



ALABAMA 4-H

SIX PILLARS OF CHARACTER

The purpose of the CHARACTER COUNTS!SM Coalition is to fortify the lives of young people with ethical values called the “Six Pillars of Character.” These values, which transcend divisions of race, creed, politics, gender, and wealth, are: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

TRUSTWORTHINESS

BE HONEST • DON'T DECEIVE, CHEAT OR STEAL • BE RELIABLE — DO WHAT YOU SAY YOU'LL DO • HAVE THE COURAGE TO DO THE RIGHT THING • BUILD A GOOD REPUTATION • BE LOYAL — STAND BY YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS AND COUNTRY

RESPECT

TREAT OTHERS WITH RESPECT; FOLLOW THE GOLDEN RULE • BE TOLERANT OF DIFFERENCES • USE GOOD MANNERS, NOT BAD LANGUAGE • BE CONSIDERATE OF THE FEELINGS OF OTHERS • DON'T THREATEN, HIT OR HURT ANYONE • DEAL PEACEFULLY WITH ANGER, INSULTS AND DISAGREEMENTS

RESPONSIBILITY

DO WHAT YOU ARE SUPPOSED TO DO • PERSEVERE: KEEP ON TRYING! • ALWAYS DO YOUR BEST • USE SELF-CONTROL • BE SELF-DISCIPLINED • THINK BEFORE YOU ACT — CONSIDER THE CONSEQUENCES • BE ACCOUNTABLE FOR YOUR CHOICES

FAIRNESS

PLAY BY THE RULES • TAKE TURNS AND SHARE • BE OPEN-MINDED; LISTEN TO OTHERS • DON'T TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OTHERS • DON'T BLAME OTHERS CARELESSLY

CARING

BE KIND • BE COMPASSIONATE AND SHOW YOU CARE • EXPRESS GRATITUDE • FORGIVE OTHERS • HELP PEOPLE IN NEED

CITIZENSHIP

DO YOUR SHARE TO MAKE YOUR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY BETTER • COOPERATE • STAY INFORMED; VOTE • BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR • OBEY LAWS AND RULES • RESPECT AUTHORITY • PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

CHARACTER COUNTS! and the Six Pillars of Character are service marks of the CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition, a project of the Josephson Institute of Ethics.



Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, and other related acts, in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The Alabama Cooperative Extension System (Alabama A & M University and Auburn University) offers educational programs, materials, and equal opportunity employment to all people without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, or disability.

Molly Gregg and Chuck Hill, 4-H Specialists