



## FACTS ABOUT CHARACTER LIVES

Character Lives is a character development curriculum based on social-emotional learning (SEL) models. SEL is a process through which students acquire the knowledge, attitudes and skills to:

- Recognize and manage emotions
- Set and achieve positive goals
- Demonstrate caring and concern for others
- Connect with others to establish and maintain positive relationships
- Make responsible decisions
- Handle interpersonal situations effectively

### STUDENTS BENEFIT<sup>1</sup>

- ↑ **13 percentile point** gain in academic performance
- ↓ **6 percentile point** drop in emotional distress
- ↓ **6 percentile point** drop in drug use
- **Level playing field** for disadvantaged students<sup>2</sup>

### CLASSROOMS BENEFIT



### EMPLOYERS BENEFIT



### COMMUNITIES BENEFIT

**SEL decreases participants' likelihood of<sup>5</sup>**

- living in or being on a waiting list for public housing
- receiving public assistance
- involvement with police before adulthood
- spending time in a detention facility
- developing a clinical mental health disorder, including depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress, among others<sup>6</sup>
- teen pregnancies<sup>7</sup>

### FINANCIAL BENEFITS

**SEL RETURNS \$11 FOR EVERY \$1 INVESTED<sup>8</sup>**

### MORE/BETTER/HIGHER

	Percentage Advantage per SEL Student	Monetary Benefit per Student
High school graduation rates	6% ↑	\$367,687
College attendance	11% ↑	\$637,621
College degrees	11% ↑	\$1,138,054

### LESS/FEWER/LOWER

STD diagnoses	39% ↓	\$9,940
Arrests	19% ↓	\$175,702
Conduct disorders	10% ↓	\$3,950,000 <sup>9</sup>

# CHARACTER LIVES IN OUR COMMUNITIES



## SCHOOL DISTRICTS TRAINED

of 26 in CESA 4 (training has been offered to all 26 districts)



## STAFF TRAINED

from primary and secondary schools, Challenge Academy and Viterbo University's pre-service education program



## STUDENTS REACHED

<b>Total assets</b> .....	<b>\$169,283</b>	<b>Total expenses</b> .....	<b>\$129,041</b>
Cash.....	\$137,884	Educator training.....	\$75,850
Accounts receivable.....	\$14,450	Operating expenses.....	\$347,608
Other assets.....	\$16,948	Community outreach.....	\$5,583

## What students are saying



*"I learned a lot about what it means to be a leader. I learned how to be selfless."*

*"The class provides lots of valuable lessons, teaches how to be a better person and practice being a leader—it takes PRACTICE, not a title."*

*"I think that this should be a REQUIRED class for all students because the curriculum is so important for all high schoolers to know."*

*"I didn't think I would benefit from this class. I was negative and didn't think I would be able to apply it to myself. I was wrong."*

## What teachers are saying

*"Character Lives is a program and initiative that will benefit all those involved. It has the flexibility, authenticity, compassion, integrity and fidelity to greatly enhance the culture and climate of not only school districts, but entire communities."*

*"Character Lives is a culture game-changer and an essential foundation for building servant leadership."*

*"Character Lives is an engaging program that will rejuvenate you as a teacher. Simple, easy-to-use strategies will be practiced so next-day implementation can be used with students."*

<sup>1, 3, 6, 7, 9</sup>Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL), the University of Illinois at Chicago, Loyola University and the University of British Columbia

<sup>2</sup>Review of Educational Research

<sup>4</sup>Chronicle of Higher Education and American Public Media's Marketplace

<sup>5</sup>American Journal of Public Health

<sup>8</sup>Center for Benefit-Cost Studies in Education, Teachers College, Columbia University



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