

COMPILED BY JOAN KELLEHER

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Asset building

Assets in action: A handbook for making communities better places to grow up, by D. Fisher, Minneapolis, MN., Search Institute, c2003.

In 1997 the Search Institute launched its Healthy Communities Healthy Youth program which has helped hundreds of community initiatives in Canada, United States of America and beyond, focusing on positive support for youth and children. These stories are used to highlight strategies and tips for asset-building without presenting a rigid framework.

Children's participation: Experiences in capacity building and training by, H. van Beers, Stockholm, Sweden, Save the Children Sweden, 2002.

This publication analyses experiences from capacity-building and training in children's participation in project contexts. It examines the results of training adults and provides detailed examples of different ways to involve children. (Book jacket)

More building assets together: 130 group activities for helping youth succeed, by R. Grothe, Minneapolis, MN, Search Institute, c2002.

Community development projects working with young people can use this book for inspiration in running and planning group activities to empower adolescents. The book offers ways to teach developmental assets, then lists activities to promote positive behaviours and attitudes and protect against risk-taking. 40 developmental assets and eight areas of human development are discussed.

Child development videos

The importance of being . . . Kew, Vic., Toddler Kindy Gymbaroo, [various years], videocassettes.

This series of pre-school child development programmes are designed to

help parents and teachers lay the foundations of learning from early childhood. Developmental stages are explained and appropriate, age-related ways to help / encourage children to achieve each stage are demonstrated. Both physical and learning activities are covered. Each video covers one age group. The titles are: The importance of being an infant (25 minutes); The importance of being one (24 minutes); The importance of being two (30 minutes); The importance of being three (40 minutes); and The Importance of being four (43 minutes).

Communication

The I can monsters, Concept development and text by R. Deal, artwork, design & production by J Veeken, Bendigo, Vic., St Luke's Innovative Resources, 2000, 24 activity cards, 1 poster.

Can be used for building conversations with all ages, especially younger children. They can help a child talk about important things in his/her world, about competencies, and introduce principles of personal safety.

Community building workbooks

This series of workbooks are from the Asset-Based Community Development Institute, Institute for Policy Research, Northwestern University, Chicago, Ill., Distributed by ACTA Publications, various years.

Building communities from the inside out: A path toward finding and mobilising a community's assets, by J. P. Kretzmann & J. L. McKnight.

This guide summarises lessons learned by studying successful community-building initiatives in hundreds of neighborhoods across the United States. It outlines in simple, "neighborhood-friendly" terms what local communities can do to start their own journey down the path of asset-based development.

City-sponsored community building: Savannah's grants for blocks story, by D. Puntenney.

This book gives a detailed description of the Savannah Grants for Blocks scheme. This scheme was introduced to encourage residents to participate in identifying and solving problems in their local area. By helping to clean up and beautify their environment they met and worked with other residents. A feeling of community and pride in their neighbourhood grew out of this scheme. The book includes information on the history of the program, the outcomes, residents' stories and a step-by-step guide to administering a small grants program.

A guide to building sustainable organisations from the inside out: An organisational capacity-building toolbox, by D. Puntenney.

This workbook provides a detailed description of a successful capacity building project. It includes activities and tools that other groups may find useful.

A guide to capacity inventories: Mobilising the community skills of local resident, by J. P. Kretzmann & J. L. McKnight.

This guide reports on how a number of community groups developed and implemented a capacity inventory project which was used to identify the gifts and skills of local people. A wide range of inventories for a number of different kinds of communities are discussed.

A guide to creating a neighborhood information exchange: Building communities by connecting local skills and knowledge, by J. P. Kretzmann & J. L. McKnight.

This guide provides simple and practical steps that can help small organisations develop a local information sharing and referral service.

A guide to evaluating asset-based community development: Lessons, challenges, and opportunities, by T. Dewar.

This guide provides information on how evaluation can help

improve the work of community builders. Important issues and problems that are often encountered in evaluating community building are identified and clarified. A variety of solutions are suggested.

A guide to mapping and mobilising the associations in local neighborhoods, by N. Turner, J. L. McKnight & J. P. Kretzmann.

This book provides information on what steps are needed for identifying and mapping the capacities of associations in the community. Five field methods for mapping local associations, findings of a not-for-profit organisation that has conducted a mapping project and new ways to mobilize neighbourhood associations are described.

A guide to mapping consumer expenditures and mobilising consumer expenditure capacities, by J. P. Kretzmann & J. L. McKnight.

This guide examines how to understand the spending patterns of people and how to encourage them to spend their money locally. One part of the guide presents a simple method of mapping the spending patterns of every day items as well as larger, less frequent purchases. The second part focuses on ways of connecting local vendors with local purchasers and educating people about the benefits of spending their money locally.

A guide to mapping local business assets and mobilising local business capacities, by J. P. Kretzmann & J. L. McKnight.

This guide will help you understand what contributions local businesses are making in regard to building the local economy. It is based on the experiences of one community group. The guide provides practical information on how to map the assets of a community in regard to the businesses located within it and how to contact those businesses in order to encourage them to participate in local economic development projects.

Leading by stepping back: A guide for city officials on building neighborhood capacity, by H. Moore & D. Puntenney.

This book explains how local government and local residents can work together to improve their community. Once government workers learnt to step back and work in partnership with the residents, rather than assuming a position of control, fantastic improvements were achieved.

Newspapers and neighborhoods: Strategies for achieving responsible coverage of local communities, by J. P. Kretzmann & J. L. McKnight.

This book explores the relationship between local communities and the newspapers that write about them. It suggests ways in which people can make a difference to the type of coverage and how the community is portrayed by the papers.

The organisation of hope: A workbook for rural asset-based community development, by L. K. Snow & S. Dickard.

Many rural communities are facing hard times and many are disappearing. This book explores how rural communities can be re-built and re-animated by the local people working together. The book has many stories and examples of successful community building projects in rural communities. Rather than offering a one-size-fits-all approach, the authors hope to inspire rural community leaders to be creative and work with the unique talents and skills of their community to address the unique challenges faced by their community.

Community participation

Health promotion know-how: Notes from the field on a model of community participation, by J. Walsh & P. North, Ashfield, NSW, FPA Health, 2002.

The authors describe a model they developed to carry out health promotion with disadvantaged groups of people. They were aiming to encourage people to use community health services, make informed choices, and encourage input and control over health issues. They discuss community participation in general, the model they developed, and several community participation projects. They provide what they consider to be eight important parts to doing community

participation, and outline an example of a session plan.

Disabled children

Children with disabilities: We can help, presented by C. Green, Double Bay, NSW, AVP, c1995, 1 videocassette (50 min.).

Dr Green looks at the particular problems and concerns that face the parents and relatives of the disabled child. In particular he talks to families who have found solutions that work for them.

Family support programs

Designing family support programs: Building children, family and community resilience, by M. Sims, Altona, Vic, Common Ground, 2002.

The author provides a framework for understanding family support programs that will assist in formulating programs at policy and procedural levels. She looks particularly at Australian and New Zealand examples and environments, but provides a brief history of family support that begins in the United States. She discusses why family support programs are needed; the aims of these programs; the theoretical underpinnings of family support; the components of family support, particularly early intervention, community focused and targeted family support; staff and staff training; and evaluation.

Foetal Alcohol Syndrome

Women, wine, wellness. Part II, Foetal Alcohol Syndrome, [United States], Gerald T. Rogers Productions, Somerville, Vic., Living Solutions [distributor], c1991, 1 videocassette (9 min.).

Foetal Alcohol Syndrome, the resultant effect of alcohol on the foetus, is responsible for numerous congenital defects. This program addresses the cause and effect of the Syndrome, clearly explaining the technical aspects as well as providing basic prevention guidelines. While important for all ages, this program is especially for young women of ages 15-25 years.

Health and development videos

Health and human development series, produced & edited by M. Alberti, Williamstown (Vic.), Appleseed Productions, c1993.

This series of parent education videos cover a wide range of health

and development issues. Titles are: The age of two (25 minutes); The family (28 minutes); The first months (24 minutes); Infant development (20 minutes); Nutrition (25 minutes); Preparing for birth (25 minutes); Self esteem (28 minutes); Socialisation (26 minutes); Teenage boys (23 minutes); and Teenage girls (24 minutes).

Indigenous families

Growing up kids: Ideas for building strong families, [Perth], Family and Childrens Services, [1997?], 1 videocassette (15 min.).

Ideas about growing up kids and building strong Aboriginal communities are given in this video. Areas covered include yarning, self esteem, identity and respect. It is designed so it can be watched by individuals or groups and allows for pauses for discussion.

Parenting resources

Chasing ideas: The fun of freeing your child's imagination, by C. Durham, Sydney, NSW, Finch Publishing, 2001.

Nothing is more important than helping children think for themselves, the author says. Encouraging curiosity, observation and awareness empowers them and helps them understand issues, solve problems and make thoughtful decisions. She provides tips for facilitating adventurous and playful discussion about important concepts and questions. She aims to assist parents to help children think in an enhanced way and build a trusting relationship with their children.

Easy parenting, by K. Mellor & E. Mellor, Sydney, NSW, Finch Publishing, 2001.

The authors provide advice to busy parents on how to help their children grow into healthy and happy adults. The areas they discuss are parenting with love, discipline, the technique of 'standing to decide', knowing when and how to act, communicating clearly, paying active attention, using repetition to help children learn, developing self esteem, and managing siblings.

Fight-free families, by J. Hall, Sydney, NSW, Finch Publishing, 2001.

Although fighting in families is inevitable, the author suggests that parents should set realistic standards for cooperative behaviour. In this way, fights can be prevented or minimised and resolved. She

emphasises that it is important for children to learn how to avoid and resolve conflicts. She provides advice on understanding family fights, fight prevention, fight control with younger children, preventing and managing fights with teenagers, and family meetings.

A handbook for happy families: A practical and fun-filled guide to managing children's behaviour, by J. Irvine, Sydney, NSW, Finch Publishing, 2002.

The author provides practical advice on parenting issues. He explains the happy/sad face discipline system, which he developed. He discusses parenting by step-parents, single parents, gay and lesbian parents, parents of twins and grandparents. In the three main sections of the book he discusses a range of approximately 40 common behaviours that children exhibit, divided by the following age groups: baby and preschoolers aged 0-5 years; school aged children 6-11 years; and high school children aged 12-16 years.

The happy family, by K. Mellor & E. Mellor, Sydney, NSW, Finch Publishing, 2001.

Families are the primary training grounds for teaching children the skills needed for adulthood, the authors say. They stress that it is important to take the time to manage families well, as families will have difficulty coping if this is not done. They provide practical tips for achieving a well managed family and making it enjoyable. They discuss the job of being a parent, successful parenting, family patterns and dynamics, balancing work and family life, working as a team, handling parental conflict, grounding, relaxation, family meetings, and couple time.

Strength cards for kids, Concept, development and text by R. Deal, artwork, design and production by J. Veeken, Bendigo, Vic., St. Luke's, c1996, 40 activity cards, 1 information booklet.

A set of cards aimed at reminding children of their strengths and increasing their self esteem.

Self help

Self repair tool kit, by R. Snyder, Falcon, WA, WISDOM in Your Life, 2002, 4 booklets, 1 sound CD.

This self-repair toolkit aims to allow people to have therapy in their own home at their own pace. As well as



a guided meditation CD, poster paints and brush, and a customised journal, the kit has book that provides 'an understanding of where you are in your life', and one that provides "an understanding of who you are". There is also a workbook that presents over 150 activities.

Learned optimism, by M. Seligman, New York, Pocket Books, c1998.

This self help book outlines behaviour modification methods to build optimism, decrease negative thoughts, and encourage happiness. The book is for use by average adults, with brief references to children and those at risk of depression.

Siblings

Beyond sibling rivalry: How to help your children become cooperative, caring, and compassionate, by P. Goldenthal, New York, Owl Books, 2000.

In this groundbreaking look at sibling rivalry, Dr Peter Goldenthal offers a whole new view into children's relationships with one another: in the context of the family as a whole. *Beyond Sibling Rivalry* illustrates that how your children get along is actually influenced by many factors: how you related to your parents and siblings; how you treat each of your children; how you communicate with your partner; and how you differentiate between your own psychological issues and those of your children. Using many different types of family problems as examples, Dr Goldenthal provides practical guidelines and tools for reducing friction among children and resolving sibling conflicts. (Book cover)

Team work

Strengths in teams: 28 qualities of successful teamwork, Concept, development and text by R. Deal, artwork, design and production by J. Veeken, St Luke's Anglicare, Bendigo, Vic., St. Luke's Innovative Resources, 1999, 28 activity cards, 1 booklet.

Strengths in Teams is St Luke's Innovative Resources' vision of the key qualities of successful teamwork. It suggests 28 qualities that may be relevant to building successful teamwork. A range of different types of teams is covered, and the kit comprises illustrated cards which can act as springboards for discussion and/or a theme for reflection.

Conferences

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This short selection of forthcoming conferences is taken from the Internet listing on the SFLEX website, which is regularly updated. For the complete, up-to-date list, refer to www.aifs.gov.au/sf/confs.html

10-11 July, 2004 Action Learning, Action Research and Process Management Darwin

With the theme Action in the Top End - The Power of Story, the ALARPM national conference will be an exploration of learning and research in action in people's lives. The conference is designed to enable ALARPM members and others to experience the uniqueness of Australia's tropical north with all of its cultural and environmental richness.

Further information: Web: <http://www.alarpm.org.au/>

25-27 July 2004 Broadening the Vision: Building Cohesive Communities for Children and Families Melbourne, Vic

The Victorian chapter of Early Childhood Intervention Australia (ECIA) invites participants to the 6th biennial National Conference which will focus on the benefits that the provision of inclusive, positive, community oriented opportunities bring for children with additional needs and their families.

Further information: Conference Design Pty Ltd, PO Box 342, Sandy Bay, Tas 7006. Email: mail@cde.sign.com.au. Web: <http://www.cde.sign.com.au/ecia2004>

2-4 August 2004 National Child and Family Services Sydney, NSW

Knowledge into Action! Effective Practice for Child and Family Services - this conference will have streamed sessions on: out of home care for children and young

people; working with Indigenous children, families and communities; supporting families - prevention and intervention; and participation of children and young people.

Further information: Sharon Low, Conference Organiser, Matrix On Board. Email: sharyn@mob.com.au. Tel: 02 4572 3079. Fax: 02 4572 3972. Web: <http://www.acwa.asn.au/conf2004/>

26-28 August 2004 Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health Alice Springs, NT

The 2004 National SARRAH Conference has the theme Walking together, side by side. This conference for rural and remote allied health professionals will explore a range of themes, including politics, policies and money; service models; IT and telehealth; Indigenous health issues; workforce issues.

Further information: The 2004 National SARRAH Conference, C/- National Rural Health Alliance PO Box 280, Deakin West ACT 2600. Phone: 02 6285 4660. Fax: 02 6285 4670. Email: conference@ruralhealth.org.au; register@ruralhealth.org.au. Web: <http://www.sarrah.org.au>

1-2 October 2004 The Critical Early Childhood Years - Rethinking Current Interventions and Strategies Melbourne, Vic

This is the 3rd National Conference from the Queen Elizabeth Centre, an early parenting centre with an eighty-five year history of supporting and educating parents. Conference themes are: Care and education in early childhood; New understandings of early childhood; High needs families and high-risk infants; Prevention and early intervention for parents and children: building competence; Early parenting education.

Further information: Gini Solutions, PO Box 123, East Kew Vic 3102. Tel: (03) 9859 5508. Mobile: 0419 178 138. Fax: (03) 9859 0519. Email: giniolutions@bigpond.com. QEC website: <http://www.qec.org.au>

Global Social Work Congress 2004 "Reclaiming Civil Society" 2 - 5 October 2004 Adelaide Convention Centre, SA

The IFSW, IASSW, AASW and the AASWWE are hosting the Global Social Work Congress 2004. This collaboration combines the 17th World Conference of the IFSW, the 32nd Bi-Annual Congress of the IASSW and the 29th National Conference of the AASW.

The major theme of this conference is "Reclaiming Civil Society". With unprecedented global transformations occurring in our social institutions, economies and technologies, Global Social Work 2004 looks to challenge and support Social Workers to provide leadership for the active re-engagement of citizens in participative communities, locally, nationally and globally.

Further information: please visit the congress website: www.icms.com.au/ifsw or email ifsw@icms.com.au

13-15 October 2004 Diverse voices in evaluation Adelaide, SA

Major themes at the Australian Evaluation Society International Conference include: Cultural diversity; Stakeholder diversity; Evaluation diversity; Contemporary issues. Preconference workshops will be held 11 and 12 October.

Further information: Email: aes2004@sapmea.asn.au. Web: <http://www.sapmea.asn.au/conventions/aes2004/index.html>

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