Summary of the ASSET SURVEY administered in September, 2006, to the 9th and 12th grade classes at Orchard Park High School.

Comparison is also made to the first survey administered in the Spring, 2003, to the then 8th grade and 11th grade classes.

The 2006 Survey was offered to the classes by the Orchard Park Community Youth Council.
Developmental Assets: A Profile of Our Youth

Presentation compiled by Mary-Diana Pouli & Mike Druding
Summary of the Developmental Asset Survey of Fall, 2006
What are ASSETS?

• ASSETS
  – vital signs of healthy youth
  – 40 characteristics internal and external to the youth
  – reflect the degree to which our youth may be less likely to engage in risk-taking behaviors
What are ASSETS?

• ASSETS
  – Assets actually decrease from 6th through 11th grade
  – Girls tend to have slightly more assets than boys
Background on the Developmental Assets Survey in Orchard Park

- First survey: Spring, 2003, to the 8th Grade Class of 2007 & the 11th Grade Class of 2004
- Second survey: Fall, 2006, to the 9th Grade Class of 2010 & the 12th Grade Class of 2007
- Survey prepared by the Search Institute [www.search-institute.org]
- Overview of the results from the 2006 Survey & the 2003 Survey will be presented—both sets of results serve as Baselines versus “Comparisons”
Background on the Developmental Assets Survey in Orchard Park

Two Shifts To Focus On:

First Shift
From fixing young people’s problems ... to
Promoting young people’s strengths

Second Shift
Beyond programs ... to
Building relationships
ASSET SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS

![Bar chart showing the number of males and females surveyed in grades 8 to 12 in 2003 and 2006.](chart.png)
External Assets

Support
Empowerment
Boundaries & Expectations
Constructive Use of Time
Percent of Youth Reporting: External Asset

Empowerment

Community Values Youth, Youth as Resources, Service to Others, Safety

[Bar chart showing the percent of youth reporting for each category in 2003 and 2006]
Percent of Youth Reporting: External Asset Boundaries & Expectations

- Family Boundaries
- School Boundaries
- Neighborhood Boundaries
- Adult Role Models
- Positive Peer Influence
- High Expectations

Comparison between 2003 and 2006
Percent of Youth Reporting: External Asset

Constructive Use of Time

- Creative Activities
- Youth Programs
- Religious Community
- Time at Home

Comparison between 2003 and 2006.
Internal Assets

Commitment to Learning
Positive Values
Social Competencies
Positive Identity
% of Youth Reporting: Internal Asset

Commitment to Learning

- Achievement Motivation
- School Engagement
- Homework
- Bonding to School
- Reading for Pleasure

2003 vs 2006
% of Youth Reporting: Internal Asset
Positive Values

Caring
Equality & Social Justice
Integrity
Honesty
Responsibility
Restraint

2003
2006
% of Youth Reporting: Internal Asset

**Social Competencies**

- Planning & Decision Making
- Interpersonal Competence
- Cultural Competence
- Resistance Skills
- Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Bar chart comparing the percentage of youth reporting on these competencies in 2003 and 2006.
% of Youth Reporting: Internal Asset

Positive Identity

- Personal Powder
- Self-esteem
- Sense of Purpose
- Positive View of Personal Future

Comparison between years 2003 and 2006.
Average Number of Assets Reported by OUR YOUTH

Total Grade 8/9 Grade 11/12

2003 2006
OPHS Youth Reporting

Thriving Indicators

- Succeeds in School
- Helps Others
- Values Diversity
- Maintains Good Health

2003 vs. 2006
% of Youth Reporting:
Focus on Riskiest Behaviors

Drinking Parties
Alcohol--use last month
Sexual Intercourse--at least once
Sexual Intercourse-- 3+ times in lifetime
Have you ever been physically harmed by someone in your family or someone living with you?  

24% of the youth reported yes, ranging from once to more than 10 times.
OPHS Youth Reporting
Each of 5 Deficits

Alone @ Home, TV, Phys Abuse, Victim, Drinking Parties
OPHS Youth Reporting
Attending Party Where
“Kids My Age Were Drinking”

[Bar chart showing attendance by grade and year (2003 vs. 2006)]
OPHS Youth Reporting Binge Drinking (5 or more drinks in a row)
OPHS Youth Reporting
Substance Use Related
Risk-Taking Behaviors

Alcohol Use | Pot Use | Riding with Drunk

2003 | 2006
OPHS Youth Reporting
Substance Use Related Risk-Taking Behaviors

- Tobacco Use
- Other Drug Use
- Drove Drunk
- Inhalants

Comparing 2003 and 2006
OPHS Youth Reporting
Other Risk-Taking Behaviors

- Gamble
- Eating Disorder
- Suicide Try

Comparison between 2003 and 2006.
The Challenge –
Moving Youth to 31-40 Assets
Summary of the Results

Areas of Strength

- Family Support
- Leadership
- Rate of Tobacco Use
- Helping Others
- Positive View of Personal Future

Areas of Opportunity

- Community Values Youth
- Family Boundaries & Communication
- Drinking
- Adult Role Models
- Creative Activities & Reading for Pleasure
- Planning
- Resisting Danger

These are areas for further conversations
The Balancing Act of the Past.... is AT RISK by today’s realities:

- Adult Support
- Positive Intergenerational Relationships
- Safe Places
- Clear & Consistent Boundaries
- Participation in Constructive Activities
- Commitment to Learning
- Consistent Attention to Values
- Practice in Serving Others

- Parental absence(s)
- Adult silence about boundaries & values
- Age segregation; isolation of people of all ages within neighborhoods
- Overexposure to mass media
- Fragmenting of social systems; inadequate equipping of schools, churches, and other youth programs to support, care, and positively challenge youth

PAST

NOW
Behavioral choices made by our youth depend on maintaining this very fragile balance.
WHAT TO DO?
To positively develop the youth of our community, we need to strengthen and rebuild the developmental support structures.
Our community can....

• Recognize that all youth need “assets”
  – support/expand asset building efforts
  – empower youth to contribute

• Realize that asset building is an ongoing process--there is no end
  – establish long-term goals and perspectives based on these findings
  – advocate quality opportunities for our youth
Easy Ways for Adults to show Youth They Care.
{And They Help Build Assets, too!}

• Be relaxed.
• Kneel, squat, or sit so you're at their eye level.
• Answer their questions.
• Tell them how terrific they are.
• Create a tradition with them and keep it.
• Learn what they have to teach.
• Use your ears more than your mouth.
• Make yourself available.
• Show up at their concerts, games, and events.
• Find a common interest.
• Communicate clear and consistent message by what you Say and Do   **Be a positive role model.**
• Deal with conflict in a non-violent manner. Be healthy in your use of alcohol and medication.
Easy Ways for Adults to show Youth They Care.
{And They Help Build Assets, too!}

START THE CONVERSATION