



All Kids Are Our Kids: What Communities Must Do to Raise Caring and Responsible Children and Adolescents

Peter L. Benson

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The measure of a society's health is how well it takes care of the youngest generation. By this standard, we fail. But All Kids Are Our Kids offers an approach to unleash the extraordinary power of community when people unite around a widely shared vision of healthy child and adolescent development.

All Kids Are Our Kids introduces forty Developmental Assets--building blocks of healthy development that are essential for all youth, regardless of their background. The challenge for all segments of the community--families, neighbors, schools, congregations, employers, youth organizations, and more--is to share in the responsibility for taking action to ensure that all kids have what they need to grow up healthy, successful, and caring. This new edition includes new evidence, cites successful cases, and makes recommendations for energizing individuals, families, and community action.

Praise for All Kids Are Our Kids

"A practical, concrete blueprint for helping young people succeed because of supportive communities."
--Donald T. Floyd, Jr., president and CEO, National 4-H Council

"For two decades, Peter Benson has been America's most eloquent and persuasive voice for a new, positive approach to enhancing the lives of our nation's youth. If policy makers, practitioners, and researchers read only one book about how to act in support of our nation's youth, then this is it!"
--Richard M. Lerner, Bergstrom Chair in Applied Developmental Science and director, Institute for Applied Research in Youth Development, Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Development, Tufts University

"Peter Benson continues to remind us of how far short of the mark we have fallen in meeting the needs of our youngest generation. But then he provides a gift: a unifying vision that we can all rally around: parents, neighbors, youth-serving organizations, and ultimately whole communities committed to the healthy development of all our kids."
--Judy Vredenburg, president and CEO, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America

"Benson's approach is the best formula we have for building communities to meet the developmental needs of young people. Anyone who is concerned about the future of our society should read this book."
--William Damon, professor of education, Stanford University, and director, Stanford Center on Adolescence

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