

## **ASSET-BUILDING IDEAS**FOR SERVICE CLUBS



Service clubs are excellent places for asset building to occur. With a commitment to community and a focus on children and youth, clubs can use their leadership and networks to help influence the attitudes and actions in the community. Here are some easy tips to help guide your club:

- Commit to at least one act of asset building every day.
- Invite speakers to talk about asset-building topics on a regular basis. Consider opening these events to the public.
- Use your access to the many sectors in the community to promote, inform, and support asset-building efforts. Work to create new asset-building ventures for children and youth in your community.
- Sponsor intergenerational community events, such as community wide-picnics and ice cream socials.
- Encourage members to find ways to build assets through their professional affiliations and in their personal lives.
- Invite youth speakers to talk to your club about their affiliations and organizations.
- Recognize and publicize outstanding asset-builders—youth and adult—in your community. Consider giving a monthly or annual award.

- Support efforts that create or expand opportunities for children and youth to participate in teams, clubs, and organizations.
- Build at least one informal, ongoing, caring relationship with a child or adolescent.
- Examine your attitudes about children and youth. See young people as resources not problems.
- Thank people who work with children and youth (teachers, youth group leaders, social service providers, clergy, and others).
- Use your international connections to build cross-cultural relationships with youth.
- Encourage members to be mentors or to volunteer at their schools or youth-serving organizations.
- Strive to make your high school youth division as large and active as possible.

The developmental assets® are 40 opportunities, skills, relationships, values, and self-perceptions that all young people need to succeed. From **Pass It On! 150 Tip Sheets for Asset Builders**—copyright © 1999 by Search Institute®, 700 South Third Street, Suite 210, Minneapolis, MN 55415; 612–376–8955; 800–888–7828; www.search-institute.org. This handout may be reproduced for educational, noncommercial uses only (with this copyright line). All rights reserved.