

TAGCC COMMUNICATOR

The Alicia Gwynn Community Center Newsletter

REMEMBER MY CHARACTER



ABOUT TAGCC

The Alicia Gwynn Community Center (TAGCC) is the product of a long-held desire of Alicia Gwynn to work with young people in assisting them better develop their own character. Therefore, as a subsidiary of the TAG Foundation, TAGCC is focused on character development and community building, and is dedicated to enhance quality of life opportunities for economically disenfranchised youths in the Greater San Diego Area. TAGCC offers programming intended to create viable and economically vibrant communities through Arts and Athletic activities. In addition, TAGCC provides workshops and seminars aimed at relationship management and conflict resolution that will assist in character building. An expected result of TAGCC includes better parenting skills and the ability to maintain strong family structures. Mrs. Gwynn has adopted core values of caring, sharing, loving, trust, honor, and respect to articulate her efforts to expand the social and economic advances of the communities she hopes to impact.

It is expected that the community events and programming offered by TAGCC will provide networking opportunities with public and private sectors as TAGCC partners with other organizations, which are committed to inclusive community building. These partnership opportunities between The Gwynn Community Center and public and private sectors would be represented as a program association, seamless in their efforts to engage disenfranchised youth toward spiritual, social, and economic empowerment.



UNITED
WE STAND

THE VISION

The vision of Alicia Gwynn is holistic by design. She simply wishes to share with others the good that is in her heart. The goal of Ms. Gwynn is to build housing for low, moderate & high income residents, with a community center as the central focus of the project. The Alicia Gwynn Community Center (TAGCC) plans to provide an educational unit which will provide students with options such as entrepreneurship, athletics, technology & performing arts. TAGCC will also assist reluctant learners to complete grade school criteria. However, this center does not just focus on the traditional curriculum taught in schools. An out-of-the-box approach to educating and mentoring today's youth will be implemented. Through four segments (education, athletics, parenting skills, and a housing project), the center will help bring about sustainability in the community.

The goal for educating residents is simply to offer on-the-job (OJT) training. This provides a hands-on approach to those who may not be aware of what is involved in the workforce. Through the TAGCC athletics track, youth will be able to learn a practical way of viewing sports and the probability of making it to the pro's. Parenting Skills is beneficial for parents of children seeking guidance for the necessities of 21st century Parenting. The housing project focuses specifically on building units for all income levels. The goal of the community, according to Ms. Gwynn, is to have the community be self sustaining, with the creation of jobs for residents. She says, "the potential for a project of this magnitude is limitless. Consider the opportunities that will be available to residents." From a realistic perspective, there are a number of community developments in existence, but how many can be said to look for growth and development for the good of people? Alicia and her husband, Tony Gwynn, can.



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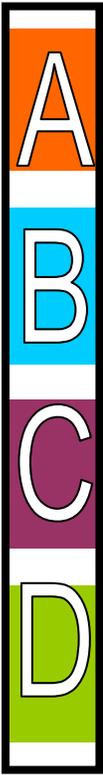
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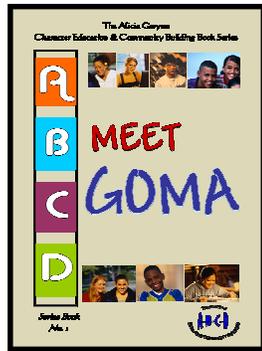
SHARING

SUMMER INSTITUTE - ABOUT THE BOOKS

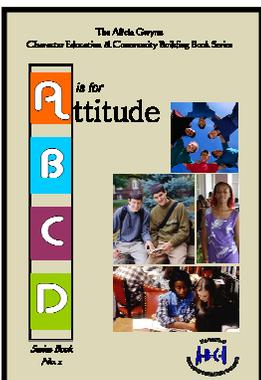


During the summer camp, youth were exposed to character development and community building curriculum. This objective was accomplished through the use of "The Alicia Gwynn Character and Community Building Book Series" which uses the A B C D's to foster productive lines of communication between parents and children and children and their peers regarding positive character building. It is part of a broader initiative intended to promote people who are inclusive in nature and do not discriminate against others. The acronym A B C D stands for attitude, behavior, communication and discipline. Each

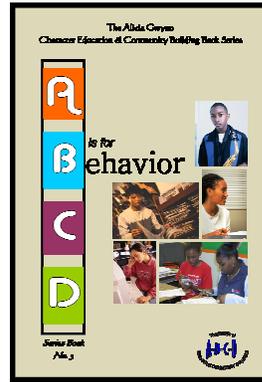
acronym is addressed through scenarios familiar to today's youth. The first book in the series, *Meet GOMA*, is an introduction to the non-descript main character. In the next four books, Goma is faced with situations or crossroads, which demands for decisions that could possibly result in unfavorable consequences if not considered carefully. His decisions reflect whether he actually lives what he speaks; and through Goma's actions and others, lessons about character are learned.



In Book #2, called A is for Attitude, the story of *Payback Isn't Always Gratifying*, examines



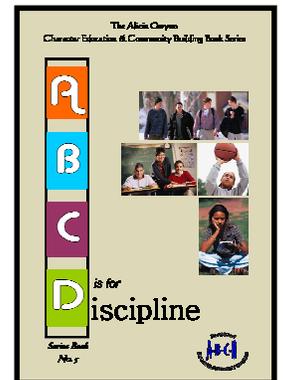
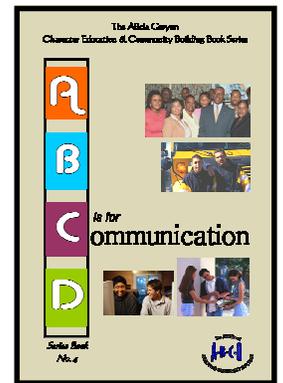
the trait of **attitude**, and explains that attitude can be viewed as the springboard of one's actions. In Book #3, **Behavior** is discussed, *Variety in the Neighborhood*. This story shows how positive behavior results when positive character, with the ability to resolve conflict, has



been developed. But negative behavior is a result of unresolved conflict. The importance of maintaining open and honest lines of **communication** with parents/guardian, friends and peers is demonstrated through Goma's dilemma in

Book #4, where *Goma Faces Peer Pressure*. This story prompts the reader to evaluate what messages they are communicating keeping in mind that communication also occurs non-verbally via our body language and gestures. Lastly, in Book #5, *Sticking to Your Guns*, highlights the trait of **discipline**. At first thought, discipline might be viewed as a consequence, but in this character building series, it is defined as the ability to exercise control or restraint in challenging situations.

Each book in the series provides thought provoking circumstances of which youth of today may find themselves faced; the books offer positive and practical solutions in order to deal with these types of dilemmas.



TRUST

HONOR

RESPECT

DAY 1



During Day one's activities, students were engaged in activities centered on relationship building. Students got to know each other, recognize similarities among each other, and were then inclined to further their interactions toward ultimately establishing life-long friendships. Mentors discussed with students the certain values, called TAGCC Inclusive Community Building Values of caring, sharing, loving, trust, honor, and respect, which they maintained as they progressed through camp activities and, hopefully beyond Camp, in their communities. Whenever conflict arose, or there was a decision to be made, students and mentors would allow their decision making to be guided by these values. For the rest of the morning, student learning was



dedicated to the history and traditions of Poway. Toward this end, students began a three part series of the Old Poway Park, train safety, the Old Poway Museum and historic classroom, and finally the Train Ride.

Thursday afternoon students worked in two tracks: music and drama, where they either watched several skits or listened to musical selections taken from GOMA's Favorite Plays and Songs. The ICB Skits and songs served as a basis for the they would create. After watching videos or listening to the songs, students compose their own original presentations of the skit or song. As a group, students brainstormed aspects of their original presentations, including setting, characters, and the props needed for their presentation. Each group then identified roles for the group members, namely actors; stage directors; props/costume designers (dramatic track), and choreographers, singers, dancers, musical rhythms (musical track). Both the dramatic and music groups ended the day with reflection activities of journal writing, drawings, and discussions.



DAY 2

Day two's theme of Poway Meets GOMA focused on establishing common ground among the participants. As part of Day two's morning, students participated in various activities that served as a reminder of the TAGCC ICB values—the guiding principles of the Conference. For example, one activity asks several students to share an experience they've had since Thursday's session where these values were applied toward resolving a personal conflict.

Following the quick, but important, warm-up, the morning proceedings focused on providing students, using The Alicia Gwynn Character Education and Community Building Book Series, an in-depth knowledge of GOMA, where G stands for Goal; O stands for Objective; M stands for Method; A stands for Attitude. The ideal behind this activity was that GOMA was not simply a group of

letters that made an acronym, but GOMA represented individuals who were able to resolve conflicts. Therefore, students were encouraged to put on their GOMA hats to resolve the conflict they face on a daily basis. In small groups, students read **GOMA Meets Alicia Gwynn**. From this exercise students were able to understand one, who like themselves, needed help in developing his character and GOMA's appreciation for a Mentor such as Alicia Gwynn, who aided him in overcoming challenges in his daily life; then was he able to mentor others. The A-B-C-D's (Attitude-Behavior-Communication-Discipline) of TAGCC as the mentors introduced students to the positive values that shaped GOMA. Students then wrote scenarios of problems faced by students or their peers in an activity called, "What Would GOMA Say?" These stories were used as a



springboard to problem solving the GOMA way. Groups embellished stories and shared them with other groups. Groups were then asks to formulate a GOMA type resolution to each problem, thus becoming a community moment. The majority of the afternoon session was spent practicing skits and songs for Saturday's grand finale performances. Friday was closed out by allowing student to write and share their Community Moments of how they had grown, thus far, over the two day period.

LOVING

DAY 3



By day three, parents, mentors, and students were able too see a change in the attitudes of the students. The evening program captured the essence of the three day camp. The program started as Mrs. Alicia Gwynn gave the occasion and thanked members of the audience for showing their support. Students made authentic song and dance presentations. Dr. Michele Rice and Kawachi Clemons, both lead mentors shared the focus of the drama and music activities just before student renditions of " *It's Not the Problem that Counts; It's the Solution,*" the *GOMA song*, and *Kool Things to Know*, a skit and musical selections taken from

GOMA's Favorite Songs and Plays. An outstanding creative expression of The Alicia Gwynn Character Education and Community Building Creed was rendered by a mother-daughter dance team. Another group performed liturgical dance thrilling the audience as they offered an exhilarating presentation of gospel praise. Many were prompted to clap their hands, and stomp their feet, symbolic of the rejoicing of hearts in the successful launching of TAGCC.



Finally, Alicia Gwynn gave acknowledgements to the many who helped make the camp a success.



Her vote of thanks was demonstrated through plaques, special gifts, and certificates. Dr. Deryl Hunt, CEO of ICB Productions, also among the major camp sponsors, and Alicia Brown, presented a plaque to Alicia Gwynn commending her for her commitment to building inclusive communities.

MENTORS in ACTION



Mentors Kawachi Clemons, ??????? and ????????? collaborate about student presentations..



Cheresa Clemons enjoys train ride with students.



Mentors and students share a snack moment.



Dr. Michele Rice engage students in discussion about TAGCC values..

CARING



Aaron ????? smiles as he watches student presentations.



???????????? and students prepare for train ride through Old Poway Park.



DaVina Hoyt exchanges laughter with camp participant.



Alicia Gwynn and Alicia Brown discuss student lunch preparation.



Maureen ??? and Kim ????? reflect on camp experience.

(Continued from page 8)

Innovations, apparel production; Studio 815, recording studio; AG Sports, sports marketing; Gwynn Sport Inc., sports memorabilia/graphic design; Steady Play, clothing line; and Base Hit Records, record label), Alicia and her husband, Tony, managed to always make time for their two children, Tony, Jr. and Anisha.

Alicia and Tony are widely known for their non-profit organization, Tony and Alicia Gwynn (TAG) Foundation, and its philanthropic involvement with Inner City programs aimed at providing quality of life opportunities for underserved children and families.

In keeping with her long personal desire, Alicia has launched her most recent venture, The Alicia Gwynn Community Center (TAGCC), a subsidiary of the TAG Foundation. TAGCC is dedicated toward character development and community building. Presently, she is developing with ICB Productions, Inc, a research, training, and event planning company, a series of curriculum booklets to teach character and community building values, and has written a Creed to guide individuals toward a realization of true self-empowerment. Using her own Creed, Alicia hopes to have far reaching impact on children and families as a motivational speaker for mixed audiences across the nation.

ABOUT THE FOUNDER



Alicia Gwynn, wife of future Hall of Fame baseball player, Tony Gwynn, is a trailblazer in her own right. She references her humble beginning in Buford, South Carolina with her parents along with her seven siblings as the foundation of her present-day disposition as a woman of faith and discipline, two key principles she has integrated in all aspects of her adult life. Very early in her young life, Alicia's family migrated to Long Beach, California. She recalls her father as a sports connoisseur, a clergyman, and an entrepreneur of a construction business. Her mother she describes as a determined, fire-filled clergywoman. A genetic and social blend of both parents, it should come as no surprise that Alicia Gwynn is recognized for her deep sense of spirituality, her business savvy, and her knowledge of most every sport played in America.

After high school, Alicia followed her inclination to pursue her business degree at San Diego State University, after which she married her husband, Tony, and began a long chain of business ventures including her own sports marketing firm, which opened in 1993 as an official licensee of Major League Baseball with sports memorabilia nation wide. Despite her ability to hold an impressive entrepreneurial portfolio (Creative

(Continued on page 7)

... IT'S MADE WHOLE

IN APPRECIATION

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 Aaron ??????
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CAMP CURRICULUM

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 Alicia Ritchey-Brown

CURRICULUM MATERIALS

ICB Productions, Inc.
 Dr. Larry Rice
 Dr. Helen Ellison
 Dery G. Hunt, Esq.

CAMP COORDINATING COMMITTEE

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 Dr. Deryl G. Hunt
 DaVina Hoyt
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 Dionne Hubbard