



# Thriving young people, healthy communities

An introduction to the  
Developmental Assets philosophy  
— building positive strengths in young people  
& the communities that support them

## Monday 3rd July 2006

Immanuel College  
32 Morphett Road, Novar Gardens

for

- **Schools and Community Organizations – staff, teachers and volunteers**
- **Churches staff and volunteers – building the capacities of children, young people and their families**

Enquires to: Craig Mitchell (08) 8416 8428





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## What is the Search Institute?

Search Institute is an independent nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide leadership, knowledge, and resources to promote healthy children, youth, and communities. To accomplish this mission, the institute generates and communicates new knowledge, and brings together community, state, and national leaders.

At the heart of the Institute's work is the framework of 40 developmental Assets which are positive experiences and personal qualities that young people need to grow up healthy, caring, and responsible. In the US, this framework has been applied in over 600 communities and at state and regional levels for over 15 years. Communities in Canada, Australia, Ireland, Singapore and other countries have also introduced this approach.

**For further information visit [www.search-institute.org](http://www.search-institute.org)**

## How could Search's work impact your organisation?

Australian community organisations and schools have invested energy and resources to help nurture resilient, resourceful children and young people. Many organisations and caring services have worked with young people and their families to increase our community's well-being and to develop a stronger social capital.

Search Institute names these strengths "developmental assets" – positive experiences and personal qualities that young people need to grow up healthy, caring, and responsible. Assets can powerfully affect young people in three ways:

- helping to prevent negative behaviours,
- promoting positive behaviours,
- nourishing resilience.

Developmental Assets is based on sustained and extensive research, and is founded in a holistic image of individuals and communities.

Developmental assets include:

- support
- empowerment
- boundaries and expectations
- constructive use of time
- commitment to learning
- positive values
- social competencies
- positive identity



**Gene Roehlkepartain** Search Institute, USA. Presenter and keynote speaker.

Gene Roehlkepartain directs the Search Institute's strategic communication initiatives, edits *Search Institute Insights & Evidence* and the *Search Institute Series on Developmentally Attentive Communities and Society*, a series of academic books. Gene is also co-director of Search Institute's Center for Spiritual Development, a new initiative that seeks to advance knowledge, practice, and international interest in the spiritual development of children and adolescents. Gene has written or edited more than 25 books and 200 popular and academic articles for various newspapers, magazines, and journals covering a range of topics addressing the development of thriving young people and healthy communities.

## Who is this event for?

This conference is suited to staff, teachers, volunteers and board members involved with community organisations, schools and churches that are invested in the development of thriving children and young people, and healthy communities.

This event is co-sponsored by the Uniting Church and the Lutheran Church, through Parkin-Wesley College, the UCA ministry training college in SA, and the LCA Department of Children, Youth and Family Ministry, SA/NT.



## Program

### Monday, July 3rd

2.00 – 4.00pm

#### Session One: Asset-building in Congregations and Faith Communities

What are developmental assets? How can congregations build positive attitudes, values and behaviours in the lives of young people? This session will help church and school leaders develop a holistic view of young people's development, incorporating their spiritual development into other aspects of their lives. Explore ways in which the assets framework can guide programs and leaders, and help churches make connections with families, schools and other community groups.

4.00pm **Cuppa**

4.30 – 6.30 pm

#### Session Two: Asset-building in Schools and Communities

This session provides an introduction to ways in which a positive approach to youth development can shape school and community life. The assets framework, based on extensive research, reveals how young people's internal growth is linked to their external environment. School teachers and leaders of community organisations will learn about preventive approaches to young people's development. The assets approach points to connections between schools, families and the wider community that build a healthy environment for young people's well-being.

6.30pm **Meal**

7.30 – 9.30pm

#### Session Three: Spiritual Development in Childhood and Adolescence

Spirituality is as much a part of every child and young person's development as any other aspect of human growth. Holistic development includes attention to a child or young person's spiritual development. This session will present initial findings from an international, multi-disciplinary study being undertaken by the Search Institute, with implications for teachers, leaders, researchers, and youth work professionals.

(NOTE: this topic is not about a particular religious affiliation, commitment, or community but is about general understanding of spirituality as an essential aspect to being human and being whole.)

#### Costs

Individual sessions: \$30    All three sessions: \$75    Evening meal: \$10

**Program enquiries**    Craig Mitchell, Uniting Church    8416 8428    craig.mitchell@flinders.edu.au

**Registration enquiries**    Helen Hall, Lutheran Church SA/NT    8267 5211    helen.hall@sa.lca.org.au

## Endorsements



### Dr Andrew Fuller

Clinical Psychologist and Family Therapist, Fellow - University of Melbourne:

*"One of the features of the Search philosophy materials that particularly impresses me is the flexible way in which this approach can be implemented in diverse communities.*

*A careful review of the research indicates to me that the promotion of the developmental assets would result in a reduction of risk factors for young people, an increase in resilience and also an accompanying increase in school engagement and achievement.*

*The potential of this approach to have a positive impact on substance abuse, crime and self-harm rates by young people is extremely high."*



The visit of Gene Roehlkepartain to Australia has been arranged by Thriving Youth Australia. A new organisation on the Australian scene, Thriving Youth Australia (TYA) brings training and resources based on 15 years of research and community development by the Search Institute. The TYA Team is committed to assisting communities to initiate and develop positive growth opportunities to all young people.



Thriving young people, healthy communities

## Registration

### Thriving young people, Healthy communities

If posting this registration by post, make a copy to retain for your records.

Surname \_\_\_\_\_ First name \_\_\_\_\_

Name preferred on name tag \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

p/code \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime after hours \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation, school or church you work with as a leader, volunteer or staff member \_\_\_\_\_

Sessions I am registering to attend (Please tick the appropriate boxes)

- Session One
- Session Two
- Session Three
- Evening meal

## Payment

Please select and tick the boxes that matches your session selections as above

- One or Two Sessions \$30 each
- Three Sessions \$75
- Meal \$10

### Total costs

Costs include GST. Receipts issued at the event unless otherwise requested.

### Payment action

- I enclose a cheque for the total payment due of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (payable to "LCA SAVNT")
- I authorise the Lutheran Church to action a Credit Card payment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Type of Card

Please tick the appropriate box:  VISA  MASTERCARD  AMERICAN EXPRESS

### Card details

\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_| Exp. date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Name on the card \_\_\_\_\_

Authorising signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Registrations close 28 July

### Post your registration to

Thriving Youth Seminars  
137 Archer St.,  
North Adelaide 5006

**Enquiries:** Helen Hall 08 8267 5211