

Volunteer Training



Schedule

- Path To Shine: mission; story; statistics
- Volunteer: expectations; listening; boundaries; mandatory reporting
- Children: self-esteem; successful learner strategies; manners; reading skills; group time
- Socio-economic Diversity
- Racial Diversity: Latino; African American
- Discussion



Vision and Mission

- Path To Shine: Inspiring under-served children to achieve hope-filled dreams.
- To educate and encourage under-served children through intentional tutoring, mentoring and enrichment programs, while motivating people to make a difference in a child's life.



The Path To Shine Story

- Susan's story
- 2010 - Smyrna
- 2011 –Macon, Marietta
- 2012 – Smyrna (re-start)
- 2013 - Canton, North Atlanta,
- 2014 - Norcross, Columbus, Morrow
- 2015 - A Jubilee Ministry of TEC
- 2015 - Roswell, Avondale Estates



Why We Do What We Do

- Some statistics
 - Income
 - Homelessness
 - Teen Parents
 - Runaways
 - Prison
- Potential Early Leaver Profile



Why We Do What We Do

- Change the outcomes
- Stay in school!
- How Path To Shine compares to a typical ASP
 - Volunteers first
 - Small groups; small ratios
 - We know the families; advocacy



Being a Good Volunteer

- Expectations
- Listening
- Boundaries
- Paperwork



Volunteer Expectations

- Commitment
- Be present – really!
- Ask for help
- Listen to the children
- Play at play-time



Volunteer Expectations

Schedule:

- Play; snack; homework; reading; group time
 - Review homework
 - Reading for 30 minutes
 - Hold students accountable
 - Ensure English is spoken
 - Assist with group time



Listening

- Communication breakdown:
 - 7% verbal
 - 38% vocal (volume, pitch, rhythm, etc)
 - 55% body movements

Source: A. Barbour, author of *Louder Than Words: Nonverbal Communication*



Listening

- Positive non-verbal actions
- Negative non-verbal actions
- Effective listening
- Reflective listening



Boundaries

- Don't ask questions that may make a child uncomfortable
 - Examples:
 - Where is your Dad?
 - Why isn't your Mom at home?
 - Watch for big eyes and/or puzzled expressions
 - Be aware that things can be misinterpreted



Boundaries: Training & Paperwork

- Criminal background check & Sex Offenders check
 - Permission granted; check completed
- Safe-Guarding God's Children/equivalent training
 - Complete training every 3 years
 - Read Policies and Procedures
 - Sign Compliance Agreement Form
- Liability Waiver form complete



Boundaries: Reporting

- Rob Rhodes, Attorney

Georgia Appleseed Project
School to Prison Pipeline



Boundaries: Reporting

- Suspected Abuse
 - “Reasonable cause to believe a child has been abused”
 - New law effective July 1, 2012
 - Make oral report within 24 hours
 - Group coordinator, pastor, or directly to DFCS
 - DFCS local office
 - DFCS after hours 1-855-422-4453
 - All cases must also be reported to the Diocese



Children's Self-Esteem

- When a child struggles academically their self-esteem can be negatively affected
- Factors affecting a child's self-esteem.....



Children's Self-Esteem

- How we can help build self-esteem
 - Spend time
 - Show appreciation
 - Encourage
 - Listen



Children's Self-Esteem

- How we can help build self-esteem
 - Practice mutual respect
 - Praise appropriately
 - Provide a safe place
 - Deal with failure



Good Manners!

- Make eye contact
- Speak clearly
- Use correct grammar
- “Please” and “Thank you”
- “May I, please?”
- Shake hands when a hand is offered
- Stand up when introduced to someone standing



Classroom Management

- Is everyone ready to be here? (Including you!)
- Set clear boundaries (& expectations) on day 1
- Be fair & consistent
- Avoid confrontations in front of other students
- Deal with disruptions
- Avoid sarcasm
- Where is the good, here? What part did you like the best?



Strategies of Successful Learners

Encourage the following behaviors:

- Ask questions
- Use mistakes as learning opportunities
- Speak up
- Take risks
- Persevere in tasks

Adapted from The Genius in Children, Official Blog of Rick Ackerly



7 Essential Skills

- Focus and Self-control
- Perspective Taking
- Communicating
- Making Connections
- Critical Thinking
- Taking on Challenges
- Self-Directed, Engaged Learning



Reading Skills

- Dyslexia challenge
- Speech vs. reading
- Acquisition of language
- Comprehension
- Factors that place a child at risk
- Reading rules
- The 8 Principles of Literacy Learning



Reading and Writing Strategies

- Share your experiences
- Include as many hands-on activities, objects, and manipulatives as possible
- Encourage sounding out words for reading and spelling
- Focus on building vocabulary through writing, reading, activities and conversations



Reading and Writing Strategies

- Sight words
- Word Families
- Poetry
- Graphic Organizers
- Reading out-loud
- Comprehension and prediction questions
- Review



Diversity

- Socio-economic Diversity
- Racial Diversity



Socio-Economic Diversity

- Your socio-economic background will impact your educational experience
- Definition:
 - The extent to which an individual does without resources
- Ruby K. Payne, Ph.D.



Socio-economic Diversity

- How can we help? Does it matter?
 - Language
 - Hidden Rules & Values
 - Planning & Organizing
 - Manners



Socio-economic Diversity

- Could you survive in poverty/wealth?
- Four Ways to Escape



Racial Diversity

- Definitions
 - Racism, Institutional racism, Discrimination
 - Prejudice, Stereotype
- White Privilege Checklist
- Transformation Continuum
- Dismantling Racism training



Path To Shine[®]

“Start where you can start!”

The Rt. Rev. Frank Allan

