



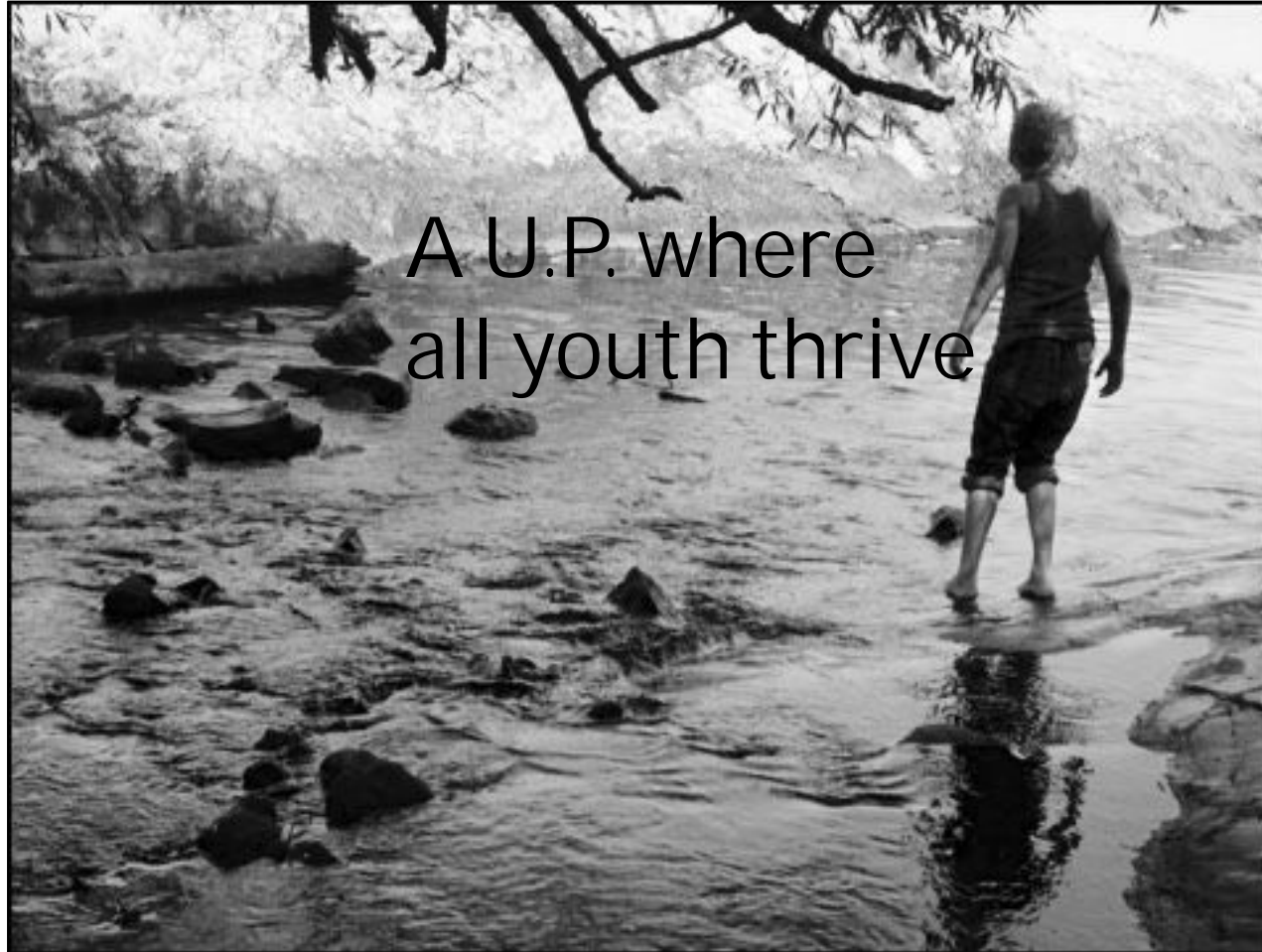
Grow & Lead
Community and Youth Development

Building Relationships that
Help Youth Thrive



Grow & Lead
Community and Youth Development

glcyd.org



A U.P. where
all youth thrive

Grow & Lead helps
communities GROW a
culture that supports
youth by strengthening
nonprofits to LEAD
community progress

Celebrating 20 years of youth Asset building!

- Profiles of Student Life: Attitudes and Behaviors Survey since 1997
- Developmental Asset framework from Search Institute



It's all about relationships!

After decades of forming hypotheses, conducting surveys, crafting and rewriting definitions, analyzing data and writing journals, Search Institute researchers and practitioners have arrived at a surprisingly simple conclusion: nothing—*nothing*— has more impact in the life of a child than positive relationships."

—Peter Benson, founder of Search Institute

Developmental Relationships

Help young people:

- Discover who they are
- Develop abilities to shape their own lives
- Learn how to engage with and contribute to the world around them

Elements of Developmental Relationships

1. Express Care
2. Challenge Growth
3. Provide Support
4. Share Power
5. Expand Possibilities

1. Express Care— Show them they matter to you

- Be dependable
- Listen
- Believe in them
- Be warm
- Encourage



2. Challenge Growth— Push them to keep getting better

- Expect their best
- Stretch them
- Hold them accountable
- Reflect on failures



3. Provide Support— Help them complete tasks and achieve goals

- Navigate
- Empower
- Advocate
- Set boundaries



4. Share Power— Treat them with respect and give them a say

- Respect them
- Include them
- Collaborate
- Let them lead



5. Expand Possibilities—Connect them with people and places that broaden horizons

- Inspire
- Broaden horizons
- Connect



Why Developmental Relationships matter

Young people with strong developmental relationships are more likely to report a wide range of social-emotional strengths and other indicators of well-being and thriving

- Parent and youth relationships
- Teacher and student relationships
- Program leaders and youth relationships

More resilient in face of stress or trauma



Strong parent-child developmental relationships help families lessen the effect of stressful events

Better results with MANY relationships



Preconditions for creating relationship-rich organizations

1. Relationships are part of the mission
2. Adults are eager
3. There is time

How does your organization invest in relationships?

1. Experience
2. Expectations
3. Time
4. Personnel
5. Budget
6. Training
7. Feedback



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Questions?

Sources and Resources

search-institute.org

- Relationships First: Creating Connections that Help Young People Thrive
- Getting Relationships Right: 55 Leaders Discuss What It Will Take to Create Schools and Youth Programs Where Developmental Relationships Thrive
- Developmental Relationships Framework

Thank you!

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