

National Urban Symposium:
Youth & Family Wellness



Poster Session
December 7, 2005

1. "Bucks for Books"

A summer reading program for children living in the public housing communities of Huntsville. Five books a week were read from a recommended reading list. Each participant was awarded a monetary reward for each book read. Sixteen participants read 145 books. Collaborations include: Alabama Cooperative Extension System Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs Unit; Extension Family Life Center; and Huntsville Housing Authority.

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Donna Gullate, Huntsville, AL

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2. "Alabama Relatives As Parents Program (RAPP)"

Coalition (Alabama RAPP) was formed to address the issues through support groups and proposed state legislation for grandparents raising grandchildren and relatives raising related children. Ten support groups have been organized across the state addressing this need on a local level.

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3. “Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Initiative in Dallas County”

An urban program model on the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren initiative which incorporates conferences, resource information, and support groups.

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4. “EAT SMART to Prevent Chronic Disease”

The 12 lesson EAT SMART series addresses the health concerns of seniors and provides volunteers with a curriculum and support materials to meet the needs for this growing audience. For the Spanish-speaking audience, newsletters, handouts, and evaluations have been developed in Spanish.

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5. “Extension and 4-H/Youth Development: What is Our Future?”

Fifteen patterns of success for 4-H/Youth Development educators were identified by a Delphi study of 20 expert panelist. The findings address issues including characteristics of youth volunteers, needed programs, recommended learning techniques, and levels of successful collaborations.

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6. “Listening to the Needs of Underrepresented Populations”

Addressing the need for input from under represented audiences in the formal stakeholder input into the POW, focus group interviews were held in urban communities selected for its high concentration of racial/ethnic minorities and/or low income populations. Findings from interviews suggest opportunities for Extension in collaboration with community based organizations.

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7. "Community Partnerships Provide Resources and Financial Education for Low-Income Residents"

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Partnership Project in South Madison, Wisconsin, provides free tax preparation for low-income residents. In the four years of the project, over 13,000 electronically prepared tax returns were submitted. VITA is a program of the newly established Financial Education Center where low to moderate income residents can access classes, one-on-one guidance and resources to increase financial literacy skills.

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8. "The Hip-Hop Boot Camp"

How do we involve minority and urban teens in a program that has its history in rural roots? Our answer: plan activities designed around their interest! The Hip-Hop Boot Camp gives teens the opportunity to learn about all aspects of the music industry, from performance and production to money management and physical activity. The Camp brought 4-H to minority and urban teens who had not been involved previously.

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9. "Fathers Reading Every Day (FRED)"

FRED is a short-term family literacy program designed to increase parental involvement in Children's early literacy development, with a special focus on fathers. For four weeks, fathers participate in daily reading activities with their children. FRED has been successfully adapted to use in urban settings with Head Start and elementary school populations. Results include increase in time spent reading to children; quality and quantity of time together; literacy skills improved; and quality of the father-child relationship.

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10. "WiSe Up Women"

WiSe Up is a financial education program sponsored by U.S. Department of Labor – Women's Bureau and designed to meet the learning needs of Generation X Women. The curriculum consists of eight modules: Money for Life; Money Math; Money Basics; Credit in a Money World; Savings Basics; Insurance and Risk Management; Becoming an Investor; and Achieving Financial Security. This program has a multi-media delivery design, available through <http://www.wiseupwomen.org>.

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11. "Inmate Re-entry Life Skills Program"

Texas Cooperative Extension and Texas Department of Criminal Justice are partnering in a distance education project for a community intervention program to provide the women inmates at Plane State Jail with education in financial literacy; diet; nutrition and health; and family life skills.

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12. "Texas 4-H After School"

A curriculum with 180 lessons for 4-H after school clubs has helped start 22 new 4-H clubs in Texas. Over \$80,000 secured in outside funding to assist local county programs begin After School partnerships. Success stories from the participants at the national conference for 4-H After School programs are included in the curriculum.

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13. "The Kids Marketplace"

The Kids Marketplace is an interactive decision making game, developed by Virginia Cooperative Extension, and tied to the Virginia Standards of Learning in Economics for 1st through 3rd grades. Students are randomly assigned careers and given a monthly income. With this, they must navigate a month's worth of expenses by choosing between their options at the housing, food, transportation, entertainment and other expense booths. This poster will include program planning, design, implementation, and evaluation.

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14. "Young Leaders in Action"

Young Leaders in Action (YLA) is a leadership program for middle school students (grades 6-8) designed to help students deal with human relations and self-discovery, while learning leadership skills practiced through the development and implementation of community service projects. The program increases their knowledge of leadership skills, confidence, self-discipline, responsibility, social skills, and respect for others.

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15. "A CAPITAL Idea– Getting Things Done with AmeriCorps"

The need for academically robust after school programs is well documented and 4-H After School, with access to field-tested, research-based science curricula, is the answer for many school districts. From Food Science and Animal Science to Rocket Science, 4-H After School fills a gap in service. AmeriCorps members add knowledge, enthusiasm, a commitment to community development and an ethic of service and provide the needed human resources to reach high populations of socially and economically stressed youth. AmeriCorps and 4-H After School - it's a CAPITAL Idea.

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16. "Where Does My Food Come From?"

Sixth Graders were targeted for education on the source of food and the interconnectedness of agriculture, the environment and human interaction with these natural resources, by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension– Cabarrus County Center. In coordination with the county fair, pre-packets were distributed to the schools prior to the students participation in the program. Local organizations, school teachers, parents, and students were involved in planning and implementation. Pre and Post test, a teacher on-site evaluation survey, and an after event student survey showed significant knowledge gained.

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17. "Welcome Baby Family Resource Center"

The Welcome Baby Family Resource Center programs provide participants with parent support and parent education activities. Funded by a Smart Start grant and Durham County, the program includes: hospital visits; a monthly developmental newsletter; peer support; support group for families of newborns; Parenting Education Workshops; family literacy project; and car seat safety. The program targets low income and working families and the evaluation indicates increased confidence in parenting and caring for their child.

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