

November Asset of the Month

POSITIVE VALUES

Young people need to develop strong guiding values or principles to help them make healthy life choices.

1. Caring – Young person places high value on helping other people.
2. Equality and Social Justice – Young person places high value on promoting equality and reducing hunger and poverty.
3. Integrity – Young person acts on conviction and stands up for her or his beliefs.
4. Honesty – Young person “tells the truth even when it is not easy.”
5. Responsibility – Young person accepts and takes personal responsibility.
6. Restraint – Young person believes it is important not to be sexually active or to use alcohol or drugs.

Practical tips to create positive values in your children, their friends and in your neighborhood children:

- ◆ Write down the values you believe in and post them where it can be seen often.
- ◆ Choose some “values for the month” then select one for each week and display it in your home.
- ◆ Model positive values in your daily life so that young people see it.
- ◆ When you make a mistake, accept responsibility for your error and apologize to the appropriate person.
- ◆ Treat all people, especially those who are serving you and your child, with respect.
- ◆ Do not tell or laugh at jokes that degrade people because of color, race, creed or handicap.
- ◆ Participate in community programs that help others; food drives, clothing drives, blood drives.
- ◆ During the holidays help your child sort through gently used and outgrown toys and books to donate to area charities.
- ◆ Make sure your child has an opportunity to develop a relationship with his extended family including aunts, uncles and grandparents.
- ◆ Take your child to visit a nursing home and spend a few minutes talking to a senior citizen.
- ◆ Be a model for your child regarding drug and alcohol use.
- ◆ Share your values regarding appropriate sexual activity with your child.