

Learning By Xample Institute
“A From Glory 2 Glory Signature Program”

Introduction

The world is filled with followers, supervisors, and managers but very few leaders. Leadership is like beauty, it’s hard to define but you know it when you see it. Leaders are ordinary people who accept or are placed under extraordinary circumstances that bring forth their hidden potential, producing a character that inspires the confidence and trust of others. Our world today is in desperate need of good leaders.

We must agree that today’s generations live in a tide of events, dreams, promises, threats and change for the present and future. This presses to ask anew, “Why am I here? What is the purpose of life? Why are things the way they are? We need competent leaders in every area of society, i.e., political, civic, economic, social and religious.

It is in this environment that LBXi/G2G will work to identify, develop, train, release and reproduce a generation of leaders for communities around the world. It is a desire of From Glory 2 Glory, Inc. that Kansas City youth will respond to the call of leadership and responsibility by awakening the potential leader within. Leadership is the ability to lead others by influence. Leadership can also be seen simply as responding to responsibility. Leadership is fundamentally a matter of “*becoming who you are*”.

Program Description

From Glory 2 Glory, Inc. through its Learning By Xample Institute (LBXi) trains and develops young people ages 13 – 19 years residing in the Kansas City urban core in becoming who they are. The Institute’s overarching mission is to educate, encourage and empower young people to answer the call to leadership in local, regional, national and global communities. LBXi’s program objectives and outcomes include:

- Increasing self and spiritual awareness among young Kansas Citians;
- Connecting youth to sustainable jobs/careers/businesses in the marketplace;
- Improving academic performance;
- Promoting positive social norms and behaviors, including the elimination of drugs and alcohol abuse, school drop-out and gang participation by young Kansas Citians;
- Increasing the number of “world-class” leaders by empowering young Kansas Citians for positions of leadership locally and globally.

LBXi is designed to connect young Kansas Citians to business, government, civic and community leaders as positive examples or role models from which to learn. These interactions take place in workshop settings and career training labs.

The program areas include Leadership Skills and Career Awareness & Exposure modules offered during the Fall (Oct. - Nov.) and Spring (Mar. – April). Each session covers in-depth leadership training and career options one evening per week for two hours over a seven-week period.. .

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Careers Awareness & Exploration

Careers and jobs of the 21st century are in the high technology, service and communication industries. The U.S. went from a primarily industrial and technological society to one based on high technology, energy, services and export-oriented manufacturing. It is projected that America would move to operating transnational companies. Transnational companies are production sharing systems, in which less developed countries with surplus labor would be responsible for labor intensive aspects of productions while the developed countries would provide the capital technology and managerial skills for operations. “Added to this change, is the need for strong leadership which goes beyond making a dollar to making a people.”¹

Production sharing forms of organization are already in place for various industries in the U.S., Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Taiwan, Korea and Brazil – the First and Second World countries. Production sharing is likely to develop in many other countries, especially those in the Third World.²

Because of demographics, politics, economies and global changes, the workforce must learn how to career and re-career in the 21st century. Careering is the process of preparing to enter the job market with marketable skills to get the desired job or business. Re-careering is the process of repeatedly acquiring marketable skills and changing careers in response to a declining market. LBXi wants to assist youth in finding their life’s purpose and in so doing young people can career and re-career around that purpose for life.

Conclusion

LBXi will assist young Kansas Citians in discovering their God-given life purposes early on and empowering them in the fulfillment thereof with their personal Work or Success Plan. LBXi will lead the youth in the exploration of at least 16 career areas with group mentoring by personal examples from each career option.

From Glory 2 Glory, Inc.’s LBXi has five major components which serve as fundamental building blocks to youth empowerment:

1. Self & Life Purpose Discovery
2. Leadership Skills Development including a Community Capstone Project
3. Career Awareness, Planning & Implementation
4. Educational & Family Support Services
5. Networking for Success Events

By design, each building block is distinct but yet interrelated. LBXi clearly fills a need in the Kansas City urban core and metropolitan area.

¹ Farr, M. & Shatkin, L., “New Guide for Occupational Exploration”, JIST Publishing Inc. 2006.

² Farr, M. & Shatkin, L., “New Guide for Occupational Exploration”, JIST Publishing, Inc. 2006.

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LBXi Program Alignment:

To effectively resolve social and economic problems within the inner cities or urban cores, the young African-American male must be respectfully addressed. He must be addressed early and appropriately as it relates to his sense of purpose and work. The leader in him must be tapped and empowered in order to bring about significant and positive change within Kansas City and across the nation. Proper assessment of his context seeks to define the values, interests, hurts or fears of the community in which he resides.

The FOCUS Kansas City Plan provides the City’s vision of what it aspires to become and makes people the priority. As From Glory 2 Glory, Inc. aligns our mission with the City’s vision in making people the priority, we seek to make the African-American male of the urban core our priority. We align with at least eight of the fourteen principles of the Kansas City, MO FOCUS Plan as follow:

- Reaffirm and Revitalize the Urban Core
- Strengthen Neighborhoods
- Advance Education, Culture and the Arts
- Develop Jobs for the Future
- Create Opportunity
- Create A Better Future for Our Young People
- Build Metropolitan Leadership and Regional Cooperation

Community Partners:

From Glory 2 Glory, Inc. (G2G) draws upon its expertise, resources and community connections to assist young people in reaching their full potential. G2G works in collaboration with individuals and other community organizations such as the following:

- Kansas City & Raytown Schools
- National Society of Black Engineers
- National Forum for Black Public Administrators
- GreaterWorks Empowerment Church
- Minority and Women Business Enterprises
- Local Engineering Consulting Firms
- Local Business and Community Leaders
- City of Kansas City, Missouri