

PeacePartners™, Inc. ✦



Introduction to PeaceBuilders

Purpose Statement:

PeaceBuilders provide staff development and curriculum in the areas of resiliency skill building, violence/bullying prevention, character education, positive site culture to certificated and classified personnel who work with youth in grades Pre-K through 12.

PeaceBuilders:

Science-based and research-validated, the PeaceBuilders experience is designed to become a "way of life", not merely a curriculum. It assists site leaders and staff in developing a core sense of safety, belonging, support, and competency in dealing with life's most stressful situations and disappointments.

PeaceBuilders' goal is to alter the climate and culture by positively changing characteristics of the site that can trigger aggressive behavior, developing positive relationships between peers, site leaders, and staff; directly teaching nonviolent attitudes, values, and beliefs; and by providing incentives for young people to display these behaviors in the school, after school and/or community setting. At a PeaceBuilders site, it is these positive behaviors that are more likely to earn attention from peers and adults alike.

PeaceBuilders is recommended for all staff and community members, young and old, on the right track or not, and is practiced daily in all places on and around campus. PeaceBuilders teaches six simple principles through the use of our flexible, skill-based curriculum and adult training along with follow-up coaching and instructional support:

**Praise People
Notice Hurts**

**Give-Up Put-Downs
Right Wrongs**

**Seek Wise People
Help Others**

These daily practices, which are based on scientific studies, become routine, and, when taught, modeled and practiced faithfully, move youth, according to the writers of *Antisocial Behavior in School: Evidence-Based Practices*, in the direction of "caring, altruism, self-regulation and positive relationships with key social agents in their lives (peers and adults)".

Rationale:

Documented published results of implementing the PeaceBuilders program:

- February-May 2000, **82% decrease in physical aggression** and August 2000-February 2001, **89% decrease in physical aggression** *Developmental Psychology, 2003, pages 292-308*
- Between 1994-1996, rates of confirmed fighting-related injuries did not change significantly in the PeaceBuilders intervention schools, but increased 56% in the control schools and **visits to the nurse for injury-related visits decreased by 12.6 %** *American Journal of Preventative Medicine, 1997, pages 459-463*

- **94% of teachers saw decreased school violence** and 94% increase pro social interactions. *School Counseling Brief, 3.1*
- **PeaceBuilders is a universal cost effective program** and benefits an entire population of children not just the at-risk group. *Evaluation of a school-based universal violence prevention program, Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice, Vol. 2, No. 2, April 2004*

Testimonials:

- **Suspensions Decreased by 50%** in the first year (Bragg Elementary, Cerritos, CA)
- **Fights Decreased by 80%** in the first year (Pima County Elementary Schools, Tucson, AZ)
- **Office Referrals Decreased by 50%** (PS 132, Bronx, NY) +
- **Calls to the Police Decreased by 73%** (Deborah Tennant-Zinewicz 7-12 school, Norwich, CT)
- **Standardized Test Score Rankings Increased by 80 Points in 3 Years** (Christopher Elementary, San Jose, CA)
- **Assaults Decreased by 58% and Thefts Decreased by 67%** (Hemet Unified School District, Hemet, CA)
- **Bullying Drastically Reduced and Student Attendance Increased to 94%** (Assabet Valley Regional Vocational High School, Marlborough, MA)

Awards & Recognitions:

- **The White House** – *Helping Americas Youth Community Guide* identifies PeaceBuilders as a Level 1 Program – Level one reflects programs with the highest quality research design
- **U.S. Department of Education Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools** names PeaceBuilders as a “Promising Program”
- **U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention**, recognizes PeaceBuilders as an “Exemplary Program”
- **California Department of Education** names PeaceBuilders to its “Science-Based Programs” list
- **California Healthy Kids Resource Center** recognizes PeaceBuilders as “Research-Validated”

1st Trimester, staff will be trained and begin implementation of the PeaceBuilders curriculum.

- A four-hour on-site training on the basic PeaceBuilders model is offered to all certificated and classified staff on campus.
- A two-hour implementation meeting with your PeaceBuilders planning committee or coordinator facilitated by a PeacePartners representative.

2nd Trimester, coaching and implementation begin.

- PeacePartners also offers access to a “Wise Person” via phone or email to help coach each site. This continues throughout the year, for up to ten hours (per site) for the first year.

- Each site begins by setting expectations and norms for a positive culture by introducing youth to the six PeaceBuilders principles. This is followed by focusing individually on each of the six principles in monthly installments. An abbreviated version of the month-to-month implementation is provided by PeacePartners. See attached.

3rd Trimester, daily implementation plan continues.

- Coaching continues.
- Month-to-month implementation continues.
- Included with the curriculum are black-line masters, supplemental activities and translated materials available online at the PeaceBuilders website.

Options to Ensure Success of PeaceBuilders in Subsequent Years: **(Also available during the first year of implementation)**

Parent Workshops

PeaceBuilders Parent workshops are designed to teach parents techniques to create a peaceful home and a positive learning experience for their child. Parent workshops are a perfect way to develop parental involvement with the site and to increase the use of the PeaceBuilders common language at school, home and throughout the community.

New Activities and Solution Building Workshops

This three hour workshop is designed to offer current sites solution building strategies that address any challenges the site is experiencing along with new activities to enhance the program. The workshop is customized to meet the site's needs, invigorate the staff and jumpstart the program.

New Activities Workshops

This two hour workshop will offer staff members new ideas and activities to refresh and rejuvenate the PeaceBuilders program. This is ideal for sites that have been using the program for a while and are ready for some new and inspirational ideas.

PeaceCoach Workshops

This three hour workshop trains young PeaceBuilders, 10 years old and above, to be leaders and role-models at your site and in your community. They will explore the PeaceBuilders Principles from a leadership perspective and enjoy hands on practice to put those principles into action in the form of activities they can recreate with youth groups at your site. One adult, from the participating site, must be present for every twenty youth trained. To accommodate your needs we are providing this workshop in either a two and three hour session.

PeaceBuilders Abbreviated Month by Month Implementation Plan

In order to meet the needs of each individual site, the PeaceBuilders program has been designed to allow flexibility in the manner of implementation. In order to get the same results that were obtained in the original research on PeaceBuilders, however, some standard practices must be implemented faithfully and these practices are listed below.

Faithful Implementation:

- PeaceBuilders Pledge is recited daily.
- Adults model the PeaceBuilders Principles.
- PraiseNotes are given daily and displayed on Praise Boards.
- PeaceBuilders language is used.
- An active leadership team is present and young people are involved.

- PeaceBuilders posters and signs are visible.
- Adults greet each young person daily.
- PeaceBuilders strategies are used in behavior management.
- PeaceBuilders lessons are taught.

The following month by month implementation plan is a suggested plan and will ensure everyone at your site is focusing on the same principle at the same time. Such a plan creates unity and also ensures that each principle is thoroughly ingrained in the hearts and minds of all children and staff. This is an abbreviated version of the month by month implementation plan; the full version provides lesson ideas for each PeaceBuilders principle.

Months 1 & 2: What is Peace? An Introduction to PeaceBuilders Principles

Month 3: Praise People

Month 4: Give Up Put-Downs

Month 5 & 6: Seek Wise People

Month 7: Notice Hurts

Month 8: Right Wrongs

Month 9: Help Others

PeaceBuilders Approximate Pricing in a PreK-12 Setting

PeacePartners' goal is to create a custom implementation plan for each of our partners. Actual costs vary, based on site-specific factors, such as:

- Number and age of kids you serve
- Curriculum needs and implementation tools you select
- Size of your staff and staff development arrangements you prefer
- Number of sites you have

As a general rule of thumb in the school-based Pre-K through 12 setting, our all-inclusive pricing including site license, curriculum and professional development training factors to less than \$200 per adult trained.

Each site pays one initial lifetime site license fee. Unlike other programs, we charge NO annual site license renewal fees!

PeaceBuilders sites range in size from a single adult working with a handful of kids...to entire cities, such as the city of Burbank, California!

***PeaceBuilders is NOT a one-size-fits-all program.
We DO NOT just sell you a book and wish you luck!***

PeacePartners...Building Peace...One Partner at a Time!