, 2012, 11:00 am at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. The program is free to the public.

*(CCMA, Inc. is a 501©(3) non-profit organization whose purpose is to develop, convene, and coordinate programs and services to improve the quality of life for individuals and communities in the metropolitan Atlanta area. Programs include the Priority Male Initiative, a life skills and job readiness training program for young black males ages 18-28, and the Live B4U Die Summit for teenagers and youth. For more information, visit* [*www.communitycouncilma.org,*](http://www.communitycouncilma.org,) *or call (404) 935-5859.*

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