

Becoming an asset-rich organization

An Asset-poor Organization

1. Focus is on young people's problems.
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2. Only certain people in the organization believe they can help young people build assets.
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3. Young people absorb resources.
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4. Building developmental assets is a program.
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5. The organization tries to affect primarily those young people who seem to be troubled or who are causing trouble.
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6. How adults outside the organization behave around young people isn't a concern.
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7. The belief is, "We already build assets."
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8. It's okay to blame others for young people's poor behavior.
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9. Working in isolation is easier.

An Asset-rich Organization

1. Focus is on young people's strengths and on using those strengths to deal with problems.
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2. Everyone in the organization believes they can help young people build assets.
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3. Young people are resources.
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4. Building developmental assets is a way to interact with young people.
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5. The organization tries to affect all the young people who come into contact with it every day.
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6. All adults are held accountable for their actions toward young people.
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7. The belief is, "We need to build assets more intentionally."
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8. It's unacceptable to blame others for the past. The focus is on working with others to improve the future.
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9. Time invested in collaboration and relationship building serves children and youth well.