



Relationships Under Construction™

Teaching youth the blueprint for strong future families

The Wire

December 2010

Looking back on a great year!

Ways you can be involved

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24,326 students served during 09/10 school year; Nigerian Teacher Conference

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Josh McDowell; Gov Mike Huckabee; Return on Investment Report

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One million to save 38.7 million; Would you do your job without pay?

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Partner with RUC



2010, what an amazing year for Relationships Under Construction (RUC). During the 2009/2010 school year, our 22 local RUC presenters served 24,326 students. Our evaluation from the Applied Research Center of Miami University showed significant results. After the program 77.4% of the students surveyed agreed that, "It is important to be married before I have sex." This statistic has been consistent for the past eight years. Students and classroom teachers wrote hundreds of positive comments about what they learned. **November 2010, Dennis Stevens, a teacher at Fredericktown High School writes, "I have taught high school health for 30 years. This is an outstanding program**

and the best way I have found to get valuable knowledge to my students so that they can make good health choices. I hope my students learn that marriage can work and it does work – how to make it work by building healthy relationships." **Mr. Stevens believes in the RUC program so much that he raised the money in his community to keep RUC in his school.**



RUC received recognition from such nationally and internationally renowned individuals as Governor Mike Huckabee and Pastor Josh McDowell. A group of Nigerian teachers and administrators spent a week touring schools with RUC and then attended the RUC training in May. The Nigerian teachers and administrators were so pleased that a larger group is coming May 2011.

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Wrapping Up 2010 . . . continued

*Relationships Under Construction is the BEST sex education curriculum I have reviewed in years! It starts early and includes parents. RUC should be taught in every school, church, and youth organization across the country. This dynamic curriculum gets incredible results when presented by passionate teachers, parents and youth leaders.**

Josh McDowell, Josh McDowell Ministries

For Catherine, who has done an amazing job, it is just extraordinary that from here in this part of Ohio is the most

significant program to really help young people understand what love means. Again, it is not that she is against something; she is for something. She wants every young man and every young woman to know what it is to be treated as a human being, a person who is treated with respect, a person who is loved: not for what they look like, but for who they really are, and that can't happen when people treat each other as objects, as toys, as playthings. And Catherine, I am grateful to God for what you have done in

*bringing that sense of worth and dignity to many young people.**

Governor Mike Huckabee, Huckabee, Fox News; God Bless America Rally at Genoa Baptist Church, Westerville, Ohio, September 12, 2010.

Catherine Wood is the author of Relationships Under Construction curriculum.



Catherine Wood & Josh McDowell



RUC was chosen to have an international company, ICF Macro, and St. Wall Street complete a return on investment report (ROI). The RUC ROI report was featured in a national training by St. Wall Street in collaboration with the Administration for Children and Families (HHS) and the National Abstinence Clearinghouse. The report lists RUC as one of the

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Wrapping Up 2010 ... Continued

largest contributors to Ohio's decline in teen pregnancy (36%) and the decline in teen abortion (35%) for the first time in five decades. Recent studies show that these decreases have led to a savings of \$300 million in 2004 alone. Plus, over the past four years, the incremental return on investment of RUC education over contraceptive sex education significantly reduced direct and indirect social costs saving taxpayers \$38.7 million.

This accounts for the students who changed their minds and decided to practice abstinence until marriage - less than one million a year invested to save over \$38.7 million - a great investment.

Over the past ten years, RUC has trained well over 1,000 presenters in more than 30 states and several countries. Our local training in August included people from 16 Ohio counties at a time when six programs in Ohio were losing federal funding and 74 of 88 counties were at-risk for losing abstinence education.

Perhaps the greatest accomplishment of RUC is happening right now. As of October 2010, all abstinence programs, including more than 160 programs across the USA, were stripped of their federal funding. Programs that were in the middle of research projects, many showing promising and/or statistically significant findings, for the first time in America's history had grant funding slashed. In a political move, money granted to abstinence until marriage programs was handed to family planning or Planned Parenthood programs making the total granted to Planned Parenthood this school year at over 700 million dollars of taxpayer funding.

RUC was among those programs that lost funding. RUC completed year four of a five-year grant. Since 2002 RUC has served over 220,000 students with five sessions of classroom presentations for grades 6-12, assemblies, mentoring

groups, web sites, brochures and other resources. RUC has also provided teacher training, workshops for parents and community members, and newsletters.

What is our greatest accomplishment?

With just eight percent of the funding we had last year, we have 15 of our 22 presenters making presentations in 19 of our previous 25 counties this school year. Some have been hired by their pregnancy center. Other pregnancy centers are providing funding for RUC to continue programs in their counties. Presenters in some counties are volunteering their time to make presentations in their schools. Would you volunteer to do your job without pay? Many of these volunteers teach six classes a day for five days in a row and then go to different schools each week and do the same thing. This is not an easy job. It is a job that requires out-of-the-ordinary strength, brain power and passion. RUC is working with each county to make sure the program continues in their schools. A special thank you to the schools, churches and individuals that have stepped up and provided funding in their communities! We salute you and your communities for realizing the importance of getting the message of healthy relationships to our young people.

At a time when many of our young people are searching for answers for current relationship disasters and they wonder how marriage and functional families even exist, RUC brings a message of hope and allows young people to analyze relationships with truthful information.

RUC provides the blueprint for strong future families that is so needed right now.

Consider how you can partner with RUC to reach the schools in your area.



Relationships Under Construction

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