

Ways to Build Positive Values

No doubt you'll have many ideas of ways to build positive values as you think about asset building in your life. Here are a few that others have tried and found helpful. We've also left some places for you to write in ideas that come to you.

Where You Live

- Your actions reveal your true values. Think about what other family members learn about values from the way you talk and act.
- Discuss equality and social justice issues on a regular basis. Choose a cause to follow and support the work of those who are making progress in your area of concern.
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- _____

In Your Neighborhood

- Talk to people of all ages (younger or older) in respectful ways.
- When you see a child or youth doing something you disagree with, teach the young person the difference between right and wrong. Help the young person listen to her or his conscience.
- Be sure to ask neighborhood youth to be caring, honest, and responsible. Remind them that these values are important.
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- _____

In an Organization

- Develop easy ways for people of all ages in your organization to be able to contribute to worthy causes through their time, their talent, or their money.
- Examine the values that your organization says it stands for. How do employees and volunteers view your organization? How do people in your community view it? How can you model positive values in your organization?
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- _____



Which Values Are Valued?

Everyday Asset Building

In Marquette, Michigan, 5th-grade teacher Jill Koske has cooked up a meaningful way to teach her students about several Positive Values assets. Twice a month, the students bake bread and deliver it to residents of Jantzen House, a local transition residence for homeless members of the community and others needing help. Working in teams of four, the students learn cooperation, apply math skills, and discover some basic principles of science. But delivering the bread is the highlight. "We've been to Jantzen House when residents have been there and the children have been humbled by the experience," says Koske.

Think about your school, neighborhood, club, or congregation today. How much agreement do you think there would be on the six values in the category of Positive Values assets? For each asset, check whether almost everyone, most people, some people, or not many people would agree that this asset is important.

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"So much of life, in today's world, has to do with getting. Values, in contrast, have to do with being and with giving."

—LINDA AND RICHARD EYRE

AUTHORS OF *TEACHING YOUR CHILDREN VALUES*

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	Almost everyone	Most people	Some people	Not many people
Asset 26: Caring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asset 27: Equality and Social Justice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asset 28: Integrity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asset 29: Honesty	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asset 30: Responsibility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asset 31: Restraint	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TOTAL checkmarks:	_____	_____	_____	_____

If most people agree to these assets, what can you do to promote these assets within your community?

What other positive values do you think almost everyone in the community would believe are important for young people? How can you also promote those values?