

Arizona Department of Education
Character Education Matching Grant
Pre-Approved Providers
Fiscal Year 2010

This document contains contact information and a brief description of services provided by each of the following Pre-approved Providers (PAP). You must contact your PAP of choice prior to completing the grant application to determine exact cost and nature of services and/or materials you plan to purchase.

Boy Scouts of America Learning for Life
Changing Lives
Character Counts
Character First
Creative Spirit
Ignite for Schools
School Specialty Planning & Student Development
Wise Skills
Youth Frontiers

Boy Scouts of America, Grand Canyon Council Learning for Life

Name of Program: Learning for Life

Contacts: Michael de los Santos, Adriana Clifton

Address: 2969 North Greenfield Road, Phoenix, Arizona, 85016

Phone # 602-955-7747 or 602-778-7673 Fax # 602-508-8044

E-mail mdelossantos@grandcanyonbsa.org or aclifton@lflmail.org

Website: www.learning-for-life.org

Target Audience: K-12 Youth and Educators

Description:

Learning for Life is a program designed to support schools and other youth-serving organizations in their efforts toward preparing our young people to successfully handle the complexities of today's society and to enhance their self-confidence, motivation, and self-worth. Learning for Life also helps youth develop social skills, life skills, strong positive personal values, and assists in the development of their character. The program prepares youth to make ethical decisions that will help them achieve their full potential.

Changing Lives

Name of Program: Changing Lives
Name of Provider: Mark1 of North America
Contact Name: Dr. Dick Daniels, President, Changing Lives
Address: 627 North Sibley Avenue
Litchfield, MN 55355
Phone Number: 1-800-932-7235
Fax Number: 1-320-693-7905
Email: dickd@mark1.org

Target Audience: Teachers, guidance counselors, support staff, administrators, board members, parents, community leaders

Description:

The mission of Changing Lives is to “transform the attitudes, words and behaviors everywhere people learn, work and live together.” The Changing Lives K-12 classroom curriculum and the Coaching to Change Lives extracurricular curriculum focus on universally accepted character values. The student workbooks can be customized with student planners and other information relevant to a specific school. National/regional training events are available for schools looking for data on culture and climate changes within the school. Assessment data from students and teachers can also be compared. The program has been designed to be teacher friendly requiring minimal to no preparation. The format is story and interaction based. One of 36 character qualities is addressed each week. About 12-15 minutes of class time are required on a daily basis. Changing Lives moves beyond awareness to connecting character values to life skills. Changing Lives schools see significant culture and climate transformation through reducing behavior and disciplinary issues while increasing student and teacher attendance. This results in more classroom time to achieve the school’s educational agenda.

Character Counts

Name of Program: CHARACTER COUNTS!

Contacts: Justin Lu, Assistant Director of CHARACTER COUNTS!

Address: 9841 Airport Blvd., Suite 300, Los Angeles, CA 90045

Phone # (310) 846-4800 (800) 711-2670

E-mail jlu@jiethics.org

Website: www.CharacterCounts.org

Target Audience: Teachers, administrators, coaches, school support staff & admin., community youth service providers

Description:

CHARACTER COUNTS! (CC!) is the nation's most widely implemented approach to character education. It's an easy to implement framework based on the Six Pillars of Character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship and an ethical decision making model. CC! is not an add-on and is designed to easily integrate into existing curriculum and programs. When implemented, CC! has a dramatic and lasting effect on school culture, and many organizations have reported dramatic drops in discipline referrals and negative behavior as soon as their first year of implementation.

To support educators and youth service professionals in their character development efforts, CHARACTER COUNTS! provides high quality training, educational resources, and consultation. The key to effective implementation is the Character Development Seminar (CDS), a three-day certification training designed to provide participants with all the tools and knowledge to effectively start or enhance a character development initiative. The CDS is a train-the-trainer seminar, and we recommend training at least 5-10% of an organization's total staff in the CDS. This group should be reflective of different roles and positions within an organization. These individuals will then train their colleagues and serve as onsite character development "experts". We hold trainings throughout the year in locations across the country. The full schedule can be found at www.charactercounts.org/CDS. There are also options to host a CDS or one-day in-service program locally.

In addition to training, CC! offers a wide variety of educational support materials including classroom activities and lessons based on the Six Pillars, parenting resources, music and video series, posters, banners, and more. There are also specialized resources available to address topics like bullying prevention, cheating prevention, and youth sports. All of our offerings can be found online at: www.charactercounts.org/materials.

Lastly, CHARACTER COUNTS! provides support and consultation to ensure that organizations achieve their character development goals using CC!. Member organizations and seminar graduates have unlimited access to our program staff to help them navigate issues such as program evaluation, building buy in, and sustainability.

Arizona residents also have many special services available to them. CC! has received bipartisan support for many years in Arizona. Originally formed under former Governor Hull and continued under Governor Napolitano, the state's character education initiative hosts in-state Character Development Seminars for Arizona residents and offers one-day workshops throughout the state.

To learn more, we encourage you to visit our website: www.CharacterCounts.org or contact us directly at 800-711-2670 or cc@jiethics.org. We are happy to answer any questions you may have and can work with you to develop an implementation plan for your community.

Character First! Education

Name of Provider: Character Training Institute
Publisher of Character First! Education curriculum

Contact Name: Kent Fahrenbruck

Address: 520 W. Main Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73102

Phone number: 405-815-0001

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E-Mail: kfahrenbruck@characterfirst.com

Target audience: All school staff

Description:

Are you looking for solutions to the character challenges you face in the classroom? Are you looking for ways to teach your students how to make good decisions? If so, Character First! Education may offer the training and resources you need.

Training:

In-service training is vital so that teachers know how character can be integrated with their regular schools activities as they emphasize good character, correct character deficiencies and reinforce positive character with praise. Live training seminars (4 hours) can be scheduled to provide on site training for teachers and faculty, or schools can take advantage of a 6-part video series to train teachers at their own pace.

Curriculum:

The *Character First! Education* curriculum provides a host of lessons teachers can pick and choose to explain each character quality to their students. The curriculum includes a 16 page Teacher's Guide with stories, object lessons, reading assignments, or other activities for wither primary or secondary grade levels. Support materials such as posters, music, *Student Guides* (elementary, middle and secondary levels) and collectible *Character Cards* are also available to reinforce each lesson.

Implementation:

Most schools focus on nine character qualities each year – usually one per month. On the appointed day, teachers introduce the new quality, its definition, and five key concepts provided in the curriculum. This can be done during home room time, in a school wide assembly, by counselors or by the classroom teacher. The quality is then

reinforced throughout the following days and weeks using life's teachable moments plus activities and lessons selected from the Teacher's Guides. The last step is for teachers to follow an effective plan for praising their students as they see them exhibit good character in their lives. Character recognitions provide the positive affirmation needed to change student attitudes.

For more information regarding training and curriculum, please go to our website at www.characterfirst.com.

Creative Spirit

Name of Program: Healthy Play Is a Solution / Joy in Learning Training and Consults

Contact Name: Spencer Gorin, C.O.O. of Creative Spirit

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Tucson, AZ 85711

Phone #: (520) 878-9223, (800) 742- 0708

Fax #: (520) 878-9224

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Target Audience: Teachers, youth service professionals and paraprofessionals, school support staff and administrators, students, community providers of youth services, parents.

Description: Build Character, Make School Playgrounds Safe, and Unite Your Staff in integrating the values of caring, compassion, initiative, respect, personal responsibility, and trust as an important part of daily instruction. These are the positive outcomes principals and teachers report seeing in their students after their Creative Spirit training program was implemented. Creative Spirit's Joy in Learning / Healthy Play Is a Solution is a program that works! Creative Spirit's character education, classroom and playground management and anti-bullying program offers educators and students simple, effective and even fun techniques to practice qualities of good character, support academic standards, and promote emotional and physical health. The same program also increases a school community's ability to readdress academics in a playful and nurturing manner without adding additional burdens for hard working teachers.

Based on concepts from our book, *Learning to Play, Playing to Learn*, our trainings and materials can provide professional staff and school community members with strategies and practical "hands-on" game activities to recognize, reinforce, and practice character values and skills through mindful classroom and playground management. You can train your entire staff in the complete training through our six-hour training with individualized in-classroom consultations or select a few teachers for our Two-day Train the Trainer format. Unique to the Healthy play program, our staff can work directly with students and teachers in their classrooms. As an added benefit, your staff will experience a team-building approach, which will reduce stress, build morale, and inspire creativity through informative play and discussion.

Ignite for Schools

Contact Name: Jeff Blackman/ Mike Deschalit

Address: 3181 Windwalker Pl, Tucson AZ 85742

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Website: www.igniteforschools.com

Description:

IGNITE is a school services company that specializes in empowering students to become a part of your solution. The lead program, IGNITE CHARACTER, provides on-campus student training on a monthly basis to implement character education and peer mentoring. IGNITE provides student-driven character based solutions, designed specifically to reduce disciplinary incidents, reduce dropout rates and improve school climate. IGNITE is your training and implementation partner... right on your campus with your students.

IGNITE CHARACTER asks teachers to nominate a cadre of student "Character Ambassadors", who are trained as role models on your campus. We recommend a true representation of your student body, not only your 'superstar students'. These Character Ambassadors are formed into teams of 3-4 students... the older students leading and mentoring the younger team members. IGNITE provides on-campus student training each month, based on character themes of the "6 Pillars", as well as diversity, bullying/cyber-bullying, conflict resolution, self-esteem/self-respect, and alcohol/tobacco/drug abuse. The IGNITE CHARACTER program consists of one full-day kickoff training, and six selected lessons. Each school is able to customize their own program by choosing desired topics.

IGNITE FRESHMAN TRANSITIONS, the high school program, is also built on monthly character based themes, designed to have each upperclassman mentor team up with 5 freshmen, guiding them to begin a successful high school experience.

Both IGNITE CHARACTER and IGNITE TRANSITIONS function on the premise that students can be our greatest asset in any building when given the proper platform and training. Building character based relationships is the foundation of IGNITE.

School Specialty Planning & Student Development featuring Premier™ products

Contact Name: Suzanne Pearson

Address: 2000 Kentucky Street, Bellingham, WA 98229

Phone #: 866 -805-0792 Fax #: 215-542-9972

E-mail: spearson@premier.us

Website: www.premier.us

Description:

School Specialty Planning & Student Development featuring Premier™ products offers a variety of student and educator planners and video-based character education materials to meet the needs of Arizona schools. These include:

* The Journey to Success primary and elementary agenda programs, based on the Pyramid of Success® and children's literature including *Inch and Miles* from Coach John Wooden, includes Facilitator Guide, DVD, Teacher Resource Guide, and posters.

* Character for Life middle and high agenda programs, based on the Pyramid of Success® from Coach Wooden, and includes Character for Life DVD (12 lessons), Teacher Companion Booklet, Implementation DVD and poster.

* The Premier™ Foundations Student Engagement Suite, based on Sean Covey's *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens*, includes The Foundations agenda programs for students grades 1-12, the Premier Get Set and Go Programs for grades 6-8 (34 video lessons, workbooks/inserts, Teacher Resource Package), the Premier Ultimate Success Guide for Teens™ Program (workbooks and teacher guides) for grades 8-9. Premier Student Achievement Workshop (one-day event for students), Premier *discover7* Educator's Workshop (one-day workshop for educators).

The Premier™ agendas teach students responsibility, diligence, and orderliness of their commitments in and out of the classroom as they learn to set goals, record, and prioritize. Additionally, the Premier character education supplement for elementary

students teaches the Arizona character qualities of caring, citizenship, respect, responsibility, and trustworthiness. The Premier character education supplement for middle and high school students teaches qualities including caring, citizenship, forgiveness, generosity, respect, and trustworthiness—all part of Arizona legislation.

Additionally, we offer the Premier Sunburst Media Character Development and Anti-Bullying Programs. There are 4 program kits that include lesson plans, DVDs, workbooks/black line masters, family materials (English/Spanish), assessments and colorful classroom materials. Titles include: *Making Character Count*, *Building Good Character*, *Stop Bullying!*, and *Stand Up! Speak Out!*

Local Arizona representatives support the purchase and implementation of these products.

WiseSkills Resources (A CHARACTER COUNTS! Partner)

Name of Program: The WiseSkills Character-Building Program
Contact Name: Seth Schapiro
Address: 149 Josephine Street, Suite B
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Phone: 1-888-947-3754
Fax: 1-831-426-8930
E-mail: seth@wiseskills.com
Target Audience: Elementary, middle school, and high school educators

Description:

WiseSkills is a CHARACTER COUNTS! Partner that helps schools build a culture of character by *modeling, teaching, and reinforcing* principles of character throughout the year. The program unites schools, families, and communities in teaching important qualities such as *respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, perseverance, courage, self-discipline, caring*, and many other character skills that are critical for success both in and out of school. The WiseSkills K-12 curricula features a variety of practical resources for teachers and counselors, including across-the-curriculum activities, discussion ideas, multicultural quotations, journal writing ideas, brief classroom activities, service project ideas, biographies, reproducible pages, and more. Administrator materials help schools teach and reinforce good character through schoolwide activities such as contests and awards, PA announcements, visual displays, and special events and programs. For elementary and middle schools, WiseSkills includes reproducible parent newsletters and activity pages to help families teach character at home.

The WiseSkills Training is a one-day, interactive workshop that provides an entire school with a thorough orientation to the WiseSkills character education program. Participants will learn the difference between teaching *knowledge* and teaching *wisdom*, how to use the interdisciplinary WiseSkills curricula, and gain practical strategies to build a school culture where positive character is modeled and reinforced by adults. Teachers will gain stimulating ideas for designing simple classroom activities using the multicultural quotations featured in the curricula. Because the WiseSkills curriculum uses the words and lives of great role models in history, teachers will learn how to integrate WiseSkills across-the-curriculum. Participants work together in grade-level

groups or teams to strategize specific ways to connect the program to academic subject areas, especially language arts and social studies. For schools using CHARACTER COUNTS!, the training helps teachers infuse the *Six Pillars of Character* into academic subject areas. The workshop provides opportunities for interaction and engages participants in a variety of activities, including brainstorming, discussion, reading, writing, and role-playing. The WiseSkills Training can also include parent/community volunteers, who learn how to be effective community liaisons. Volunteers receive guidelines for finding local career speakers and arranging community service-learning projects throughout the school year. Also available are practical Implementation Kits which provide ready-to-use video trainings for the *School Leadership Team* and for the entire school staff. Implementation Kits also include schoolwide activity ideas, Implementation Guides, and evaluations and assessments.

Youth Frontiers

Name of Provider: Youth Frontiers, Inc.

Contact Name: Christine Moss, Arizona School Outreach Representative

Address: National Office: 6009 Excelsior Blvd, Minneapolis, MN 55416

Phoenix Office: 4041 E Via Montoya Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85050

Phone # 480-250-3181 or 888-992-0222

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E-mail: cmoss@youthfrontiers.org

Website: www.youthfrontiers.org

Description:

Youth Frontiers is a nonprofit organization that delivers powerful retreat programs for elementary, middle, and high school students to strengthen student character and create positive school communities. For more than 20 years, our programs have been challenging and inspiring students to think about what they are doing, what they are saying, and how they are treating one another.

Our Character Education Programs

Youth Frontiers works to build positive school communities through retreat programs that help young people realize the importance of living a life of character.

- Through interactive daylong retreats geared developmentally for each age group, we teach such timeless values as kindness, courage, responsibility and respect. The result is that students treat each other better, bullying and discipline incidents decline, and school climate improves.
- Our programs create what we call a “catalyst for change” by challenging students to think critically about the impact of their everyday choices and how they treat themselves and others. We engage the silent majority of students to take positive action on behalf of others and sustain educators in their critical work with young people.
- We also offer varied supplemental programming, including Advisory Curriculum for each age level and a variety of online resources, all designed to extend the impact of the retreat experience and enhance character development.
- Our program strengthens and supports other character education programs, such as Character Counts!

Retreat Descriptions

The Kindness Retreat is designed for 4th or 5th graders. The program helps build a more caring school community by engaging students in activities that demonstrate the painful effects of bullying and emphasize the value of kindness.

The Courage Retreat, for 6th, 7th or 8th graders, helps build a more inclusive school community by encouraging students to accept others for who they are, resist following the crowd, and act with moral courage despite their fears.

The Respect Retreat, for 9th and 10th grade students, reinforces a message of respecting yourself, respecting others, and standing up for the value of respect. Students realize they may not be friends with everyone, but they do not have to be enemies.

The Wisdom Retreat, for graduating seniors, helps facilitate positive closure to students' high school years and guides a positive transition into life beyond high school. The program gives seniors a chance to learn from their past experiences in order to make good choices for their future.

To Contact Youth Frontiers

For more information on Youth Frontiers, visit www.youthfrontiers.org, or contact the Arizona Outreach Representative, Chris Moss at cmoss@youthfrontiers.org.