



## APPALACHIA CORRIDOR, TENNESSEE

The estimated population of Johnson County is 18,112. In 2005, the per capita income in Johnson County was \$13,338, and the median household income was \$30,447. (quickfacts.census.gov) The population is 96% white, 3% African-American, and 0.5% Asian with 21.9% living in poverty. Since 2001, the Tennessee Center for Civic Learning and Engagement, in partnership with the Center for Civic Education, has used the School Violence Prevention Demonstration Program (SVPDP) in elementary, middle, and high schools throughout United States Congressional District 4. In the first year of the program, teachers from U.S. Congressional Districts 3 and 4 were recruited to pilot the curricular materials in collaboration with Southeast Kentucky. Since 2002, when Appalachia, Tennessee, became an individual site, the program has tripled in size and expanded to schools in Congressional Districts 1, 2, and 4. In the past seven years, the program has reached approximately 3,539 eastern Tennessee students. An estimated 65 teachers have continued to use the program materials in their classrooms after their initial year of training. During the 2009–10 academic year, fifteen new SVPDP teachers in 45 classes are reaching 1,280 students in grades K–12 in Congressional District 1.

APPALACHIA CORRIDOR, TENNESSEE PROGRAM IMPACT			
	July 2009–July 2010	September 2002–June 2009	Total
Schools	6	43	49*
Students	1,280	2,259	3,539
Teachers	15	93	108
Community leaders as outside resource persons	15	44	54

\*Total number refers to participating school sites involved, some of which have continued for more than one year.

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS AND ANECDOTES

- Students' civic knowledge, skills, and attitudes towards rights and responsibilities showed improvement when measured by teacher and student surveys and focus groups.
- Student awareness of local government structure and procedures was increased with exposure to outside resource persons.
- There was increased involvement of parents and community leaders, including school resource officers, mayor, and local businessmen.
- U.S. Representative Phil Roe is supportive of the programs and sends staff to "judge" showcases.

## QUOTES

SVPDP has played a great role in improving the school climate at Walnut Hills Elementary School. Students, teachers, parents, and administrators all speak a common language.

GLENNA TREECE, PRINCIPAL

This has been the best year for our family as far as involvement with our children. We were asked often to read the newspaper or watch the news on television with our son. This has made us a closer family.

JESSIE DOBBINS, FATHER

This is the greatest program. Our entire school speaks of Foundations of Democracy. I changed my way of teaching for the better. All youth are involved and I had greater parent support.

JESSICA MEE, TEACHER

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT



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