

The Need...

FACT: Approximately 1 in 3 children entering kindergarten lack the basic skills necessary for success in kindergarten.



FACT: 25% of Bartholomew County third graders did not pass the language arts section of ISTEP+ in 2005.

FACT: 7% of 6th graders and 41% of 12th graders report monthly alcohol consumption.



FACT: The number of referrals to Bartholomew County Youth Services Center and number of school suspensions and expulsions are both in upward trends.

FACT: The teen birth rate for females ages 15-17 has grown 50% since 2000, making the rate nearly 50% higher than the state average.



The Council for Youth Development is a local coalition, supported by a successful, nationally-recognized program. The Council includes our school systems, youth-serving agencies, government, United Way, and a score of agencies dedicated to helping prepare our children to be healthy, successful members of society — to help them be ready to learn; to connect and relate to others; to work, thrive, and contribute to our community. We support many key programs such as the Literacy Task Force, Anti-Bullying, and Family School Partners. We identify and plug gaps in service; we convene and leverage the efforts of many youth-serving organizations; we mobilize youth; and we continue to monitor progress. The Council works to help ALL young people be "Ready by 21™" — ready to learn, ready to work, ready for life.

The Solution...

Age	Learning	Working	Thriving	Connecting	Contributing
0-5	ready for school	introduced to concept of work	receive high quality health care and have their overall health needs met	bond with at least one supportive adult	introduced to good citizenship
6-10	master Indiana State Standards	identify and value all types of work by all ages	thrive in a safe environment - shelter, clothing, nutrition and medical care	feel good about who they are and develop positive relationships with adults/peers	practice life skills, serve others and learn acceptable ways to shape the community
11-14	succeeding in school	aware of possible career paths that give them purpose	develop proper nutrition, hygiene, exercise routines and personal safety	engage in socially acceptable behavior, develop healthy interpersonal relationships and have a healthy self-concept	demonstrate attitudes and behaviors of civic responsibility
15-18	attain a high school diploma	develop independent life skills using their talents and interests	access to medical care and education resulting in health lifestyles	healthy self-concepts through supportive adult and peer relationships and participation in constructive activities	involved in meaningful community activities with opportunities to contribute
19-21	pursue higher academic or vocational education	opportunity for career success	awareness and ability to be healthy physically and emotionally	understand how their actions impact themselves and those around them	positively involved in the community