



What is Character Counts!?



Character Counts! is the nation's most widely used character-development framework. It is used in schools, youth, sports, and civic organizations. It is based on shared beliefs and a consensus of values called the six Pillars of Character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship. The Character Counts! Coalition is a partnership of nearly 900 organizations, including 4-H, which has joined together in a collaborative effort to improve the character of young people.

Wyoming 4-H has adopted the Character Counts! framework in all areas of programming. 4-H educators, leaders, and volunteers are encouraged to create an environment in which character counts in the club, county, and state. In order for Character Counts! to be successful in the club, county, and state we must encourage, recognize, reward, and model the Six Pillars of Character in all of our activities.

4-H Educators in every county in Wyoming have received training in Character Counts!. As part of this training, each county received numerous training materials which are available to clubs. Leaders and volunteers should work with the 4-H Educator to accomplish our goal of character education. This can be done by recognizing random acts of good character, training leaders and volunteers in Character Counts!, and developing community partnerships that will strengthen the entire county framework.

Source: Josephson Institute. (2007) CharacterCounts! Character Development Seminars Training Materials

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