

LEARNING INSTITUTE OF FAMILY EDUCATION, INC. (LIFE)

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For Immediate Release

Learning Institute of Family Education Teams up with WHTD FM Radio to Offer Teen Relationship Skills

DETROIT—October 2, 2006— The Learning Institute of Family Education (LIFE) teams up with WHTD-FM / Hot 102.7 radio to teach the Connections six-week relationship series for Detroit youth, ages 13-18 years old. This **free** program runs October 14, 2006 through November 18, 2006 and will be held every Saturday, from 12-1:30 p.m., at Wayne State University, located at 7800 W. Outer Drive, in Detroit. The program is limited to the first 40 youth who pre-register and their parents can participate in a parenting classes.

WHTD will feature on-air personalities each week in the series, starting October 21. Cedric Scott, WHTD-FM Promotions Director said, “Hot 102.7 on-air personalities will complement the series by offering real-world expertise that enables them to be positive role models and demonstrate the benefits of fostering healthy dating relationships, self-awareness and self-confidence.” Teens will get a chance to meet WHTD’s Spudd, Ms. Smiley, Keith Jones, DJ Zap, and Tune-up Man. Some of the weekly lunches will be provided by local restaurants including McDonalds and Little Caesars Pizza.

Connections program led by trained facilitators includes role-plays, exercises, workbooks, video, and discussion groups about forms of violence, promoting healthy relationships, risk factors (including the use of alcohol and other drugs), violence dynamics, and communication and help-seeking resources for abusive relationships. The Connections curriculum is used in 400 schools in 45 states. It is designed to help students develop insight into their expectations and readiness for dating relationships, and teaches self-awareness and confidence .It provides the foundation for what it takes to have sustaining and successful relationships and marriages.

When considering that more than 80 percent of Detroit’s population is African Americans, and single females head more than fifty percent of the households. These fatherless homes affect children and their ability to provide healthy relationship role models to children. The Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families indicates that children who grow up in healthy married, two-parent families do better on a host of outcomes than those who do not. When children are not socialized in healthy two-parent families, they tend to repeat family patterns and not create healthy relationships for themselves.

This program is partially funded by Youth Sports and Recreation Commission. Parents interested in their teens participating should contact LIFE at 313-342-0006 or register at www.lifefam.org.

WHTD is Hot 102.7 FM, Detroit’s fastest growing urban contemporary station, owned by Radio One, Inc., the nation’s seventh largest radio broadcasting company and the largest that primarily targets African-American and urban listeners. With all announced acquisitions and operating agreements, the company owns and/or operates 65 radio stations located in 22 of the largest markets in the United States.

LIFE is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization in Detroit that specializes in relationship skills and marriage education programs to strengthen families for the well-being of children within the community.

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