

# **Fresh Start Program**

## **Livingstone Range School Division # 68**

“...every child literate... every child fit  
...every child possessed of skills  
and self-esteem.”

(June Callwood, author and social activist)

## **Fresh Start**

### **Program Rational:**

There are a number of students who are unable to function constructively, productively and or socially within a traditional school setting. Their poor performance manifests itself in destructive behaviors, often resulting in suspension, expulsion or dropping out. The impact they have on regular classrooms is damaging to both themselves and others and allowing them to remain contributes to enabling this behavior. It is extremely difficult for the classroom teacher to maintain a balance between addressing the dysfunctional student's needs and the needs of the rest of the class. Therefore, alternative programming outside the traditional school setting may need to be considered.

### **Program Philosophy:**

“...every child literate... every child fit... every child possessed of skills and self-esteem.”

This program develops attributes that will allow students to accept and take responsibility, with guidance and help, for their own behaviors and learning, thereby attaining the necessary skills and attitudes to reach their set goals. Components involved are directed by the following principles:

- All people have the right to the opportunity to develop skills and attitudes necessary to function and contribute positively in society.
- All people want to belong and be successful in chosen endeavors.
- All behavior is purposeful and therefore goal directed.
- All people can learn.
- Communication is the key to cooperation.
- Encouragement is one of the main discipline strategies.
- Information is power.
- Mutual respect is the key to positive relationships.
- You cannot have freedom without responsibility.

### **People Learn:**

- In a secure and safe environment.
- When they take ownership.
- By connecting new information to old.
- When subject matter is meaningful.
- By modeling others' learning strategies.
- Through interactions with others and their environments.
- The parts when they understand the whole.
- Through trial and error.
- Through practice.
- Using a multi-sensory approach.
- At their own speed.

- Through feedback.
- By doing.

**Program Components:**

- Assessment and Evaluation- On admittance to the program, a complete needs assessment would be in order. This would involve observing and meeting with the student in his/her home school setting, individual testing (both standardized and informal), and conferencing with others involved with the student (parents, teachers, counselors). Outside professionals would be accessed if necessary. This would allow for maximum student and family involvement in program design and implementation within all program components.
- Emotional /Behavioral Concerns- Through individual and group counseling situations, strategies for managing relationship with peers, family and authority figures will be addressed.
- Academic Programming- This would be individualized taking into account the students interests, strength, needs and preferred methods of learning. It may involve complete isolation with one-on-one, instruction to allow for concentration and focused, and at times a cooperative learning situation with peers to foster group skills.
- Individual Considerations- Other areas of programming specific to individual needs could include such things as physical and nutritional education, work experience, community services, outdoor pursuits, alcohol and drug education, human sexuality education, and spiritual associations.
- Individual contracts between student, family and school would be determined and agreed upon to provide direction and commitment on all sides.

**Facility:**

- Versatile, non-traditional classroom setting.
- Ready access to computer lab.
- Available gym time.
- Central location to allow for ease in transportation.

**Fresh Start Program**  
Program Referral Form

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address and Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) / Guardian(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Referral: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Home School: \_\_\_\_\_

Home School Contact(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria for Admission:

Fresh Start candidates will:

- Be between the ages of 12 through 16.
- Be registered within the Livingstone Range School Division.
- Qualify for the Severe Disability Grant under the Emotionally / Behavior Disability category.
- Benefit from a segregated program outside of their immediate school community.

Eligibility for program and reasons for referral: \_\_\_\_\_

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Individualized programming to date (may include copies of IPPs)

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Other contacts pertinent to student's programming

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent / Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home School Contact