

In this issue

The GoodWork Project researches how leading professionals carry out work that is socially responsible and of high quality. Its “Toolkit for Workers in Progress” is a series of materials that aims to introduce concepts of “good work” to young students so that they begin to explore, discuss, and articulate core responsibilities, beliefs, values, and goals for work. www.goodworkproject.org, 617-496-7097

PeaceJam is an international education program built around Nobel Peace Laureates who work personally with youth to pass on the spirit, skills, and wisdom they embody. The goal of PeaceJam is to inspire a new generation of peacemakers who will transform their local communities, themselves, and the world. www.peacejam.org, 303-455-2099

Roots of Empathy is an evidence-based classroom program that aims to reduce levels of aggression and violence among school children while raising their social and emotional competence and increasing empathy among them. www.rootsofempathy.org, 416-944-3001

RSVP: Resolve to Stop the Violence Project is a violence prevention program run by the San Francisco Sheriff’s Department that incorporates victim restitution, offender accountability, and community involvement to reduce recidivism, responsibly return ex-offenders to their communities, and prevent further violence. www.sfsheriff.com/rsvp.htm, 650-266-9500

Research sources

The Center for Social and Emotional Education is an educational and professional development organization dedicated to supporting effective social and emotional learning, teaching, and leadership in K-12 schools. www.csee.net, 212-707-8799

The Center for the Study of Religion and Psychology is the research arm of the Albert and Jessie Danielsen Institute at Boston University. It aims to relieve human suffering and promote human growth through research in religion and psychology. This year it plans to launch a series of studies on the psychological effects of religious practices designed to increase feelings of compassion and loving-kindness to others. www.bu.edu/danielsen/research, 617-358-2969

The Family Institute at Northwestern University is devoted to marital and family therapy, professional education, and research. Its focus is to strengthen and heal families. www.family-institute.org, 847-733-4300

Talaris Research Institute sponsors and reviews research concerning social, emotional, cognitive, and other abilities in children from birth through five years of age. It focuses on scientific projects with promise of practical applications that will be meaningful for parents, educators, and others who nurture children. www.talaris.org, 206-529-6898

In the field

The Arnold P. Gold Foundation creates and supports programs that emphasize a caring relationship between medical practitioners and patients. It aims to help physicians-in-training become doctors who combine the skills of cutting edge medical science and technology with the skills of communication, empathy, and compassion. <http://humanism-in-medicine.org>, 201-567-7999

Committee for Children is a nonprofit organization seeking to improve children’s lives by providing research-based violence prevention, anti-bullying, child abuse prevention, and emergent literacy programs for schools, families, and communities. www.cfchildren.org, 800-634-4449 ext. 6223

The Fellowship of Reconciliation is an interfaith organization that since 1915 has carried on programs and educational projects concerned with domestic and international peace and justice, nonviolent alternatives to conflict, and the rights of conscience. It educates, trains, builds coalitions, and engages in nonviolent and compassionate actions locally, nationally, and globally. www.forusa.org, 845-358-4601

The Heartwood Institute is a nonprofit educational organization founded to promote the understanding and practice of seven universal ethical attributes. It offers literature-based ethics education resources for children, schools, and families. www.heartwoodethics.org, 412-688-8570

The Home for Little Wanderers is a nonprofit agency providing services to children and families through an integrated system of prevention, advocacy, research, and direct care services. Its vision is to ensure the healthy emotional, mental, and social development of children at risk, their families, and communities. www.thehome.org, 888-466-3321

The Kirlin Foundation identifies, develops, and supports new ideas, existing programs, and research that will have broad impact and which will address the needs of children and education in creative and innovative ways. <http://kirlinfoundation.org>, 206-381-2250

Murder Victims’ Families for Human Rights is an international organization of family members of victims of criminal murders, terrorist killings, state executions, extrajudicial assassinations, and “disappearances” working to oppose the death penalty from a human rights perspective. www.murdervictimsfamilies.org, 617-491-9600