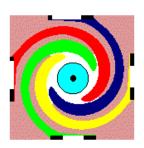


## Noble Warrior Training Camp™

This one year probationary program is offered as an alternative to incarceration for first time juvenile male offenders between the ages of 10 and 16. This multi-disciplinary educational program is structured around non-violence training, conflict de-escalation techniques, and safe ways to vent anger. It is intended to avoid the pitfalls of repeat offenders in the juvenile criminal system and thus requires all charges be dropped upon successful completion and graduation from the course. Throughout the year, at least 24 candidates will receive training in a variety of areas; all geared towards self-sufficiency, nonviolence, honesty, honor, and respect for the community. This private organization will trade for essential goods and materials to work on local community "works & service" projects and thereby, build trust and respect within the community. A monthly follow up support program during the second year fosters smooth integration back into their home neighborhoods, or into new neighborhoods as they decide for themselves.

The Original Concept and Program Content arranged by G. Bender.



## **NWTC**

"This unique, multi-disciplinary program teaches wayward young boys a set of positive values, the ways of a good life in an honest community, mutual respect for everyone's liberty, and the pursuit of his own happiness; without harming as much as a fly."

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

## 1. MISSION STATEMENT

- >>> NON-VIOLENCE AND CONFLICT DE-ESCALATION
- >>> MULTIPLE SKILL SETS FOR SELF-SUFFICIENCY
- >>> A STRONG SENSE OF NOBILITY, HONOR, AND INTEGRITY

## 2. CORE TEACHING CONCEPTS

- >>> HARMLESS ANGER
- >>> THE TALKING CIRCLE
- >>> THE TELEGRAPH CIRCLE
- >>> SHARING THE WORK
- >>> EARNING TOOLS INSTEAD OF MERIT BADGES
- >>> THE DAILY FIRE CIRCLE

## 3. THE SCHEDULE OF TRAINING AND COURSES

- >>> QUARTERLY THEMES
- >>> MONTHLY ACTIVITY SUBJECTS
- >>> WEEKLY RESEARCH SUBJECTS
- >>> THE DAILY SCHEDULE

## 4. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- >>> CANDIDATE SELECTION CRITERIA
- >>> COMMUNITY INTRODUCTION WORK PROJECTS
- >>> ON SITE ACTIVITIES
- >>> ONE CHANCE; MINOR INSULTS vs. MAJOR RULES
- >>> ROLL CALL FOUR TIMES DAILY
- >>> NO FENCES REQUIRED
- >>> HOT-LINE TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES
- >>> ONE YEAR FOLLOW-THROUGH PROGRAM

## 5. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

- >>> THE SITE
- >>> THE PLAN
- >>> THE STAFF
- >>> RESOURCES AND FUNDING
- >>> PROFIT SHARING

#### >>> CONCLUSION

### **APPENDICES**

These are the rest of detailed charts, outlines, spreadsheets, timetables, lessons, and other details that complete the entire business plan for teaching nobility, honor and integrity to good young boys. A complete set is available upon request for potential investors and non-violent funding programs.

For Networking, Comments, Suggestions, Concerns, or Funding,

Please email me: <a href="mailto:greg@future-spark.com">greg@future-spark.com</a>

## 1. MISSION STATEMENT:

This one year probationary program is offered as an alternative to incarceration for first time juvenile male offenders between the ages of 10 and 16. This multidisciplinary educational program is structured around non-violence training, conflict de-escalation techniques, and safe ways to vent anger. It is intended to avoid the pitfalls of repeat offenders in the juvenile criminal system and thus requires all charges be dropped upon successful completion and graduation from the course. Throughout the year, at least 24 candidates will receive training in a variety of areas; all geared towards self-sufficiency, non-violence, honesty, honor, and respect for the community. This private organization will trade for essential goods and materials to work on local community "works & service" projects and thereby, build trust and respect within the community. A monthly follow up support program during the second year fosters smooth integration back into their home neighborhoods, or into new neighborhoods as they decide for themselves.

#### **MULTIPLE SKILL SETS**

The core of the Noble Warrior Education Program is structured in three layers that are interwoven month to month in a related series of courses for the entire year.

- <u>Layer 1</u> deals with anger and aggression; with particular focus on safe and constructive ways to vent frustration, fear, anger, and other emotions associated with confusing, conflicting modern life values and broken families.
- <u>Layer 2</u> teaches all the skills, math, and science necessary to actually build and maintain their own "one room studio house" from the ground up. A large desk and library space are key elements as studies accelerate throughout the year. Many other "hands-on" projects are planned that teach simultaneously as many vocational skills and principles of physics as possible.
- Layer 3 practices a code of honor; the sense of being noble and generous. Each

candidate will be encouraged to find the best qualities within himself and define his own way of helping the world around him while helping himself.

Drawing on the values and wisdom of established programs such as Boy Scouts, Outward Bound, Tai Chi, Gestalt, Native American Studies, and Co-Housing Communities, as well as some completely new Violence Abatement Techniques, this program seeks to challenge each candidate to grow beyond their personal anger into strong, noble young men of honor and integrity, and therefore, break the antagonistic cycle of criminalization and incarceration for the rest of their lives.

The following brief describes the structure, nature and focus of this one year intensive program. Each Quarter has a theme, each Month has a core subject, and each Day of the Week is an activity category. While this program is not a substitute for formal education, these candidates will receive a well rounded knowledge base in a variety of inter-related subjects from tools and construction, to famous people and places, to law and paralegal research, to Tai Chi and acupressure, to sustainable gardening and herbal groups, to lessons in honor and integrity.

## A STRONG SENSE OF NOBILITY

Most of all, this program practices several "safe and sane" ways to vent internal anger and frustration without rising to violence or fighting with each other. Once this internal anget is cleared, they can absorb and learn a great deal more in a shorter time by working in a cooperative, "hands-on" building environment.

In completing this unique program, they will not only learn several trade skills, they will also earn quality hand tools, learn to build a their own house, tend their own gardens, foster their own community, establish their new values, and develop their own sense of competence and group pride for what they can build together.

1. Table of Contents	
≥Top of Page	

## 2. CORE TEACHING CONCEPTS

This program draws on a variety of well known teachings, many old-time training precepts, and a variety of new ones. The Noble Warrior Camp has chosen a unique combination of these techniques to provide a powerful backdrop for helping angry youth transform themselves into proud young men, while learning self-sufficiency skills, cooperation, and sharing.

#### HARMLESS ANGER

For many people, *especially young boys*, it is hard to express in words the deep seated feelings that go with growing up in today's conflicting, divorce-ridden culture. Particularly when emotions are stifled as a general rule of "being a real man."

The following exercises provide "safe-and-sane" opportunities to unload tremendous amounts of hidden pressure, anger, fear, and stress in *focused and harmless ways*. Once these "unspeakable rages" are brought to the surface, experienced, and released in harmless, albeit, somewhat destructive but safe manners; generally three things can happen in the growing process, 1) they don't feel angry anymore, 2) a new clarity and calm perspective follows, allowing them to see inside themselves and the issues at the root of their outburst(s), *and most importantly*, 3) once their internal pressure is released, they become happy vacuous sponges for information, role models, stories, tools, skills and any education they can apply immediately.

"Go Pound Nails" Upon entering the program, every candidate receives; a quality hammer "personally engraved", a 12 ft. 4x4 "nailing board", two saw horses, and a bucket of nails. Anytime the urge arises, as a disciplinary task, and for meditation, each candidate can pound nails into his 4x4 for as long as it takes him to cool off. Then, he must pull the nails out and straighten each one for the next time while thinking about the rage, fear, hate, or pain he used to pound each nail home. Later in the day they each are encouraged to share their experiences and thoughts around the Fire Circle.

"Run the Course" The second month is Ropes Course Month where the daily activities center around building an obstacle course around camp. While not intended to be overly difficult, it will test and strengthen all the muscle groups as well as increase coordination, speed, and balance. This too, will be used throughout the year as a disciplinary task and for meditation about the anger and frustration that lives at the root of any conflicts they may have with each other. Again the Fire Circle offers a flexible forum for discussing and understanding the deeper lessons and wisdoms that percolate to the surface after all the "madness" is gone.

*"Chop Wood"* Chopping wood is a privilege. For obvious legal and safety reasons, there is only one ax in the camp and it is held under lock and key. If anyone wants to chop wood, they must sign the ax out from a staff member, and

sign it back in before dinner each day. The ax will be called last at each roll call. If some one wants to chop wood and is not on the "Chop Wood" Work-Team for that month, he must first get permission from that work-team before checking out the ax for use.

Learning to vent anger in non-destructive, non-insulting ways is a key aspect of this program's training. Using these three basic exercises to build on, the candidates will understand these as important metaphors for their emotional work in later months as the program advances into subjects that are more personal.

## 2. Table of Contents

#### THE TALKING CIRCLE

As the course progresses, more advanced, non-violent techniques for conflict resolution will be studied and practiced. The Talking Circle, for instance, teaches various aspects of the "90° Rule." That is to say that conflicts and arguments only escalate if the two people involved are facing each other "head-on." The 90° Rule works with a well-known principle of Physics that states two "energy fields" at right angles to each other do not interact or mutually couple with each other.

This simple idea can be applied to inter-personal dynamics as well; by placing two arguing people at right angles to each other on the Talking Circle, they both can shout and yell their concerns at the center of the circle without directly affecting each other. In this way, many potentially damaging "self expressions" or "truths" can be discussed, heard, argued, released loudly, and agreed upon without personally receiving the actual insults or emotional injury of the situation.

Appendix D. illustrates this process and lists working instructions for both the participants and staff members.

The Talking Circle is a powerful tool for de-escalating arguments and teaching non-violent ways to resolve inter-personal conflicts in daily life.

## 2. Table of Contents

## THE TELEGRAPH CIRCLE

This is an old interaction tool with a new twist. Initially, a simple message is whispered into the ear of the person sitting to the right. In turn, that person whispers the "same" message to the next person on their right. As the "message" continues around the circle, many subtle shifts and major translations occur. The final message returned to the originator is often drastically different and the source of much laughter.

The next layer up in this game practices accountability. This time each person is required to write down exactly what they hear before passing the message along. At the end, the circle reverses and each person reads off exactly what they heard. In this manner, various translations & interpretations, habitual pranksters and liars will become all too obvious to the group. The ultimate goal is to reach a "perfect match" from beginning to end. Only then can The Important Noble Secrets be shared. These are the basic unwritten, unspoken secrets of Life; the sort of things that nobody really tells you about that you really need to know. Things like, "It's OK to eat Quiche. It's really good for you."

Appendix E. lists some of the Noble Warrior Affirmations.

## 2. Table of Contents

#### SHARE THE WORK

The camp support work and duties are separated into four categories, with "work-teams" of four candidates each. The duties are rotated monthly and the candidates have the option of changing work-teams by consensus "trade agreements" between work-teams each quarter. In this 24 person, revolving work program, at least eight candidates get the month off every four months to pursue their own interests in research, reading, or a project.

## Cooking and Kitchen Support.

The duties of this work-team are to supply complete kitchen support for the Gourmet Cook. This includes all food preparation, service, bussing, and panwashing for two meals a day for the whole month. In the meantime, they learn recipes and basic chef skills, cooking tips, and great tricks in meal presentation.

## Firewood Chopping & Stacking

The duty of this work-team is to keep ahead of the Fire Master and his demand for firewood at the evening Fire Circle. They must coordinate both with the Daily Fire Master about his evening plans *and* the Staff members for time-sharing with the one camp ax. On average, less than 10 cubic feet of chopped firewood a day will be plenty for a 2 1/2 hour moderately nice fire. They are also must learn sharpening skills and maintain the 'edge' of the ax under staff supervision.

## Grounds Cleanup and Gardening

The duties of this work-team is to keep the camp clean, watered, and beautiful. This includes trash pickup, latrine cleaning, recycling, as well as planting, weeding, and watering three types of sustainable organic gardens; a food garden, an herbal garden, and a flower garden.

## Activities Organizers.

This work-team is the information team. Their job is to research the various

subjects of the day and report their findings to the group after dinner. They can use telephone interviews, the Camp Library, and/or the Internet for researching the daily person, place or thing. Listed below is an outline of the Monthly and Weekly Research Subject Categories. Also, Appendix A. has a more condensed listing of the range of individual subjects covered throughout the year.

The *Activity Organizers* are also responsible for collecting feedback from the group during the week and then formulating and organizing the daily activity for Freeday.

## 2. Table of Contents

#### EARNING TOOLS INSTEAD OF MERIT BADGES

Being recognized for achieving new skills and talents is commonly used to motivate people and quite valuable in the overall group building process. While merit badges and colored pins are nice, these items can't really pay for themselves in the real world.

Our main theme is Self Sufficiency. Our noble merit system teaches valuable home building skill levels and rewards everyone with his own quality hand tools needed to build his own house.

This camp structure teaches many levels of knowledge at once, from the respect for tools and hand craftsmanship, to the reason for learning a skill set, to the knowledge of how to build their own home, and finally, to the pride and self respect of knowing they can get a valued job building anything with their hands, their minds, and their well earned tools.

Appendix B. has a more complete listing of the merit tools and skill levels needed to achieve them.

## 2. Table of Contents

## DAILY FIRE CIRCLE

Every day concludes with a Fire Circle. This daily ritual is another crucial element of the program structure. The purposes involved are multi-fold and flexible to suit the needs of the group each day. In general, this is the time for personal sharing and group bonding. It is also a time to consider lofty concepts of society, culture, and spirituality. It is a time to listen to many points of view. It is a time to learn respect for the Fire Circle Ritual and the Fire Master.

This is the time when the value of the day's events and lessons are allowed to sink in.

## 2. Table of Contents

>Top of Page

## 3. THE SCHEDULE OF TRAINING, COURSES, AND NOBLE WORK

## **QUARTERLY THEMES**

Each yearly quarter has a theme and a content thread that is consistent with both the seasons and the natural progression of the program. This is a one-year program and it begins and ends at 12:00 noon, January 1st. with the following New Year's Eve Day being their Noble Warrior Graduation Ceremony.

## First Quarter is about Tent Camping and Outdoor Survival

- living lightly on the Earth
- learning construction skills
- · question needs verses wants
- Maslow's pyramid
- · basic outdoor survival skills
- · design and start building a house

## Second Quarter is about the Transition from Tent Living to House Living

- · finishing house and moving in
- · learning domestic skills
- · question security verses shelter issues
- practice sharing and trust
- plant organic, sustainable gardens
- learn Tai Chi and grounding exercises

# Third Quarter is about Building and Supporting their Group as a Community

- camp community projects
- · learning advanced outdoor skills
- question societal verses cultural values
- learn neighborhood pride
- · learn group defense

## Fourth Quarter is about Internal Wisdom

- meditation techniques
- · learn holistic healing philosophies
- question yourself
- spirituality and beliefs
- · building reality from within
- · choosing a personal Noble Warrior's Oath

This revolving series of subjects, courses, and exercises over the whole year are designed

with the strong goal in mind of teaching through direct experience, all the levels of Maslow's Pyramid, --all the issues involved in supporting one's own life and the lives of others around them, --from the ground up.

#### 3. Table of Contents

## MONTHLY ACTIVITY SUBJECTS

The theme of each month predominates the subjects and coursework of the Daily Activities for that month. As many aspects as possible of that month's theme are taught; from basic skills and tools, to famous related people and history, to the physics and/or chemistry involved, to the ecological effects in the environment.

## January Orientation Month

Candidates will go through the basic philosophy of *Pounding Nails* as early as possible. The entire course outline will be reviewed, and expectations are set, legal and otherwise. Rules are strictly enforced.

All attrition and new candidate issues should be resolved by the end of the first month. From here on, group continuity is essential. New candidates will not be accepted after January and only in extreme cases will "exile" occur during the year, in which case, the unfortunate "ex-candidate" will be returned to the standard correctional facilities to finish out their original sentence.

## February Ropes Course Month

- The students, with the instruction of experienced Ropes Course Coordinators, will design and build their own Obstacle Course around the camp. It will consist of dual sprint tracks, balance beams, rope bridges, tarzan swings, climbing walls, and tunnels. This represents a more challenging way to focus and spend *Harmless Anger* while providing a wide range of cardio-vascular exercise.
- An extension of building the ropes course is learning the basic building, and construction techniques needed next month in framing their own houses.

## March Begin Construction Month

- From the foundation up, candidates learn by doing. Each Activity Day begins with an example in real time, with a short list of Do's & Don'ts; and they spend the rest of the afternoon practicing on their own small house. No power tools will be used, only high quality hand tools. Also, the science and physics of different types of composite materials will be explored for building lighter, stronger houses possibly for less.
- It is expected that many attitudes and issues related to home and family will surface during this process. The Staff will be on special alert in watching for and helping out in these cases. Candidates will be encouraged to push through their strife and pain to find the clearing on the other side.

## April Move In Month

• After some finishing touches like heating, 12 Volt lighting systems, simple plumbing, and windows; and after three months of tent camping, candidates will experience the pride, satisfaction, privacy, and comforts of House Living. ("ohh, that's why we have to get a job...")

## May Gardening Month

- After relaxing into their new homes with decorations and frills, class attention shifts outside to the grounds and gardens. Candidates learn about and plant three types of organic, sustainable, and bio-diverse gardens; a food and vegetable garden, a herbal garden, and a flower garden. Emphasis will be placed on crop rotation, plant/soil mutuality, natural insect repelling plants, and insect helpers.
- •Ant Farm. Candidates will build a huge ant farm, at least 4 ft. tall by 8 ft. wide. Only two ants will be placed in the fresh soil. Throughout the year, candidates will study the growth patterns and behaviors of the ant farm within the context of various growing eco-systems on this planet. Also, the camp kitchen will use this ant farm as a great organic 'disposal.'
- Other exercises throughout the month include many ways of grounding and stabilizing the simple comforts of life.

## June Tai Chi Month

• One of the softest and smoothly flowing, this martial art form will be learned and practiced daily for the rest of the year. Tai Chi is defensive in nature, it teaches never attacking first, and when attacked, to use the attackers momentum and energy to the attacker's direct disadvantage. This is one of the ideal constructs of the Noble Warrior Archetype that will be examined and practiced on many levels throughout the year.

## July Long Bow Month

- After understanding Tai Chi, each candidate will design and build a classic, yet versatile, Carbon Fiber Long Bow using Laminate and Bent Wood Molding Techniques and Casting Techniques. The focus of the Long Bow Design is to accomplish as many functions as possible. Before learning archery, candidates will use their Long Bow for many other things, such as a walking staff, an tent support member, a baton for display dancing, a flag pole for each candidate's chosen banner of honor, and other Noble Warrior defense skills.
- Please note; for obvious legal and safety reasons, no arrows will be built or allowed in the camp. Archery Practice is a weekly scheduled activity event in August at a local indoor archery range, which will supply and collect the exact count of arrows for each session.

## August Archery Month

• Of course, We will practice safe archery as often as possible. This is also vegetarian month as we discuss issues around hunting and killing animals around

dinner and the Fire Circle.

## September Community Harvest Month

• The focus of this month is on community spirit and collective wealth and sharing. Candidates will explore ways of building and supporting a sense of community inside the camp and out.

## October Spirit Month

- This is the beginning of the coursework turning inward, helping each candidate to take an introspective approach to his actions and interactions with others around him. Behavioral psychology from Freud to John Gray will be studied. Many aspects of spiritual and natural healing techniques will be explored too, from chakra's and aura colors, to herbal teas and nutritional eating.
- Candidates will also make their own symbolic costume for the Ritual Ghost Dance and Bon-Fire on Halloween.

## **November** Healing Touch Month

• The goal of this month is to practice as many "hands-on" ways of curing with touch. Hug therapy, acupressure, reflexology, belly laughing, and various types of massage will be studied and evaluated by the candidates.

## **December** Statement of Will Month

- This is the Noble Warrior's call to Honor, for himself and the community around him. Throughout the month candidates will their explore their best personal talents and skills, and formulate a "statement of will" that will serve their community and their own appropriate living goals. These will be read aloud on Noble Warrior Graduation Day, December 31st.
- Each candidate will also design and make their own banner of honor. This includes choosing from several symbolic categories, such totem colors, stars, animals, trees, plants, constellations, famous people, and family line. This exercise is an important and concurrent aspect of the *Statement of Will* described above.
- The last week in December is *Tough Week*. Every candidate must do two things; 1) live in the tent they started with to remind them of how far they've come and how much they've built for themselves, and 2) dis-assemble their own house, piece by piece, and stack the materials for the next year's round of candidates. This second exercise is all about leaving an appropriate legacy behind and is sure to bring up any remaining issues with home, housing, and life stability, which will be assisted immediately by the alerted and watchful staff.

#### 3. Table of Contents

## WEEKLY RESEARCH SUBJECTS

Each week settles down to a routine of daily activities and daily subjects of study.

The Activities Work-Team has a specific subject to research each day. They can use telephone interviews, the Camp Library, and/or the www.internet for researching the daily persons, places, and/or things. This provides 52 lessons in each of the following categories and many good opportunities to interweave related topics throughout the year.

<u>Daily Act</u>	<u>ivity Theme:                                   </u>	After Dinner Topic:	Fire Circle Ideas
• Monday	Grunt Day	Legal & Paralegal Research	Hard Work
• <u>Tuesday</u>	Home Skills	Architects, Buildings & Bridges	Stability & Strength
• Wednesday	<u>y</u> Noble Day	Noble Warrior Movie Night	Nobility & Honor
<ul> <li>Thursday</li> </ul>	Earth Day	Trees, Plants, Flowers, & Herbs	Earth Stewardship
• <u>Friday</u>	Free Day	Work-Team Feedback Day	The Big Cosmos
<ul> <li>Saturday</li> </ul>	Service Day	Clean Up Potluck	Free Discussions
• <u>Sunday</u>	Service Day	Build Up Potluck	Free Discussions

Appendix A. has a thorough listing of the range of individual subjects covered throughout the year.

#### 3. Table of Contents

## THE DAILY SCHEDULE

The daily schedule is so packed with tasks, projects, and process there will be no time to worry about things like attention deficit disorder.

- 6:00am to 8:00am Quiet Time, hot soup, toast, and/or cold cereal, self serve.
- 800am to 12:00noon Personal Time. This time is used for daily chores or special projects or reading and Internet research, or nail pounding as required.
- 12:00pm to 12:30pm Lunch Time, Roll Call, a quick description of daily activity and related instructions.
- 12:30pm to 6:00pm The Daily Activity is determined by the season, the course progress and the day of the week. Volunteers of different careers and job skills may come and teach their job skill to the class as the class practices it all afternoon.
- 6:00pm to 8:00pm Dinner Time and evening subject report. The four activities organizers will present information to the group about the particular subject(s) or person(s) of the day.
- 8:00pm to 10:00pm The Fire Circle is lit and tended by the Fire Master of the Day. The subject(s), stories, music, and atmosphere of the Fire Circle are chosen and tended by the Fire Master. Each candidate, as Fire Master at least ten times a year, is encouraged to share something personal or inspirational with the group, and receives recognition and respect from group in return for sharing their personal

experiences as Fire Master.

- 10:00pm to 12:00am Music Off, reflection time, journal time for the day.
- 12:00am to 6:00am Fire Circle Out, Lights out, no talking, snoring only.

The average day, depending on personal and cooperative choice, includes about an hour or so of community camp work, about 3-4 hours of personal research/reading time, about 7-8 hours of instruction and hands-on activity in a 12-14 hour day; after this, there not much room left for anything else but sleep.

## 3. Table of Contents

>Top of Page

## 4. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Due to obvious reasons, certain rules and legal structures will be set up to successfully interface with the State, County and Local Juvenile Correction Authorities and Agencies. The following structure is a balanced place to start. The various authorities involved will have their input to consider and the appropriate elements will be integrated during the early planning phases of the program.

## CANDIDATE SELECTION CRITERIA

The Noble Warrior Program will accept and consider applications from a variety of sources. Individual families, half-way houses, out-patient juvenile facilities and first time petty crime offenders recommended by the district attorneys and local juvenile courts. Careful screening of pre-candidates will look for petty theft, vandalism & graffiti "troubled-makers" who are unusually bright or gifted, if not somewhat misdirected.

The goal is to catch the appropriate candidates just after their "first-scare" experience of the jail system, but before they have a chance to get conditioned to it as a way of life.

Applicants with multiple offenses, more violent felonies, use of a handgun, or involved in murder will not be eligible for this program.

## 4. Table of Contents

## COMMUNITY INTRODUCTION EVENTS AND WORK PROJECTS

A variety of community work projects will be scheduled throughout the year to foster public relations and teach community service values. Feedback from the local community is necessary for planning various projects throughout the year.

Saturday's Clean-Up theme includes things like trash collecting, recycling, graffiti scrubbing, and grounds keeping. Sunday's Build-Up theme includes things like building bus-stop shelters and 3-bin recycling depots, as well as painting old buildings, murals, and houses of elderly.

## 4. Table of Contents

## ON SITE ACTIVITIES VERSES WEEKEND WORK PROJECTS

Because of the probationary nature of this program, all weekly activities will be held on site. Only on Weekend Work Projects will candidates leave together as a group for approximately 6 to 8 hours at a time. During this time, all candidates will

be required to wear large, visible I.D. cards that are specifically green in color.

There are no family visitation rights during the week; only phone calls. However, family members are encouraged to come out and help on Weekend Work Projects for their visitation time. This not only gets the families involved in the noble coursework, but it provides a distracting activity to share together before any family control issues get in the way of a good time. Overall, it provides a chance for the families to meet each other weekly and collectively watch their sons' progress throughout the year. At the end of the daily project, everyone settles down to share a Pot-Luck Dinner before returning to camp. This reduces some of the food costs for the camp and gives the kitchen staff some time off.

More importantly, the staff has an opportunity to watch and understand various family dynamics. This will facilitate appropriate counseling and is an important consideration for nurturing the emotional growth of each candidate throughout the year.

## 4. Table of Contents

## ONE CHANCE RULE; MINOR INSULTS VERSES MAJOR RULES

While conflicts and arguments are bound to occur in a course that encourages self-expression, most problems can be resolved by *Pounding Nails* until both parties can sit down quietly and talk about various "mutual solution ideas."

Loud arguments, ongoing fighting, ridiculing, or scrapping will be processed through the Talking Circle, usually with staff assistance.

These events are considered minor insults and they play a key role in the noble coursework as candidates watch, learn, and practice many methods and techniques for dealing with conflicts in sensible, non-violent, and helpful ways.

The Major Rules, however, are quite different. If any of these rules are broken just once, the offending candidate is returned to the "Discretion of the Judge" and will sit in a local jail until their court date. This is intended to reinforce the first-scare experience and show the stark contrast between jail and the freedom of the Noble Warrior Camp based on trust and respect.

The Major Rules include striking anyone, drawing blood, missing one roll call, and any other violent or destructive actions toward anyone or their property. This safe boundary fosters a non-violent, non-abusive environment, which encourages deeper levels self-expression that may be needed to reach some of the more rooted troubles. Court Judges are encouraged to return errant candidates back to the program at least once or twice before sending them down the path of jail-training for life incarceration.

#### 4. Table of Contents

## **ROLL CALL FOUR TIMES DAILY**

Each candidate receives a digital watch the first day, so there is no excuse for being late for Roll Call. The candidates are not allowed off the camp property unless accompanied by a staff member and wearing their green ID badges. If they do wander a bit by themselves, they can't go far without missing a roll call. Again, trust is a big theme in this course and these lessons will be overstated at each violation.

The camp ax is the last item on the roll call. All candidates must be present and accounted for before the ax is called-otherwise-you guessed it, they get the "ax." This process can take up to an hour of standing at attention. After this, peer pressure will be used to motivate habitually tardy candidates.

## 4. Table of Contents

## NO FENCES REQUIRED, ONLY TRUST AND RESPECT

Again, in offering respect and trust for the Major Rules and Roll Call, the candidates receive in return various privileges, such as the feeling of not being fenced in or caged. This is a subtle but all too crucial element in turning defensive attitudes around and filling their minds with possibilities that they can see and imagine beyond the edge of camp.

I cannot over-emphasize the destructive psychological impact barbed-wire fences and gray walls have on creative, talented young minds, not to mention their attitudes.

#### 4. Table of Contents

## **HOT-LINE TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

In the unlikely event of a brawl, a bloody fight, a missing roll call, or serious accident, there will be a phone with a hot-line to the local sheriff's office installed in the staff building.

## 4. Table of Contents

#### ONE YEAR FOLLOW THROUGH PROGRAM

After graduation, candidates will have monthly interviews with rotating staff members who will track each candidate's progress on neighborhood re-integration issues throughout the following year. Subjects of conversation include peer contact, peer pressures, ongoing domestic violence, stress relief habits, interesting projects,

and overall contentment. At the suggestion of any staff member, second year candidates are encouraged to move away from any home neighborhoods or households that may have contributed to their landing in jail in the first place.

This "repeat environment" can often be the cause of "repeat offenders" who would otherwise flourish in a new neighborhood with a clean slate.

A portion of the Camp's funds will be set aside for these re-location and support costs.

4. Table of Contents

>Top of Page

## 5. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

#### THE SITE

The best and most economical scenario for this unique program is nothing more or nothing less than an abandoned RV Trailer Park. The basic infrastructures of plumbing, sewage, and electricity are already installed for a dozen or two "lots" that are perfectly sized for lightweight, 8'x12' one room studio houses. The Obstacle Course will run around the perimeter of the camp and the Fire Circle will be in the center.

There must be hundreds of such facilities across the country that, instead of lying dormant, could be put to far better use than our correctional facilities, for far less than their operating costs.

## 5. Table of Contents

## THE PLAN

Considering between 24 to 30 candidates and 10 to 12 staff, at least \$2000 per month per candidate will cover most all expenses, materials, salaries, insurance and emergencies. This monthly budget of roughly \$50,000 has a margin of about \$10,000 each month. If these excess funds are not required by unpredictable circumstances throughout the year, they will be deposited into the profit sharing account for the staff.

## 5. Table of Contents

## THE STAFF

The staff in this <u>all boys program</u> will be proud, noble people, mostly women with strong backbones; people dedicated to healing first and asking questions later. Each staff member will have a different professional background whose expertise and strong counseling skills will be woven into the program to provide a strong "emotional safety net" for the falling/failing feeling of angry young people.

I cannot emphasize enough how crucial the staff is to the success of this program. The staff must represent a cohesive and solid "grounding rod" for the pent-up energies theses candidates are going to have. The staff must understand this and have the background experience and training to dissipate these attitudes and energies with a gentle hand, and still command respect. There will be 'acting out'; but, dis-empowering it is very different from controlling or managing it.

Salaries range from \$1800 to \$2400 a month depending on background experience and commitment to the program. Rent, Room & Board is already covered for staff, as they will be living onsite year round.

- 1. *Cook*, who feeds the camp with gourmet food, talents, and training.
- 2. *Kitchen Resource Person*, who maintains the kitchen and pantry.
- 3. *Camp Resource Person,* who maintains the camp equipment, tools, and supplies.
- 4. *Finance Resource Person*, who will run the financial books for the camp as well as process applications for grants and scholarships for the program.
- 5. *Social Resource Person,* who handles all the paperwork, applications and interviews for entrance into the program as well as interfacing with the various state and local juvenile facilities, district attorneys, and courts.
- 6. *Gardener/Herbalist,* who will set up the three types of gardens and teach various gardening and harvesting techniques.
- 7. *Physical Therapist,* who will organize daily exercises with the coach and tend to muscle and tendon injuries.
- 8. *Coach*, who will incite enthusiasm and competitive cooperation.
- 9. *Registered Nurse,* who will attend to serious injuries and administer required medications.
- 10. *Bus Driver with Bus,* who will provide valuable access to the outside world on weekend community work projects.

#### 5. Table of Contents

## **RESOURCES AND FUNDING**

As a private program, funds will be initially charged to the family of each candidate as an alternative to the State and County charges for court, lawyers, and juvenile incarceration. The program content and its costs are similar to most Trade Schools or Associate's Degree Programs from local colleges. If any family passes the minimum requirements for poverty; various county, state and federal non-violence funding programs will sponsor any deserving, under-privileged candidates.

#### 5. Table of Contents

#### PROFIT SHARING

The monthly "buffer" money is deposited into the collective staff account. This resource can be spent by staff-consensus during the year for extra materials and emergencies. If the program proceeds without a hitch, the 10 or so staff members will have about \$120,000 to split equally at the end of the year. A more realistic scenario suggests that closer to half of this would be available at the end of the year leaving about a \$7000 bonus for each staff member during Christmas Time.

#### 5. Table of Contents

### >Top of Page

#### **CONCLUSION**

Overall, this one-of-a-kind, grassroots program offers candidates a concentrated exposure to a cohesive set of positive life values, lessons, skills, tools, and good community in ways no other program can offer.

Table of Contents

#### APPENDIX LISTING

<u>Appendix A.</u> The following chart details the various Daily Activities, Dinner Subject Categories, and Fire Circle Themes that will be covered over the course of the year. ~available upon request~

<u>Appendix B.</u> The following chart outlines the basic skill levels needed to earn the various quality hand tools needed later for building their own house. ~available upon request~

<u>Appendix C.</u> The following financial spreadsheet covers the basic budget and cash flow requirements needed to run the camp successfully. ~available upon request~

<u>Appendix D.</u> The following is an illustration of the Talking Circle and its dynamics. Also, instructions for both the participants and staff members are provided in detail. ~available upon request~

**Appendix E.** The following is a list of The Noble Warrior Affirmations. ~available upon request~

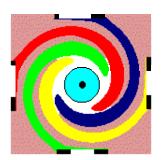
**Appendix F.** The following is the basic floor plan for each candidate's one room studio house. ~available upon request~

<u>Appendix G.</u> The following is a schedule of events, milestones, and payments needed for starting the Noble Warrior Training Program on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003. ~available upon request~

For Networking, Comments, Suggestions, Concerns, or Funding, Please email me at <a href="mailto:green">greg@future-spark.com</a> The Original Concept and Program Content arranged by G. Bender, Copyright © April 22, 2000, All Rights Reserved.

>Top of Page

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## The Noble Warrior Training Camp for Young Men

### INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

This unique program is dedicated to teaching nonviolent living, conflict deescalation techniques, and safe ways of venting anger to our agitated and troubled youth before they start a career path in our growing correctional system. In addition, they will learn many vocational skills by building their own 8'x12' one room studio house. Upon graduating, the Noble Warrior Candidates will be respected and valued workers in their community, having their own tools, skills, pride, and sense of honor.

We are eurrently selling shares [looking for enthusiastic people to begin working on starting this program. We need to secure an abandoned RV Park that still works, and begin staff training.] for [We also need] the start-up costs involved in launching this unique and exciting program. Each share is \$x000 and xx shares will be sold by December, 20xx; The Noble Warrior pilot program will begin at 12:00, Jan. 1, 20xx.

In return, You, the Shareholder(s) will receive:

- 1) Your \$x000 back at the end of a successful pilot course,
- 2) An opportunity to share your favorite stories, lessons, and values with the Noble Warrior Course throughout the year, thereby adding to their growth,
- 3) Front row seats at the Noble Warrior Graduation Festivities,
- 4) And, most importantly, the pride and satisfaction of knowing that you have helped to keep 24 more bright young kids out of the Juvenile Incarceration System. Now, they can become productive people, and positive role models for their peers still having trouble.

If you have any questions or comments, are interested in an investor's package, or have special skills, materials, and/or time to donate, please email me at:

greg@future-spark.com