



Building LifeSkills

May Volunteerism

Young people feel valued by their community and have opportunities to contribute to others. Young people have a strong sense of their own power, purpose, worth, and promise.



40 Key Building Blocks to Help Kids Succeed

Search Institute has identified 40 building blocks of healthy development that help young people grow up healthy, caring and responsible. These building blocks are referred to as "assets." Local schools have united in identifying monthly "asset" themes for schools and communities to help kids reach their potential.

I often volunteer my services in the community.

I believe my life has a purpose.

I can do useful, important things with my life.

I have dreams and goals for myself.

I have a good future ahead of me.

I believe I can positively impact the attitude toward youth in my community.

I have a useful role in my community and I know how I can contribute my services.

MONTHLY THEMES

May.....Volunteerism
 June.....Support
 July.....Constructive use of time
 August.....Commitment to learning
 September.....Decision-making
 October.....Respect
 November.....Responsibility
 December.....Caring
 January.....Fairness
 February.....Trustworthiness
 March.....Positive Identity
 April.....Citizenship

Co-Sponsors of this page:

Lorain County Children Services
 Lorain County Board of Mental Health
 Lorain County Domestic Relations Court

Volunteer to start something with Big Brothers Big Sisters

by Marcus Madison
 Resource Development & Communications Officer
 Big Brothers Big Sisters

Being a Big Brother or Big Sister is one of the most enjoyable things you'll ever do. Not to mention, one of the most fulfilling. You have the opportunity to help shape a child's future for the better by empowering him or her to achieve. And the best part is, it's actually a lot of fun.

You and your Little can share the kinds of activities you already like to do. Play sports together. Go on a hike. Read books. Eat a pizza with extra anchovies. Or just give some advice and inspiration. Whatever it is you enjoy, odds are you'll enjoy it even more with your Little—and you'll be making a life-changing impact.

Volunteering just a few hours a month with a child can start something amazing. So why not apply to be a Big today. There are kids out there ready to get started.

Are you? For example, 15-year-old Juwan and his Big Brother Paul come from the same town, but from two completely different worlds. Yet their friendship has transcended these boundaries and has helped Juwan focus in school and avoid bad influences.

The same drive that compels Paul to run marathons has inspired him to get involved in mentoring.



Big Brother Paul Davis, left, talks with 15 year-old Juwan.

There are over 46 boys ready and waiting to be matched with Big Brothers right now ... that's double the number of girls waiting for a Big Sister.

Whether you get involved as a volunteer or as a donor, we welcome and thank you for your support! To volunteer visit www.BigLorainCounty.org or call 440-277-6541 today!



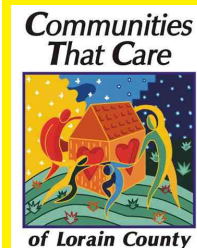
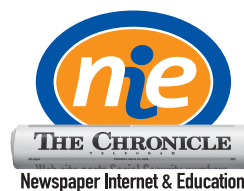
Did you know?

In Lorain County, 24% of Lorain County's 9-12th graders surveyed in the recent Health Assessment indicated using marijuana in the past 30 days. 24.9% of 10th Graders reported using marijuana in the past 30 days – this is up from 16.8% in 2009 (a 54% increase), and 9.4% of 8th graders reported using marijuana in the past 30 days (this is up from 5.8% in 2009 (61% increase).

52% of all students reported great risk in using marijuana but only 38% of 10th graders indicated great risk of using marijuana

8.3% of 10th graders surveyed reported using marijuana 1 or 2 times in the past 30 days, only 1.2% of 10th graders reporting using marijuana 20-39 times in the past 30 days

These numbers were almost equally distributed between males/females and one third (33%) of youth who tried marijuana did so by the age of 12, the average age of onset was 12.9 years old.



FOR MORE DATA:
www.ctcloraincounty.org