

"Development Assets that Help Our Children Thrive"



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What we will cover...

- What are Assets?
- Why are Assets important?
 - What does the research tell us?
- How to Use Assets...
 - As a parent
 - Tips from Pass It On
 - As a community member
 - Circle of Influence
 - As a community: The Five Action Strategies


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**Brief synopsis of discussion points are included in this ppt to help clarify the content of the slide

What are Assets?





Think of Someone who had a
Powerful, Positive impact on
you around age 15

Notes:

Group Exercise where participants identified and discussed characteristics of a person who had powerful impact. *These are characteristics of individuals who help build developmental assets in young people i.e. Asset Builders.*

What is an Asset Builder?

Who You Are

- Open, honest, self-aware, reliable, trustworthy, caring, supportive, and an active listener
- Committed to integrity, responsibility, helping others, and promoting positive change in the world
- Hopeful and optimistic about young people and their future
- Willing to share your “assets” (time, knowledge, caring, experience, wisdom) with young people

What You Do

- Encouraging of young people to succeed and forgive them when they make mistakes
- Look for good in others, engage in healthy relationships, and model positive behaviors for youth
- Build good relationships with the youth by taking initiative to connect using simple gestures and understanding them while educating them about personal values, beliefs, and decision making

Search Institute Fact Sheet

MISSION, VISION, & VALUE



LOOKING INSIDE THE BOX

Discussion: Hand out was provided that gave overview of Search Institute (SI) www.search-institute.org

Search Institute is a non-profit org. that works to provide leadership, knowledge and resources to promote healthy children, youth and communities. Since 1958..SI has conducted practical research and evaluation to generate and provide knowledge, resources, training and technical assistance to organizations and individuals that work to support youth

Since 1989, SI has been studying the role of developmental assets and their effect on the healthy growth and development of young people.

Mission: To promote healthy children, youth and communities.

Guided by a vision of a world in which all young people are valued and thrive.

Two Shifts

First Shift

From fixing young
people's problems



Promoting young
people's strengths

Second Shift

Beyond programs



Relationships

Discussion:

Thinking of youth from an asset perspective means a shift in 2 significant ways:

1. The first shift is moving beyond fixing young people's problems and toward affirming and increasing their strengths.
2. Plus: How do we usually relate with young people? We offer programs on: drugs, alcohol, violence, sex or anger. The second shift is moving beyond programs and toward relationships.

Once people begin making these shifts in thinking, they'll be better able to build developmental assets in young people.

The Asset Building Difference

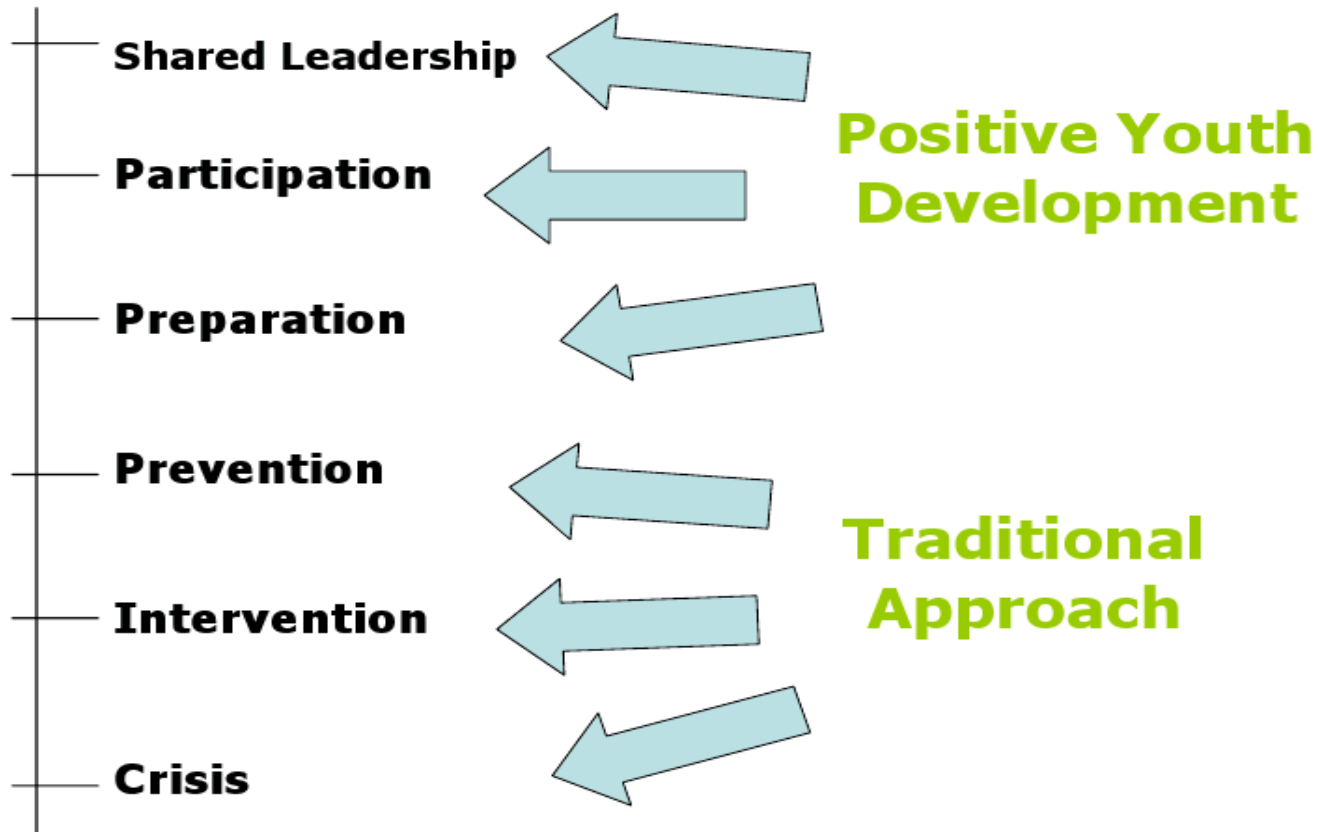
From

- Young people's problems
- Professionals' work
- Youth absorbing resources
- Programs
- Troubled youth
- Accountable only for your own behavior
- Incidental Asset Building
- Blaming others

To

- Young people's strengths
- Everyone's work
- Youth as resources
- Relationships
- All young people
- Accountable for other adult's behavior
- Intentional Asset Building
- Claiming Responsibility

The Asset Building Difference



Adapted from Karen Pittman

Discussion: Karen Pittman is recognized leader in youth development. Co-founder of the Forum for Youth Investment. The difference between traditional approach and positive youth development was noted. Demonstrates shift from focus on problems to focus on strengths. For more information on Forum for Youth Investment go to: www.forumfyr.org

The Two Types of Assets

- External
 - Relationships and opportunities that young people experience in their families, schools, and communities
- Internal
 - Competencies and values that youth develop internally to guide behaviors and choices

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Everyone's an Asset Builder Tio

Discussion:
Search Institute (SI) asked and researched the question: What are the factors that have an impact on healthy growth and development in young people? SI identified 40 concrete positive experiences and qualities that have tremendous impact from all walks of life. The 40 Assets are divided into 2 types by their function: External assets are positive factors in the environment that provide structure and support for youth. Internal assets are those that provide a positive inner guide for young people

External Asset Categories

- Support
- Empowerment
- Boundaries and Expectations
- Constructive Use of Time

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Everyone's an Asset Builder T11

Discussion: Under each asset type, there are four categories, reflecting logical groupings of the assets under each type. Handout of the 40 Developmental Assets and breakdown into External, Internal, the four categories under each and corresponding assets was provided. It also showed the %'s of young people who report experiencing each asset based on 2003 survey in 202 communities and 27 states.

Internal Assets

- Commitment to Learning
- Positive Values
- Social Competencies
- Positive Identity

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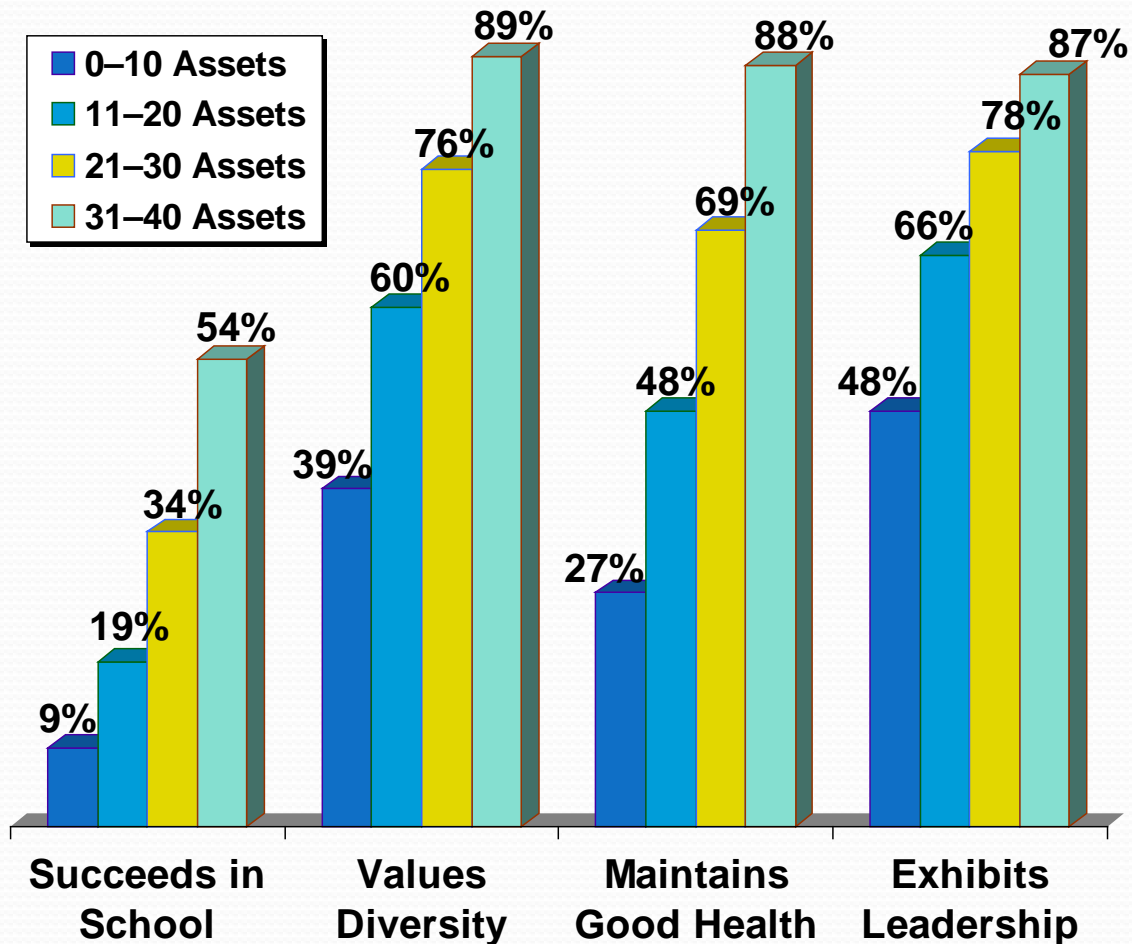
Everyone's an Asset Builder T12

Discussion: Highlighted some of assets under internal. Discussed how many communities have noted some gender differences e.g. On average, boys tend to report lower number of assets than girls

- Why are Assets important?
 - What does the research tell us?



The Power of Assets to Promote



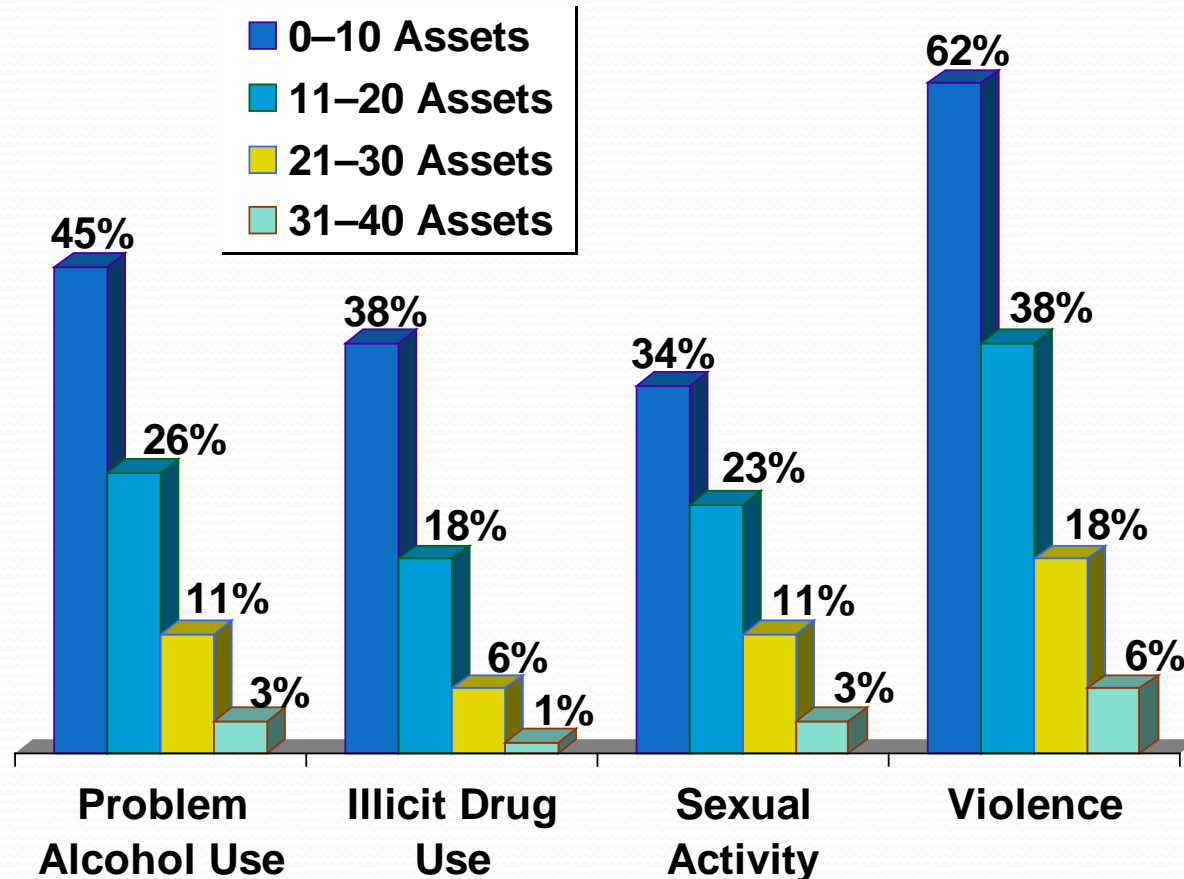
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Everyone's an Asset Builder T14

Discussion: Note the correlations across all behaviors between number of assets and an increased tendency of youth to having positive attitudes and behaviors.

Everyone's an Asset Builder T14

The Power of Assets to Protect



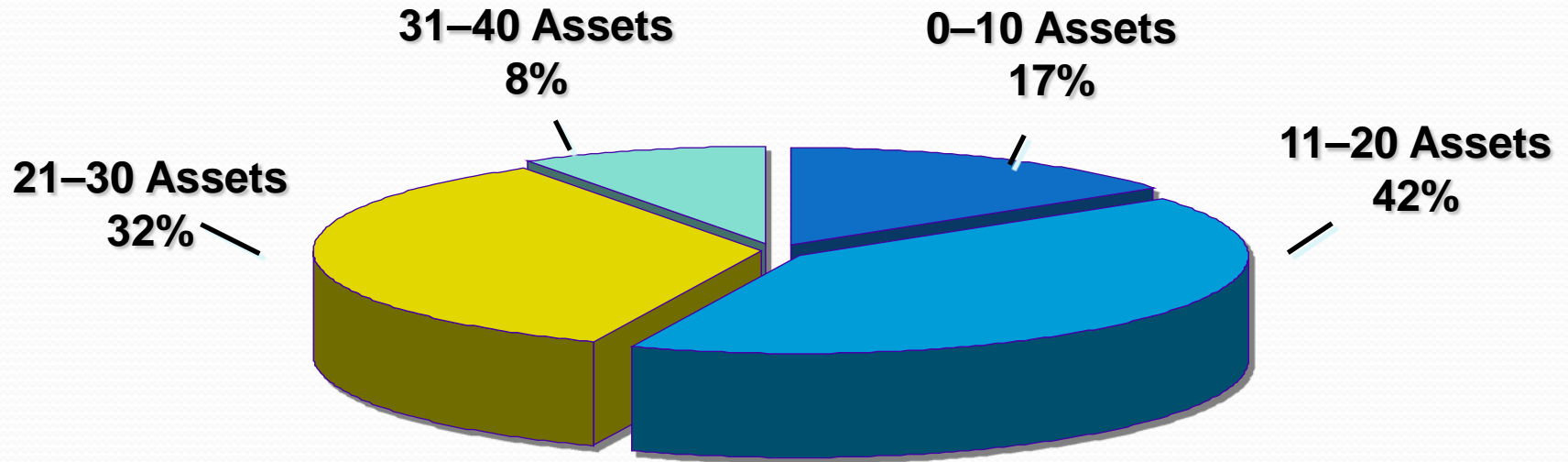
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Everyone's an Asset Builder T15

Discussion: Correlation between increased number of assets and a decreased likelihood that a young person will engage in negative behaviors

Everyone's an Asset Builder T15

Youth with Different Levels of Assets



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Everyone's an Asset Builder T16
Everyone's an Asset Builder T16

Discussion: 59% of youth experience fewer than 21 assets. In order to maximizing power, youth need to experience 31 or more assets. Based on 2003 SI survey of based on surveys of almost 150,000 6th- to 12th-grade youth in 202 communities across the Unites States ,the average young person surveyed experiences only 18.6 of the 40 assets. In general, older youth have lower average levels of assets than younger youth. And boys experience fewer assets than girls. The challenge as parents and members of our community is to build up the Developmental Assets of our youth.

Research-Based Concepts that Correlate to Developmental Assets

- Sympathy to Empathy
- Connection = Performance
- Engaged and Aligned
- Respect, Recognition, Belonging, Autonomy (Freedom), Personal Growth, Meaning
- Neuroscience
 - : Lack of Connection = Self-Medication
 - : Mental Health is imperative.
 - : Pygmalion Effect / Placebo Effect – power of expectations and praise
- Note: The **Pygmalion effect**, or **Rosenthal effect**, refers to the phenomenon in which the greater the expectation placed upon people, often children or students and employees, the better they perform.

Discussion:

These research-based concepts support the factors listed in the Asset Building Difference (See slide # 8)

Gagné Model Supporting Asset Approach

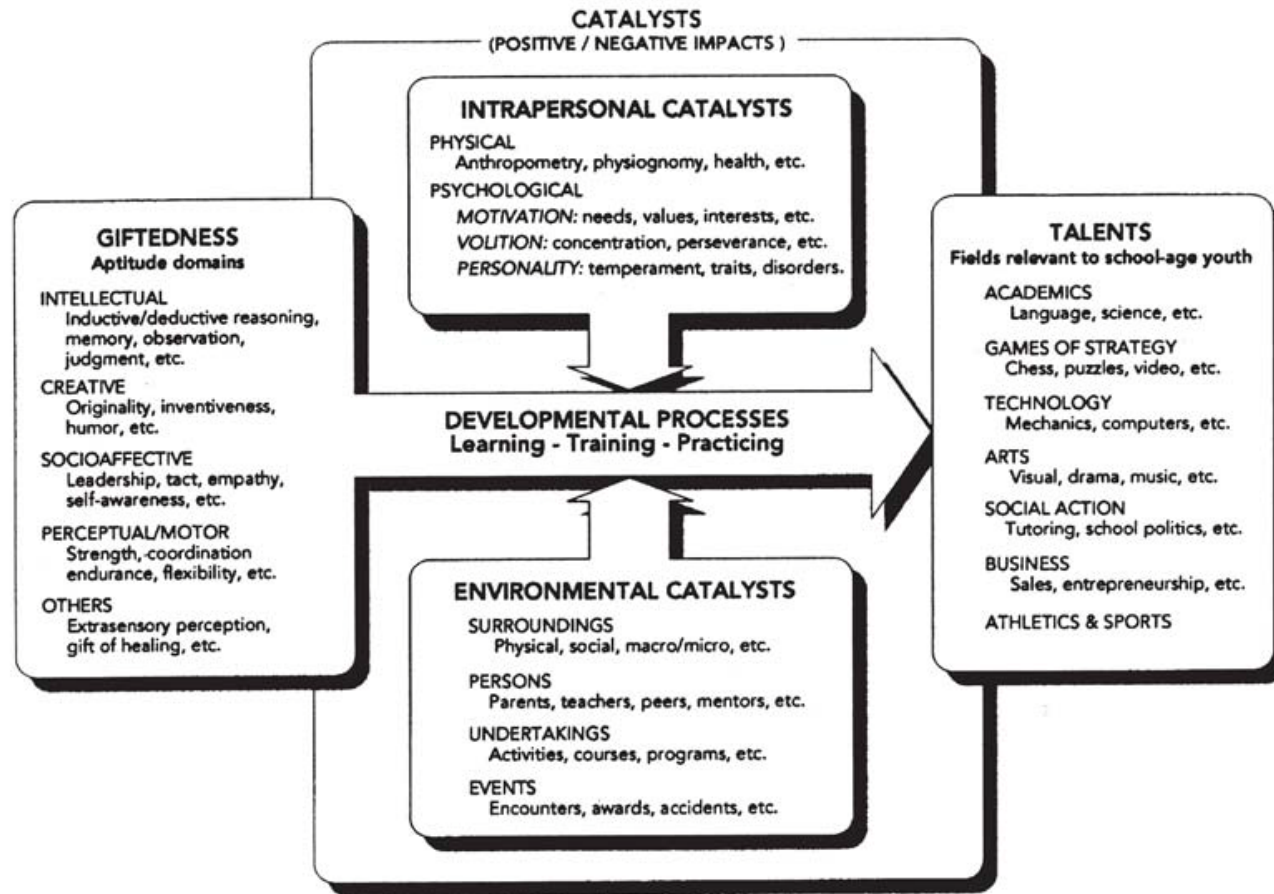


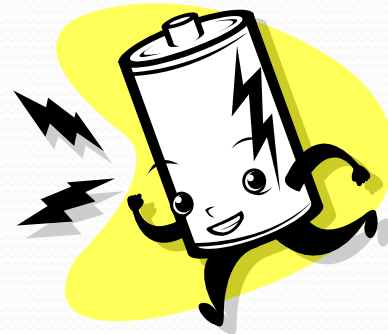
Figure 1.1. Gagné's Differentiated Model of Giftedness and Talent (DMGT)

Note. From "Is There Light at the End of the Tunnel?," by F. Gagné, 1999, *Journal for the Education of the Gifted*, 22, p. 231. Copyright ©1999 by The Association for the Gifted. Reprinted with permission.

Discussion: This model was presented to highlight the connection between intrapersonal and environmental as catalysts to help youth develop their gifts (i.e. natural abilities) into talents. It supports the Search Institute research that divides the 40 Developmental Assets into External (i.e. things that other people provide for youth) and Internal (things that develop within young people themselves.) Gagne's model also supports a shift from focusing on young peoples' problems to a focus on young peoples' strengths.

Asset Builders - Why You?

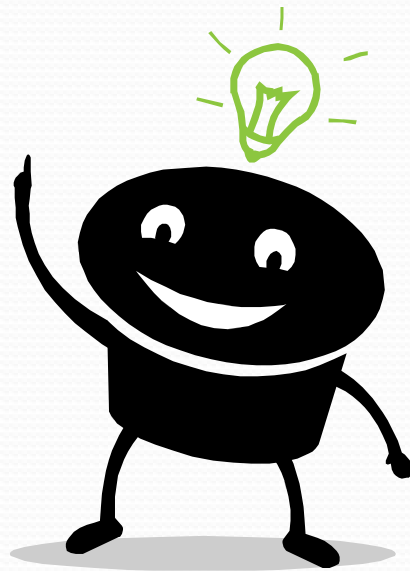
- Vanguard of Change
- Your task – “Asset Energizer”



Note: As individuals and community members, we have the ability to build assets through simple actions. Handouts with tips were provided.

How to Build Assets: Tips for Parents and Guardians

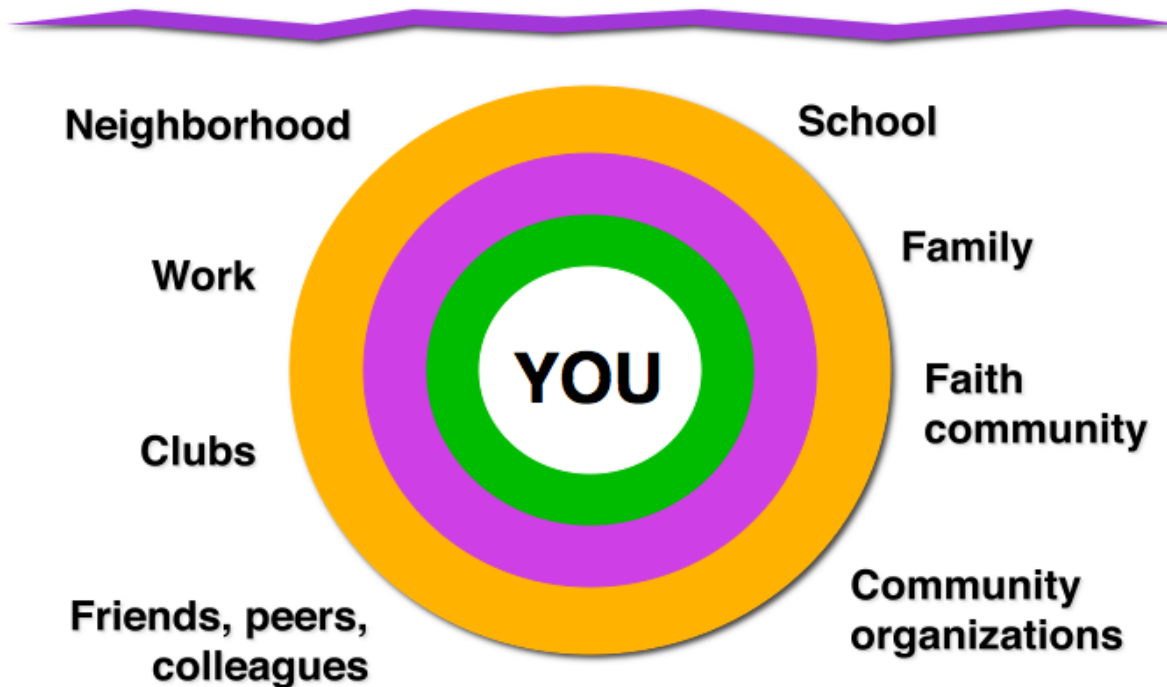
Tips from Pass It On



Discussion: Handout called Asset Building Tips for Parents and Guardians was distributed.
Source: Pass It On book from Search Institute. Fathers Forum now has copy

How To Use Assets: As a community member

Circles of Influence



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Everyone's an Asset Builder T16

Discussion: Each of us has areas of our lives where our potential influence as an asset builder is heightened. Steven Covey calls these the circles of influence. He suggests that the circles where most are actively engaged are the natural places to exert influence and have the most impact. Each person's circles of influence may be different but the combined circles of influence from individuals represent the potential for having a collective impact on youth across the spectrum in our community. Think about one potential area of influence and note it in each circle, starting with the inner circle next to your name (ie. area that you consider most important) and move out from there.

Building Assets as a Community: The Five Action Strategies



Engage Adults

- Engage adults from all walks of life to develop sustained, strength-building relationships with children and adolescents, both within families and in neighborhoods.

Mobilize Young People

- Mobilize young people to use their power as asset builders and change agents.

Activate Sectors

- Activate all sectors of the community—such as schools, faith-based organizations, youth, businesses, human services, and health-care organizations—to create an asset-building culture and to contribute fully to young people's healthy development.

Invigorate Programs

- Invigorate, expand, and enhance programs to become more asset rich and to be available to and accessed by all children and youth.

Influence Civic Decisions

- Influence decision makers and opinion leaders to leverage financial, media, and policy resources in support of this positive transformation of communities and society.

Note: The five Action Strategies provide a practical approach to identifying, encouraging, and linking all the important people, places, activities, and programs necessary for a powerful collective effort.

Summary:

Principles of Asset Building

- **All young people** need assets
- **Everyone** can build assets
- **Relationships** are key
- Asset Building : **Ongoing** and **Intentional** process
- **Consistent messages** are crucial
- **Repetition** is important

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Everyone's
an Asset
Builder
T13

Discussion: As noted throughout the presentation, relationships are key. Asset building is intentional and ongoing. Asset building involves simple acts that everyone can do! Handout: "40 Ways Anyone Can Build Assets"

Charlie Brown's Asset View



Conclusion: Handout in which Charles Schultz demonstrated that *Relationships are key to asset building.*

***Search Institute* websites and books referenced or used in the preparation of this presentation:**

Websites:

For lists of Developmental Assets for different age groups and translation into different languages go to:

<http://www.search-institute.org/developmental-assets/lists>

For a list of how many youth experience each asset, go to:

<http://www.search-institute.org/research/assets/assetfreq>

http://www.abraham-maslow.com/m_motivation/Hierarchy_of_Needs.asp

Search Institute Resource for Families

<http://www.parentfurther.com/>

Books:

Peter L. Benson “All Kids are Our Kids”

Peter L. Benson “Sparks” How Parents Can Help Ignite The Hidden Strengths of Teenagers

Peter L. Benson, Judy Galbraith, Pamela Espeland “What Kids Need to Succeed”

Search Institute Pass It On (Copy given to Fathers Forum)

Everyone's An Asset Builder:

Final Thoughts?

