

## **Georgetown Divide Ready By 21<sup>tm</sup>, Inc**

### **VISION**

**All youth will be thriving, responsible, productive citizens, skilled workers, lifelong learners and connected to their local and world communities.**

### **MISSION**

**The Georgetown Divide Ready By 21<sup>tm</sup> Coalition will create a community in which youth will receive the support, resources, and opportunities necessary to be ready for continued learning, work, and life.**

**This Coalition will**

**Activate sectors of our community,**

**Energize, expand, and enhance programs,**

**Mobilize youth to use their power to be change agents**

**Engage adults in building sustained relationships with children and youth, and**

**Influence civic/community decisions<sup>1</sup>**

### **CORE BELIEFS<sup>1</sup>**

**All Children and youth can succeed and be Ready By 21**

**All youth can build the competencies, values, and social skills needed for a successful transition into adulthood.**

**Success requires early and sustained investments**

**Communities must invest in their children and youth from birth to age twenty-one.**

**Children require ongoing nurturing, supports and opportunities to build the assets necessary to be Ready By 21<sup>tm</sup>. Exposure to positive experiences, places, people, and opportunities to gain life skills will get them there.**

**Some families need extra support**

**Every child is unique, and some have special or unmet needs. Children, youth and their families who face additional challenges such as disabilities, poverty, troubled family**

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<sup>1</sup> Search Institute

situations, discrimination or traumatic events require extra assistance in addressing these circumstances.

**Everyone in the community has a role**

Children and youth do not travel alone to adulthood. Families, friends, neighbors, teachers, and other adults become their community and influence their journeys. When we make positive investments in children and youth, we reap the rewards of an engaged, committed, connected and supportive community that continues the positive cycle.

**Child development is multi-dimensional**

We develop in stages. Children and youth who are engaged and supported in each stage learn critical skills that help prepare them for the next level.

The Coalition's four workgroups parallel the developmental stages and offer age-appropriate activities that help them to develop assets that prepare them for school, work and life.

The four working groups of the Divide Ready by 21 Coalition are:

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Ages 0-5—Divide Ready By Five

Ages 6-10—Divide Ready By 10

Ages 11-14—Divide Ready By 15 (Future Inspiration)

Ages 15-18—Divide Ready By 18