

Adults as Allies

Adult Allies recognize youth as valuable resources with a right to participate and responsibility to serve the community. They help bring people together, provide resources for activities, deal with bureaucracies, and overcome the obstacles. They respect your ideas, give group encouragement and build mutual support.

Who is an adult in your community that young people accept as their ally?

What kinds of things does he or she do?

Who are some other potential adult allies?

How could you enlist their support?

Assessing Your Adults

1. How would you assess the adults who work most closely with your group? (circle the correct answer)

Respect your ideas	YES	NO
Give group encouragement	YES	NO
Provide resources for activities	YES	NO
Listen Carefully to everyone	YES	NO
Promote active participation	YES	NO
Deal with bureaucracies	YES	NO
Overcome the obstacles	YES	NO
Build community support	YES	NO
Encourage critical thinking	YES	NO

2. Check the items which you think need the most improvement

3. Underline the one you could start working on today.

4. Compare your answers with others in your group.

Brainstorm some ideas to share with your adult allies:

IDEAS OF WHAT CAN ADULTS DO TO HELP?

- **Offer moral support, encouragement, and a little bit of wisdom**
- **Help make connections with other supportive adults in the community**
- **Recruit young people to help recruit other young people**
- **Provide a telephone, copier, fax machine, computers, etc.**
- **Supervise events**
- **Share wisdom and experience**
- **Allow young people to find the answers and make mistakes**
- **Make sure that activities are safe and appropriate**
- **Provide training**
- **Help locate funding sources**
- **Provide transportation to projects, community organizations or other locations**
- **Communicate with parents**
- **others:**

