Becoming an asset-rich organization

An Asset-poor Organization

1. Focus is on young people's problems.
2. Only certain people in the organization believe they can help young people build assets.
3. Young people absorb resources.
4. Building developmental assets is a program.
5. The organization tries to affect primarily those young people who seem to be troubled or who are causing trouble.
6. How adults outside the organization behave around young people isn't a concern.
7. The belief is, “We already build assets.”
8. It's okay to blame others for young people's poor behavior.
9. Working in isolation is easier.

An Asset-rich Organization

1. Focus is on young people's strengths and on using those strengths to deal with problems.
2. Everyone in the organization believes they can help young people build assets.
3. Young people are resources.
4. Building developmental assets is a way to interact with young people.
5. The organization tries to affect all the young people who come into contact with it every day.
6. All adults are held accountable for their actions toward young people.
7. The belief is, “We need to build assets more intentionally.”
8. It's unacceptable to blame others for the past. The focus is on working with others to improve the future.
9. Time invested in collaboration and relationship building serves children and youth well.