

Assets to Build Strong Families

The Search Institute has identified 40 assets families need. These assets help prevent children from engaging in risky behaviors.

Risky behaviors threaten your child's health. Praise and positive words from adults help build a child's self-worth.

Strong Families Support and Love Each Other

Look at these support assets once a week. Put a check by the assets you already have. One at a time, work on an asset that you lack. Check off any asset that has improved.

Support Assets

Family Support

- Every member of the family treats each other with love.
- Family members feel much support from each other

Adult Relationships

- Parents have support from at least 3 or more adults.
- Children have support, praise and positive words from adults other than parents.

Positive family communication

- Family members use positive words when talking to each other.
- Family members give hugs or express love.
- Parents respond to their child's needs:
 - immediately to their infant's needs.
 - in a reasonable amount of time to their toddler or older child.
- Parents help their children.
- Children ask their parents for help.
- Parent and child engage in small talk. (See www.parenthelpline.org—the Teen Section—to find out more about Small Talk.)

