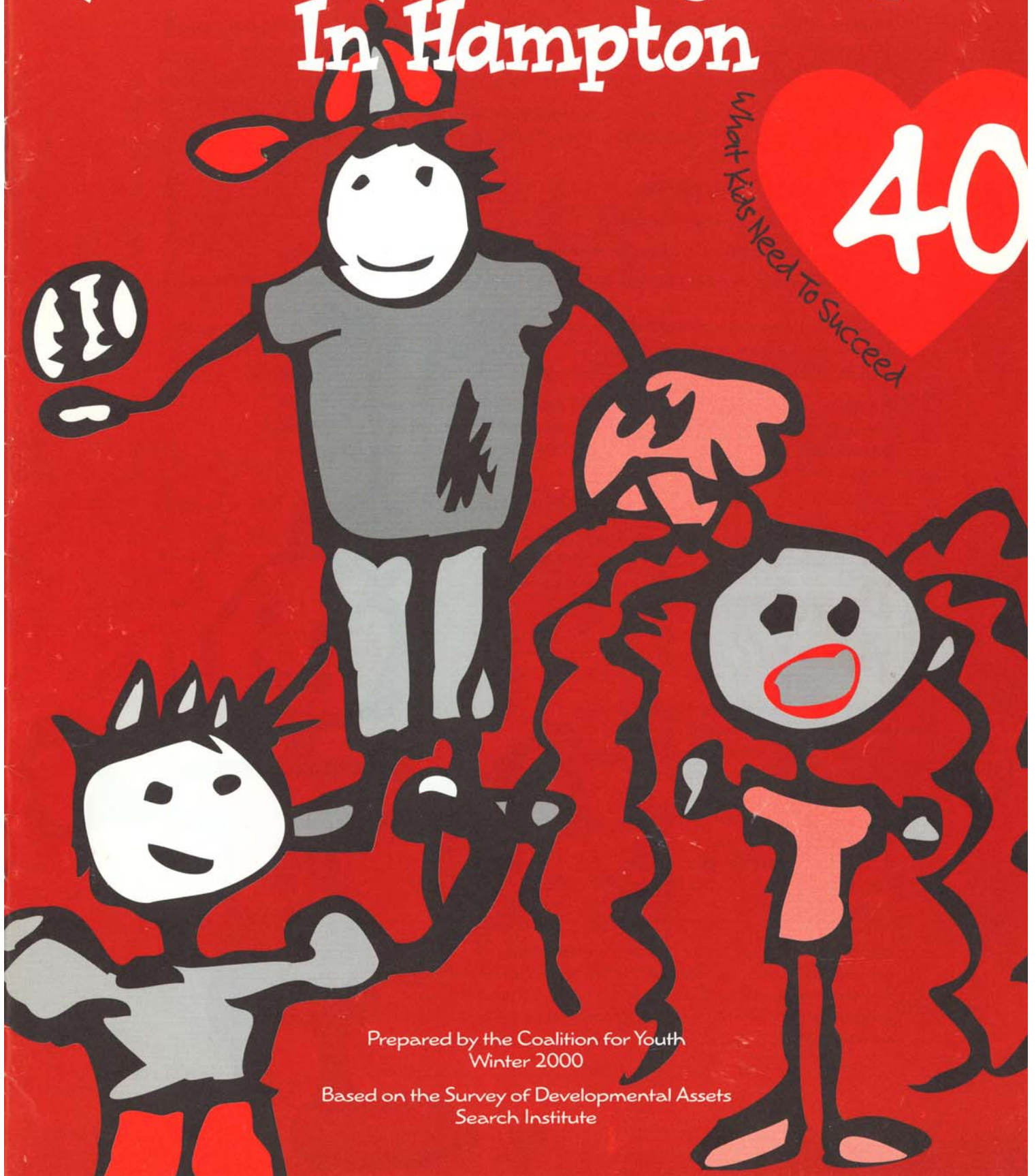


VA, H

A Look At Young People In Hampton

What Kids Need To Succeed

40



Prepared by the Coalition for Youth
Winter 2000

Based on the Survey of Developmental Assets
Search Institute

Background

Hampton has a long history of caring for our children. In fact, over the last 10 years, the city has made an all out effort to make Hampton a more youth-friendly city.

The Coalition for Youth, which was created to support the city's youth effort, began laying the groundwork to make Hampton more youth friendly by developing initiatives to:

- support healthy families;
- build strong neighborhoods;
- empower youth to contribute and succeed; and
- create a community-wide focus on the importance of investing in children.

After the plan was successfully implemented, it became clear that the community still needed a practical, down-to-earth way for every citizen in Hampton to play a role in raising healthy children and re-build the future of our community.

An approach called “developmental assets” was a welcomed answer. Developmental assets, developed by the Search Institute, is researched based, concrete and practical. Most of all, it is hopeful and focuses on youth strengths, not problems.

What Are Developmental Assets?

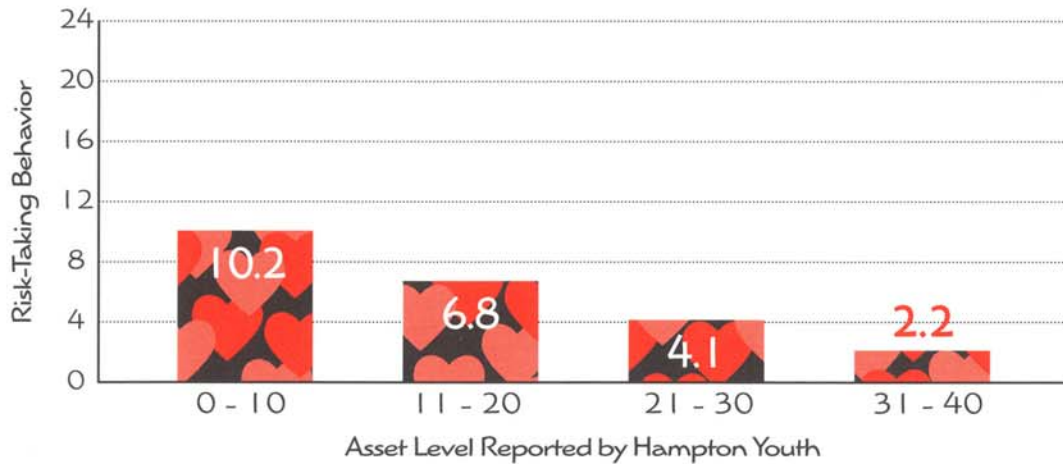
Assets are the essential qualities, experiences and skills that support successful growth and development in youth.

Assets build on the everyday common-sense experiences that young people need to succeed. They work regardless of the cultural or financial background of youth. An increase in assets appears to protect young people from a variety of problem behaviors and promote positive behaviors and attitudes. In fact, as the number of assets increase, positive behavior also increases. Assets have a strong influence on behaviors such as success in school, good health habits, helping others, and valuing diversity.



Power of Assets to Protect Hampton Youth

Youth with 0 to 10 assets have an average of 10.2 risky behaviors. Youth with 31 to 40 assets report only 2.2 risk behaviors. Most Hampton young people fall within the 11 to 20 range and reported 6.8 risk-taking behaviors.



Power of Assets to Promote Hampton Youth

The average Hampton youth report having 4 out of the 8 behaviors that promote success. As assets increase, the positive behavior our youth experienced increased.

