



The Salvation Army
USA Central
From: Barbara Clemmons

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To: James Nauta/USC/SArmy
cc:
Subject: Arise Foundation – Brief Narrative Report

Since we have talked previously, you know that I am impressed with the materials received from the Arise Foundation. The foundation has been extremely generous in sharing both instructors and students' versions of several tools.

It is my opinion that many of our programs, both corps and social services, could benefit from their research and publications. For example, being committed to parent training. I especially support their series entitled *SPROUTS*. It concretely addresses the different phases of pregnancy along with child growth and development within the context of family responsibilities. It dynamically provides excellent documentation based upon research against promiscuity and early child-bearing. Covering prenatal care through reading to a child, the information creates a realistic overview of parenting. It promulgates the time commitment required to become an informed and effective parent.

The companion series, the *FATHERHOOD PROGRAM*, fills a gap in education. Few programs are written for fathers to help them learn how to become responsible parents and leaders of their family units. I especially like that is written appropriately but discretely to include varied maturation levels of inexperienced, misguided, troubled, or uninformed fathers.

I also commend the series entitled *CRITICAL LIFE SKILLS* for the forthright, current approach to major issues in today's society (i.e., Anger Management, Substance Abuse & Guns, Domestic & Sexual Abuse, Violence and Conflict). Each one of these topics is a critical area to share and study with at-risk, young, and all populations.

In summary and as an overview, I found the materials sent to me to be:

- addressing critical social issues
- written at appropriate grade level for at-risk populations and/or children & youth without being condescending or degrading (approximately 4th grade level)
- up-beat and innovative in presentation (pictures, comics, small booklets, posters, traditional lesson plans)
- comprehensive in information and evaluation
- targeted at gaps of services in society
- focused upon children, youth, and at-risk populations and issues
- inclusive of diversity in sex, race, economic levels, and age both in pictures and words
- progressive in role presentations among sexes, ages, races, opportunities
- structured with value-based, moral and ethical, and spiritual situations/solutions
- encouraging and motivational within reality-based circumstances and solutions
- user-friendly in both student and leader guidelines
- interactive in format while age and maturation sensitive

- entertaining to targeted age groups with varied approaches
- of high quality materials and creative presentation

Finally, I can readily endorse the use of *Arise* materials in various Salvation Army settings according to program mission including (but not limited to):

- shelter programs
- residential youth homes
- before/after school programs
- life-skills programs
- character-building programs
- summer camp programs
- parenting groups (selected)
- health/safety education sessions (all areas of programming)
- corps and social service programs

As with all materials, none are appropriate in every setting but must be used in agreement with mission and focus. In both mission and focus, TSA and ARISE agree with what Ms. King writes is the foundation's mission: "...since 1986 ARISE's mission is assisting at-risk youth to achieve their highest potential, enriching their own lives and those they interact with..." (Latasha King, enclosed letter)

Thank you, Captain Nauta, for sharing the *Arise Foundation* with me. I am excited about the publications and hope the company will attend the National Social Services Conference next year. Anything we can do to facilitate this possibility will be to The Army's benefit. New positive approaches in programming are always needed and welcomed. Cost-wise, Ms. King presents an encouraging willingness to work with TSA in every way possible.

I have enclosed a letter addressed to me from Latasha King because it lists all of the materials shared with TSA from the Arise Foundation. Any/all of the materials are in my possession and available for review. There are just too many to include with this report without request.