



Life Asset Positive model

to the base of strong community for children and youth

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Introduction

Currently, global society in this era of globalization is experiencing rapid technological changes that are causing many societal problems. These include problems in the areas of crime, economics, and cultural deterioration. What is commonly found when addressing these issues is that the problems that arise are seen as the starting point. When they occur, they are gradually addressed. From this point of view, the problems are unpreventable. The opposite point of view sees that promoting problem prevention is a method that ought to be more beneficial and better able to address various problems.

The Child and Youth Well-being Project under supervision of The National Institute for Child and Family Development, Mahidol university developed a Life asset positive model survey tool to survey the developmental assets of Thai children and youth in general to have it able to be applied by children and youth themselves, their families and their communities. The positive model survey tool of Thai children and youth is based on indicators that form a good strategy for and easy method of having youth and their families gain a good awareness of the direction they are taking. However, with the vast differences in ages, customs, traditions, culture, ways of life, and family social characteristics, it was necessary to adapt the developmental assets index to make it appropriate for the Thai context and able to be used to measure the developmental assets of Thai children and youth as efficiently as possible. This tool was developed overseas and has been widely used, with further development to bring it in line with the social and cultural contexts of various countries. It is characterized by indicators that show the properties for building immunity, including the internal assets of children themselves and external assets, which are composed of friends and activities, schools, families, and communities. The developmental assets index for children and youth is composed of 48 indicators divided into five large sections power: Power of self, power of family, power of wisdom learning, power of peer and activities and power of community.

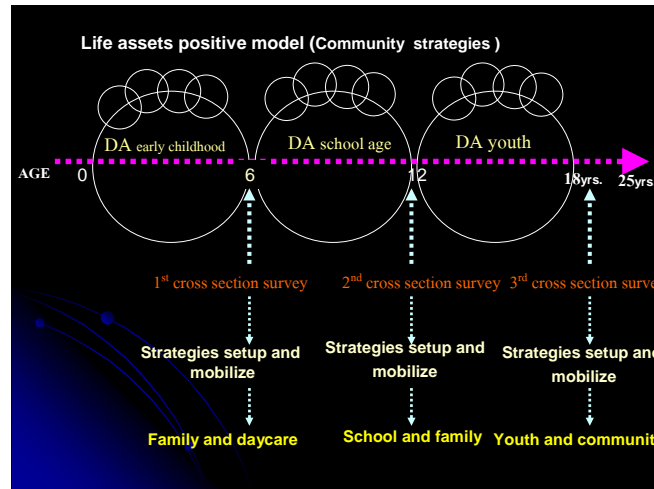
The positive model survey tool of the developmental assets of Thai children and youth completely covers newborns to youth aged 25 years old. It is an easy method for giving youth and their families a good knowledge of the direction they are going in. It is necessary to develop a survey that covers pre-school children (birth to 6 years old), school-age children (6-12 years old) and youth (12-25 years old) .

The purpose of the survey is to identify weak points in the developmental assets of children and youth. This tool is a starting point for the development of community strategies for the management of the development of work in the area of children and youth. It will also be a tool that can be used to protect children and youth from risky environments and various risk factors that arise nowadays. The results of measuring the life assets positive model indicators of Thai children since birth to adolescents will allow us to know about the weak points in children and youths' social immunity in various areas as a power of social immunity so that these indicators can be developed or promoted through activities that are in accordance with their needs.

The Child and Youth Well-being Project **developed this positive model survey tool of the developmental assets of Thai youth in general in order to be a systematic community strategy for child**

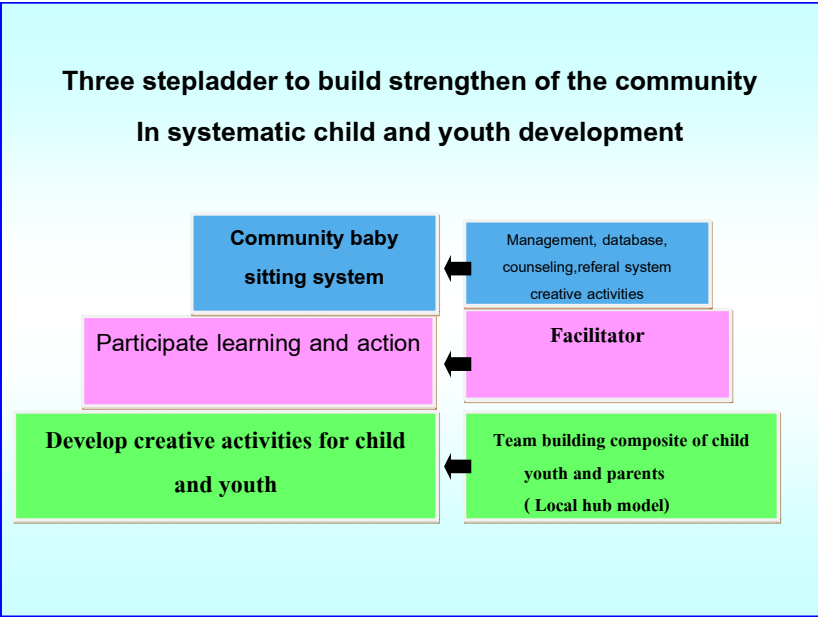


and youth development. This will promote having models of creative activities in different contexts, both site-based and issue-based. The tool is self-applicable by individuals, families and communities in order to measure the weak points in the developmental assets of children and youth and will aid in formulating strategies for enhancing good developmental assets for children, youth, families, communities and society at every level and for every nation.



Turning points of change in the life cycle of children and youth in the three main age periods shown in Figure are:

1. Birth - 6 years: Pre-school children, who have the family institution as the center of their developmental asset building.
2. 6 - 12 years: School-aged children, who have the school and the family as the center of their developmental asset building.
3. 12 - 25 years: Youth, who have their peer group and community as the center of their developmental asset building.



In conclusion, Well-being promotion that leads to prevention and builds participation through creative activities is a beneficial method that is better able to solve various problems than well-being promotion that only addresses the problems. This will naturally be beneficial to the future of countries that reduce risky behavior and other social problems.