



## Life Skills Academy

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A Toolkit presented to:



## Identified Community Need

- ▶ Certain life skills not typically learned in school
- ▶ Often result in costly mistakes or lost opportunities
- ▶ Deficiencies include finance, safety & maintenance, employment skills, health & wellness



## Life Skills Academy

## Projects Mission

**“Improve the quality of life for all in our community, by providing needed education, support, and resources around basic life skills that will help sustain financial stability and create a healthier wellbeing.”**

## Research

### **Goal of interviews:**

- ▶ Confirmation of the need for Life Skills Academy
- ▶ Learn about other community programs already in place
- ▶ Refine our vision and narrow our scope
- ▶ Identify an organization that could operationalize Life Skills Academy

### **Goal of survey:**

- ▶ Confirmation that Life Skills Academy could achieve the intended purpose
- ▶ Data to help determine:
  - ▶ Timing for classes (i.e. weekly, monthly)
  - ▶ Audience
  - ▶ Topics

## Research - What We Learned

- ▶ Validation of need for Life Skills Academy
- ▶ Similar "Getting Ahead" program in Enchanted Hills
- ▶ Kosciusko Cares
- ▶ Pilot program to target high school students
- ▶ Likely need incentives to interest participation
- ▶ Learned of volunteers willing to lead classes

## What will it look like?

Safety & Maintenance	Job Skills	Finance	Health & Wellness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home safety &amp; maintenance</li> <li>• Auto safety &amp; maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interviewing</li> <li>• Resume writing</li> <li>• Job search</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budgeting</li> <li>• Loans</li> <li>• Establishing and repairing credit</li> <li>• Insurance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wellness</li> <li>• Healthcare resources</li> <li>• Healthy cooking on a budget</li> </ul>

## Who will lead these sessions?

- ▶ Home Safety & Maintenance
  - ▶ Ace Hardware
- ▶ Auto Safety & Maintenance
  - ▶ NAPA
- ▶ Interviewing, Resume Writing, & Job Search
  - ▶ Zing

## Who will lead these sessions? Continued

- ▶ Budgeting
  - ▶ Lutheran Health KCH
- ▶ Loans
  - ▶ Lake City Bank
- ▶ Establishing and Repairing Credit
  - ▶ Junior Achievement

## Who will lead these sessions? Continued

- ▶ Insurance
  - ▶ Hall & Marose Silveus
- ▶ Wellness
  - ▶ Kosciusko Community YMCA
- ▶ Healthcare Resources
  - ▶ Eligibility Screening Services, LLC
- ▶ Healthy Cooking on a Budget
  - ▶ Parkview Center for Healthy Living Warsaw

## Operations

Life Skills Academy Expenses			
	Start-up	Annual	First Program
Contracted Staff	\$0	\$6,000	\$6,000
Supplies	800	1,200	2,000
Marketing	1,000	500	1,500
Other	100	400	500
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,900</b>	<b>\$8,100</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>

## What we over came!

- ▶ Finding support in the community
- ▶ Finding statistics that support our idea
- ▶ Finding ownership
- ▶ Finding companies to support us

## What we need to be prepared for

- ▶ Finalizing the details of the Academy
  - ▶ Dates
  - ▶ Time
  - ▶ Location

## What we need to be prepared for

- ▶ Securing support of sponsors for each session
  - ▶ We have verbal commitment for each session
    - ▶ Once details of dates are set we will need to secure them for their date of responsibility
  - ▶ Incentives
  - ▶ Reoccurring Support

## What we need to be prepared for

- ▶ Keeping cost in check and supported funding
  - ▶ Team has completed much of the planning
  - ▶ Donations and grants from community organizations
  - ▶ Kosciusko Cares general operations

## Lets get started

- ▶ We are presenting this toolkit to Kosciusko Cares
  - ▶ Shared Vision
  - ▶ Continued Support
  - ▶ Opportunity for growth

## Where can it be used?

- ▶ Organizations focused on youth and community development
  - ▶ Schools
  - ▶ Bakers Youth Club
  - ▶ Youth Groups
  - ▶ Kosciusko Community YMCA



## Our working toolkit

- ▶ Kosciusko Cares is working with Warsaw Community High School to pilot this program
  - ▶ Large captured target audience
  - ▶ Similar structure of project already taking place
  - ▶ Will show the feasibility to other schools

## Questions