

A Sense of Values



Newsletter of the Values Institute of America

No. 11 Summer 2008

We're looking for a few good men—and women—to train young people

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If you or someone you know would like to spend an hour or two each week leading Values in Alignment classes for youngsters, then you need to contact The Values Institute today.

We will be offering youth organizations, like the Boys and

Girls Clubs, an alternative to having their staff members conduct the sessions.

Consistency of message and continuity of training are two of the reasons we will be introducing this new service.

Staffing is an on-going challenge for many youth-serving

organizations. Not all employees are effective in leading classes and sometimes those who are trained are not available to hold the classes on a consistent schedule.

Another challenge is getting trainers properly trained to

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The Wachovia Foundation contributes \$20,000 to Boys & Girls Clubs for Values in Alignment™

David Camden Central Virginia's Market Leader for Wachovia Bank, presented a check for \$20,000 to Todd McFarlane, President of The Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Richmond for the implementation of the Values in Alignment™ process.

"We applaud the Boys & Girls Clubs on their partnership with the Values Institute to expose more youngsters to the values of integrity and responsibility as well as the other core values of the clubs," said Camden.

"Young people must continually be reminded of the importance of embracing these values if they want to succeed in our society as tomorrow's par-



David Camden (center), presents \$20,000 check to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Richmond at the Southside Unit in Richmond. The funds will be used to expand the implementation of the Values in Alignment Process within the clubs. Participating in the presentation are four members of the club who just completed the Values in Alignment course; Values Institute Board Member Richard November (left); Wachovia's Amy Nisenson, VP Community Affairs; and Boys & Girls Clubs executives, Todd McFarlane, CEO (right), and Sean Miller, VP Operations (rear).

"Young people must continually be reminded of the importance of embracing these values if they want to succeed in our society..."

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Pragmatic cheerleading skeptic makes Karl Wagner a fine director



Karl Wagner is the kind of person that should be on the board of every non-profit. He's part skeptic and part cheerleader but above all else he is pragmatic. He forces an organization to look at its mission and values as well as its performance to ensure that all are in synch.

His analytical approach helped him become a mechanical engineer, allowed him to excel in business and makes him a valued trainer. It also helps him identify areas in the Values Institute program that need shoring up, and he provides suggestions and support for initiatives that will strengthen the organization.

Positive Values

"I see the great need to expose young people to the positive values that will sustain our society, and I am strongly supportive of organizations like the YMCA and the Boys and Girls Clubs that stress those values," he said.

"The Values Institute has an important role in helping other youth organizations, but it must find a way to continually improve the value of its services while breaking down the resistance of youth organizations to accepting outside help."

Recruit Retired Teachers

Among the initiatives that he advocates is the recruiting and training of retired teachers and other educators who are not currently in the workforce to become the deliverers of the Values in Alignment curriculum.

"If we could provide trained instructors at little or no cost to the organizations, we could get values messages to more children more quickly than by relying on the training of the staffs of youth organizations," Karl explained. "We might also improve the consistency of message delivery while helping the youth groups control training costs."

Cost Controls

Karl knows all about controlling costs. During a career that spans almost 5 decades, Karl has managed businesses and trained others to do the same. After serving seven years as a

Wagner and Associates, a commercial real estate brokerage that was involved in development, leasing and management of properties.

Moving On

He recently sold the firm to his former employees and today focuses on managing the investments associated with his real estate venture.

He also continues to teach Investment Analysis for Commercial Real Estate for the Certified Commercial Investment Member (CCIM) Institute of Chicago.

"I began teaching these 5-day courses for CCIM in 1980.



"The Queen and the 5 Princesses" is how describes this photo of his new wife, Alicia, her four daughters, and his

Navy pilot and then catapult officer on the U.S.S. Forrestal during the Vietnam War, Karl and his wife, Jane, moved to Richmond in 1969 where he flew charter before entering the commercial real estate business.

"Making money was a real challenge," he said of the aviation business. So in 1975 he began in commercial real estate brokerage, and in 1979 opened

The teaching has taken me to cities across America, into Canada and as far away as Russia," he said.

But he cut back on his travel to care for his terminally ill wife of 44 years who died in 2006.

"We had a wonderful life together, raising 3 sons and enjoying 2 grand children," he said reflecting on a marriage

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He forces an organization to look at its mission and values as well as its performance to ensure that all are in synch.

Rural Shawsville presents challenges for trainers



Area Director, Amanda Melniczek, staff member Lauren Setliff and Unit Director, Richelle Price will be introducing the Values in Alignment curriculum to Boys & Girls Clubs

Your support is vital to helping advance the mission of equipping youth organizations to teach positive values to young people. To make a gift, send checks payable to:

*The Values Institute of America
6802 Paragon Place, Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23230-1655*

The values are the same, but the way the Values in Alignment™ (ViA) curriculum is delivered in Shawsville, Virginia is likely to be different from the way it's presented at Boys & Girls Clubs in other communities.

That's the conclusion of Area Director for the New River Valley clubs, Amanda Melniczek, who contrasted personal motivation, life skills and parental involvement of youth at clubs in rural Shawsville with Blacksburg. During a two-day ViA training session, Amanda, the native of the coal mining town of Grundy, explained the two great pulls on the youngsters.

"A few want to discover the world beyond their mountains," she said, "but many seem to lack direction and end up settling for whatever comes their way"

"Reinforcing the values of achievement, responsibility, and integrity will be challenging, but should yield some positive results."



Shawsville Middle School hosts the Boys & Girls Club where the Values in Alignment process is being rolled

Wanted: skilled teachers passionate about values

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conduct the Values in Alignment curriculum. Our new approach, came out of our strategic planning process and input from board member, Karl Wagner. It will allow us to engage skilled educators, give them

comprehensive training, and then make them available to youth organizations at times and places that best suit the children and the trainers. This reduces some of the uncertainty about when and if classes will be held and allows staff greater flexibility in scheduling.

We're looking for former teachers, business people, home school moms... anyone who has a passion for passing along positive values to youth and is willing to donate time to learning the curriculum and conducting sessions in the youth facilities. Volunteers will be needed in

Richmond, Harrisonburg, and Roanoke this year and in other cities here in Virginia and elsewhere in the years ahead. If you would like to learn more about becoming a Values in Alignment Volunteer, please contact Brian Regrut at:

804-744-8300 or

bregrut@valuesinstitute.org

Karl Wagner

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that began in 1962 shortly after he graduated from Cornell University. "I was from Texas and she was from New Jersey, but we easily bridged the geographical differences." A great deal of Karl's family life centered around the YMCA. In addition to partici-

pating in the Tuckahoe Y's many activities, he also served on the board and executive committee of Richmond Metropolitan YMCA. In recent months Karl has had a whole new family thrust upon him as his marriage to Alicia Fink of Fredericksburg, VA on March 28th has added four daughters, four sons-in-law and eight grand children.

"I am blessed to have this new family added to my own children," he said. And it seems the feeling is mutual. One of his stepdaughters, Ginny Fink Siebers, upon learning that Karl was being interviewed for the Values Institute newsletter, strung together a dozen attributes, including kind, compassionate, witty, intelligent, energetic, and

loveable, that she said defined her new step father. Had she taken a second breath she might have added: hard working, pragmatic and a good golfer. All capture the essence of a man who is a positive addition to the Values Institute board of directors.

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The Values Institute of America

Phone: 804-744-8400

email: bregrut@valuesinstitute.org

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Wachovia Foundation grant helps expand Values in Alignment™ in Richmond Clubs

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ents, workers, and leaders,” he added.

“It’s important that our whole staff is on the same page when it comes to how we serve our members and their families, as well as how we make decisions about employees and suppliers,” said Boys & Girls Clubs President and CEO Todd McFarlane.

“Values in Alignment lets us focus on those values we feel are most important and provides tools for evaluating how well we are preparing youngsters for life beyond our clubs.”

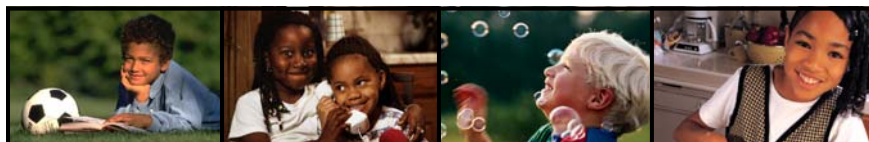
The Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Richmond serve an average of 940 children daily in after school programs in 12 units in the Richmond and Petersburg area. They also operate a 68-acre campground that serves the greater metropolitan area.



Irvin Jennings (left) and Shawneice Howell (right) conducted Values in Alignment training at Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Richmond's

Helping youth organizations to identify, communicate and put into action values that build character in young people.

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