



Engaging Faith Based Communities in Adolescent Treatment

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Training Objectives

1. To assist the student in recognizing the benefit of the involvement of faith based communities in addiction treatment
2. To familiarize the student in the many resources available through faith based communities
3. To assist the student in learning the intricacies of engaging the faith based community
4. To assist the student in the art of rewarding the organization for their involvement in treatment



4 Steps

**TO ENGAGE FAITH
BASED
COMMUNITIES IN
ADOLESCENT
TREATMENT**



STEP I.

Recognize the need to involve Faith Based Organizations in Treatment – Our Clients are “AT RISK”



Risk factors

- **Conditions that increase the likelihood of a young person becoming involved in drug use, delinquency, school dropout rates and or violence**



Protective Factors

- **Conditions that buffer children and youth from exposure to risk by either reducing the impact of the risks or changing the way young people respond to risk**
- **Some things we can change, some things we can't!**



Assets- Search Institute

“Building blocks of healthy development
that help young people grow up healthy,
caring and responsible”

–SEARCH INSTITUTE



Assessment of Protective Factors

- Risk and Protective Factor Scale
 - Communities that Care
- PACT
 - DJJ



40 Developmental Assets

- **External Assets**
- **Internal Assets**

Search Institute –

www.search-institute.org



4 Categories of External Assets

- **Support**

- Family support
- Positive Family Communication
- Other Adult relationships
- Caring Neighborhoods
- Caring School climate
- Parent Involvement in Schooling




- **Empowerment**

- Community that Values Youth
- Youth are seen as resources
- Involved in Services to others
- Safety is known by the youth



• **Boundaries and Expectations**

- Family Boundaries
- School Boundaries
- Neighborhood Boundaries
- Adult Role Models
- Positive Peer Influence

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- **Constructive Use of Time**
 - Creative Activities (Cultural, Mastery)
 - Youth Programs (Sports, Clubs)
 - Religious Communities (Worship, Youth)
 - Time at Home (not just hanging around)




4 Categories of Internal Assets

- **Commitment to learning**
 - Achievement Motivation
 - School Engagement
 - Homework
 - Bonding to school
 - Reading for pleasure



- **Positive Values**

- Caring
- Equality and social justice
- Integrity
- Honesty
- Responsibility
- Restraint

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- **Social Competencies**
 - Planning and decision making
 - Interpersonal Competence
 - Cultural Competence
 - Resistance skills
 - Peaceful Conflict Resolutions



- **Positive Identity**

- Personal Power
- Self Esteem
- Sense of purpose
- Positive view of personal future



9 Reasons to get involved with a faith community (assets)

1. Faith Communities teach values (26-31)
2. Faith Communities are intergenerational (12-15)
3. Faith Communities provide care and support (1-6)
4. Faith Communities have high expectations for their young people (16)
5. Faith Communities provide opportunities to be contributing members of a group (7-9, 37-40)



Reasons continued

6. Faith Communities encourage service to others (9)
7. Faith Communities nurture social competencies and leadership (32-36)
8. Faith Communities offer security and stability (10)
9. Faith Communities reduce risky behaviors (17-20)



Examples: From Your Caseload



2. Be Familiar with Resources

Where do I look??

- TALK TO PEOPLE
- Ministerial/Denominational Associations
- “First Call” – United Way
- Internet Searches
- Phone Book



Examples of Resources

Addiction Programs: Faith Based Community Programs

- Celebrate Recovery – Drug
www.celebraterecovery.com
- Life Ministries- Sexual
www.info@freedomeveryday.org



Church Based Programs

- Youth programs: Examples
 - X-spot
 - The Well
 - Live it
- After school programs
- Mentor Programs: Team Kid, R.A.'s
- Music Programs: Orchestra, Choir



Specialization ministries

- Prevention of teen pregnancy
 - True love waits
 - U Turn
- Teen Parenting
 - Covenant Care, Bethany Christian
- Employment Assistance
 - New Start: Employability Skills
 - Work Ministry: Employment Opportunities



Any other things.....

- Sports Programs
 - Upward Basketball and Soccer
 - YMCA
- Youth Camps
 - Student Life (Daytona, Deland)
 - Warren W. Willis Camp (Leesburg)
 - Honey Creek (North of Jacksonville)



Ministries are there and waiting to assist your treatment

- First Baptist Church Leesburg



What's Out there?



3. Remember the Relationship

- Speak their Language -Literally, “speak their language”

-Video, “Gridiron Gang”

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- Know their mission statement

The Christian Care Center, Inc – “The most comprehensive faith-based social service organizations in the state and in fact, the nation.”

The Mission Statement, “*To honor God by creating a safe and friendly haven for the hurting and needy men, women, adolescents and children in our local community*”, is accomplished through the variety of services offered and the diversity of those served.



- **Build relationships with the congregation**

- Teach them about your organization and your mission
- Learn them by name and let them know your name and your story
- Remember Faith based communities are about relationships



- **Let them see the faces of your administrators**

- Knowing that what you want from them has the backing of administration will signify the importance of what they are doing.



4. Reward their efforts

- Share the successes with their congregation
- Letters of appreciation from both the agency and the clients
- Publicity Efforts
- Volunteer Appreciation Events
- Volunteer of the Year Awards

- “Go and tell all the things you have seen and heard!”