
We should challenge teenagers, make them feel part of their communities and channel their energies to positive ends. . . . What's needed is a message to young people that they are responsible and essential members of society.

—John Calhoun, Executive Director,
National Crime Prevention Council

Combining classroom work with service and social action means learning by doing and giving. It's the giving part that answers the "why" questions students often ask about school.

—Rich Cairn and Jim Kielsmeier,
National Youth Leadership Council

Lions-Quest Skills for Action

GOALS

Lions-Quest Skills for Action is designed to help teenagers become personally and socially responsible citizens.

A personally responsible person

- Has a sense of purpose and direction.
- Makes decisions based on positive goals and values.
- Shows respect for others.
- Takes care of his or her physical and mental well-being.
- Is a lifelong learner.

A socially responsible person

- Recognizes society's interdependence.
- Takes positive action on behalf of others.
- Identifies, organizes, plans, and allocates resources wisely.
- Is knowledgeable about key community and world issues.

The following are the major goals of the program:

1. To support the development of responsible, healthy, and drug-free young people through a partnership of the school, community, and family.
2. To help young people learn and apply personal, social, employability, and academic skills, including working collaboratively with others, making decisions, exercising good judgment, analyzing information, solving problems, and setting and achieving goals.
3. To involve young people, in collaboration with adults, in addressing real-life problems and making meaningful contributions to the school and community.
4. To reinforce positive values—honesty, responsibility, self-discipline, healthy living, commitment to family, and respect for and service to others.
5. To promote understanding and appreciation of diversity in the classroom, school, and broader community.

COMPONENTS

Skills for Action is adaptable to both school and community settings and has been designed to allow individual instructors to configure a program to fit their requirements and the needs of their students. Its three basic components—the Advisory Team, instructional materials, and training and follow-up support—are interdependent, linked by a philosophy that stresses active learning, service to others, and school-community-family collaboration.

THE ADVISORY TEAM

The Advisory Team is made up of educators, students, family members, caregivers, and community representatives, such as Lions, business leaders, and staff from community-based agencies and organizations. The team provides leadership and support. It helps plan for effective short- and long-term implementation of *Skills for Action*, identifies resources and provides continuing support for the instructors and the program, and monitors and evaluates the program. For more detailed information about the Advisory Team and the specific roles and responsibilities of its members, see the *Advisory Team Handbook*.