NORTHEAST COMMUNITY CHALLENGE COALITION
COMMUNITY-WIDE ASSET INITIATIVE

Asset Building Ideas for Health Care Providers

While most of your interactions with patients are probably brief and episodic, you can make the most of those times by building assets for your young patients and for the children of your adult patients. You'll probably enjoy it, and adults and young people alike will leave your office feeling good about themselves, about you, and about your organization. You'll also be helping young people thrive and be well; the more assets they have, the more likely they are to lead healthy lifestyles and avoid risky behaviors. Here are some ideas for what health care providers can do to build assets:

- Turn your waiting room into an asset building area. Have toys and books for younger children, magazines for older children, and notebooks for teens and adults that include information about asset building and the NECC Community-Wide Asset Initiative.
- Support the NECC Community-Wide Asset Initiative within our Coalition service areas (Blue Ash, Montgomery, Sycamore and Symmes Townships) as a member of NECC through participating in asset building trainings, service, leadership, in-kind resources, and through the dissemination of the Coalition's resource materials through your organization's special events.
- Collaborate with schools and youth serving organizations to provide health care/healthy lifestyle information to young people.
- Keep track of some personal information about each patient.
- Assess if your organization can involve children and youth in ways such as volunteering, internships, shadowing, and support opportunities for youth leadership. Service is an important component of asset building, and young people need high-quality service opportunities.
- Audit your human resources policies to be youth and family friendly; such as flexible scheduling, time off to volunteer or take care of family, and tax deferred day-care payment options.

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