

Girls in Transition runs summer program at Mother Teresa school

ERIC HEINO

July 7, 2010

Young women in the Malvern community will have a place to gather and support each other this summer at the Girls in Transition program. Scarborough resident Simone Samuels, 22, is organizing the event for the second year at Blessed Mother Teresa Catholic Secondary School from July 19 to July 23.

The young woman has partnered with the Congress of Black Women of Canada to offer the free program, helping to foster valuable life skills and self-respect in young, black women.

"There are a lot of programs for girls, but the needs for black girls in particular are slightly different," said Samuels, the coordinator and founder of the program.

"I started it because I was one of those women struggling with self-esteem and body issues too. It's cathartic for me and I would have wanted to do this sort of thing as a young woman."

Women from age 13 to 18 are invited to register for the program which features a full schedule of guest speakers and workshop activities. The suggested registration deadline is July 15, but some applications may be accepted after that date if there is space. For more information, call Samuels at 416 299 3014.

Girls in Transition can also be found on Facebook and Twitter.