

Healthy Communities that Care 40 Developmental Assets



Introduction: Attached you will find a 40 Developmental Assets Calendar. Each week HCTC will provide schools with e-mail asset newsletters that connect to the monthly asset category. There will be monthly Parent newsletters also mailed out to schools, churches and other organizations that focus on the monthly asset category. These monthly asset tips for parents will also be featured in local media outlets. Under the connections column of the calendar HCTC activities that relate to that month's asset category are listed. Schools are encouraged to list what school-based activities connect to each month's asset category. The first asset newsletter is also attached— focus on Family Support.



The 40 Developmental Assets®

Assets are 40 positive qualities, skills, experiences, and opportunities that are critical in the lives of children and youth. The more assets youth have, the more likely they are to succeed.

42% of youth surveyed by Search Institute have just 20 or fewer of these assets in their lives.*

*Based on Search Institute surveys of 148,189 6th- to 12th-grade youth throughout the United States in 2003.

Welcome to *Ideas for Educators: Newsletters for School Success*, a resource that will provide **ideas to help you and your colleagues build a supportive learning climate for your students.**

There are two sections to these handouts: the first is dedicated to creating a positive and successful school experience for your students, and the second is focused on creating a satisfying workplace for you. They'll provide practical tips and good conversation pieces as you work with your colleagues to ensure that both of these elements are strongly present in your school .

Throughout the year you will receive 40 newsletters—one for each Developmental Asset.

They feature practical tips and suggestions that range from simple, everyday ways to incorporate assets in your classroom to specific project ideas and exercises. **These newsletters are designed to help you engage your classroom students—and all the students in your school—in supportive and empowering ways that lead to their success.** Most of the time you'll find you've been using assets already, just by being a good teacher—and the newsletters will give you new ideas so you can build on your work.

The Developmental Assets can resonate in equally important ways for you and your colleagues, which is why **we've also included a section on how the assets affect you.** Here you'll find thoughtful questions, suggestions, and practical ideas for incorporating the assets into your own life.

As you read through these newsletters over the next months, let them guide your thinking and actions in fresh and exciting ways for your students and for you. So:

- * Use the activities and suggestions in your classroom.
- * Think about the reflection questions and how they apply to you.
- * Discuss the ideas in staff meetings.

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Questions or comments? Email us at r.pena17@yahoo.com or call 585-748-5146