



# Asset-Building Checklist for Your Organization

There are a number of ways your organization can build assets. You can build assets internally through policies, practices, and procedures, and externally through involvement in the community and support for asset-building initiatives and efforts. While this is not a scientific assessment, you can use this checklist to see how you're currently building Developmental Assets as well as to identify areas you could strengthen.

## Vision, Mission, and Values

	We already do this	We could do this better	We're unable to do this
1. Does our mission statement reflect a focus on or commitment to children and youth?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Do our mission and goals reflect a commitment to the overall well-being of the community in addition to our specific initiative?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Do we consider the impact on children and youth as we make major decisions and do strategic planning?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. In trying to make our vision a reality, do we focus primarily on long-term outcomes, not just short-term results?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Asset-Promoting Programs

5. Do our programs reflect the principles of asset building?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Have we identified all the ways our programs may impact or engage <i>all</i> young people, regardless of gender, ability, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Do children and youth feel welcomed in our organization?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Do we make intentional efforts to build intergenerational relationships?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Do we provide opportunities for children and youth to develop assets through service projects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Evaluating Employee Policies

10. Do we have flexible policies that help parents balance family and parenting responsibilities with the work, such as flexible scheduling, parental leaves, and on-site child care?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- |   | We already do this       | We could do this better  | We're unable to do this  |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 11. Do we encourage our employees to volunteer in schools, recreational activities, children's clubs, and youth programs? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. Do our internal employee policies reflect a positive focus (building on strengths, etc.)?                             | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

### Youth Involvement

- |   |                          |                          |                          |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 13. Do we actively seek ways to involve youth (through volunteering, internships, apprenticeships, or other work-readiness opportunities)?                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. Do we enhance youth leadership skills by preparing youth for real roles and positions within our organization?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15. Have we addressed barriers to youth participation (such as money/cost, time availability, transportation, accessibility, cultural differences, and language)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16. Do we publicly recognize and celebrate youth contributions?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

### Community Partnerships

- |   |                          |                          |                          |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 17. Are we familiar with other community resources to which we can refer children and families with specific needs?                         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18. Do we organize with others to unite the community around asset-building strategies?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19. Do we organize with other community leaders to advocate for public policies that support children, youth, and families?                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20. Do we provide management consulting or other expertise/services to schools and other organizations serving children and youth directly? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

After you have completed this worksheet, use it as a discussion starter. What are your current asset-building strengths? How can you build on them? What are your areas of opportunity? What things can you not do, given the structure, nature, or mission of your organization? How can this tool help you in making plans and developing ways to act?