

# NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Nominations Open for New Hampshire Family and Consumer Sciences Teachers to Participate in the Healthy Relationships Skills Project**

Kay Reed, Executive Director of The Dibble Institute, announced that The Dibble Institute will work with the Family and Consumers Sciences Association in New Hampshire to reach teachers and students in grades 8-12 across the state. Simultaneously, the project will work with other states and with national Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), the entertainment media, the Internet and other news media in an effort to reach teens with their programs. The Dibble Institute for Marriage Education has been awarded federal funding through a grant from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) Healthy Marriage Demonstration Grant. The Dibble Institute's grant objectives are to reach over 110,000 teens by 2011 with 1.6 million hours of education that will influence teens' knowledge of and attitudes toward healthy relationships and marriage. The Dibble Institute's grant partners include the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, and Public Strategies, Inc.

The Dibble Institute launched the project for healthy relationships skill building this past spring. New Hampshire is one of the first states to participate in this phase of the project, which will provide curriculum materials and professional development to Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS) teachers at their Statewide FACS Conference on November 1- 2, 2007. The FACS teachers will be responsible for delivering communication/relationship skills education to their students. "This grant provides curriculum materials and professional development based on New Hampshire's FACS Standards and rewards schools that generate data regarding the effectiveness of these educational programs. We look forward to our teachers reaching teens with healthy communication and relationship skills now, that will contribute to healthy family and

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work relationships in the future," said Joan Fossum, M.A., Education Consultant for Family and Consumer Sciences Education, New Hampshire Department of Education.

New Hampshire has chosen two curricula from several Dibble Institute programs. Each participating FACS teacher will receive up to \$400 worth of best-practices curriculum materials and professional development to enhance their use in FACS classes. After teachers deliver the program, they will complete a survey report and submit participation data information, and receive a \$75.00 benchmark payment from the grant funds.

To be selected to participate, New Hampshire FACS teachers grades 8-12 must complete a nomination form and submit it by the due date; and must teach the **"LOVE U 2: Communication Smarts"** and/or **"THE ART OF LOVING WELL"** to a minimum of 30 FACS students for each curriculum by **June 6, 2008**.

**"LOVE U 2: Communication Smarts"** 7 lessons that teach students essential communication and conflict management skills, patterns that can damage relationships, ways to exit escalating arguments, how to counter "filters" that hinder effective communication and problem solving techniques. This curriculum also uses selected stories from *The Art of Loving Well*. **Recommended for Middle School: Foundations of Work and Family; High School: Adult Roles and Responsibilities, Family Issues, Interpersonal Relationships, and/or Marriage and Parenting Courses**

**"THE ART OF LOVING WELL"** textbook includes 41 ethnically diverse literary selections, both time-honored classics and the best of contemporary adolescent literature in three sections-"Early Loves and Losses," "Romance" and "Commitment and Marriage"-with activities that foster social and emotional skills, effective communication, critical thinking, decision making, and conflict resolution. You will receive a classroom set of books.

**Recommended for High School FACS programs where a literature based approach may be desired.**

For more information go to The Dibble Institute's website at <http://www.buildingrelationshipskills.org/>.

To nominate yourself or another teacher from your school for New Hampshire's Healthy Relationship Education project, complete the nomination form (next page) and send it to Joan Fossum no later than October 19, 2007. Fax to Joan's attention at 603-271-4079 or mail to Joan Fossum, Family and Consumer Sciences; New Hampshire Department of Education; 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 20; Concord, NH 03301. Nominations will be processed and confirmations will be sent via E-mail by October 26, 2007.

**New Hampshire Family and Consumer Sciences Teachers  
FREE Healthy Relationships Education Curriculum & Training**

**NOMINATION FORM**

Teacher's Name		E-mail
Phones - School	Home	Cell
School	Fax	
Mailing Address		City, ST zip

**Choose your FREE curriculum**

**Love U 2: Communication Smarts** Recommended for Middle School Foundations for Work and Family; High School Adult Roles and Responsibilities, Family Issues, Interpersonal Relationships and/or Marriage and Parenting classes

**The Art of Loving Well** Recommended for High School courses where a literature-based approach is desirable.

**Love U 2: Communication Smarts** and **The Art of Loving Well** Recommended for teachers that would be able to work with multiple courses to reach students.

**Choose the Training Option**

NHAFCS Fall Pre-Conference Workshop-Thursdays, November 1, 2007 6:30-9:00 p.m.

NHAFCS Fall conference-2 workshops Friday, November 2, 2007

**Signature confirms that you meet the criteria for nomination:**

1. I have registered \_\_\_ or am registering \_\_\_ for the NHAFACS Teachers' Conference.
2. I am assigned to teach the Grade 8-12 FACS classes specified above before June 2008.
3. I will teach the healthy relationships education program (approximately 10 hours of teaching/learning) to a minimum of 30 students by June 6, 2008.
4. I will complete the survey report and data information (will be provided during professional development/training November 1 or 2, 2007).

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

Submit from no later than **October 19, 2007** to: **Joan Fossum**, Family and Consumer Sciences; New Hampshire Department of Education; 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 20; Concord, NH 03301 or **fax to Joan's attention** at 603-271-4079. Nominees will be notified of selection status by e-mail to the E-mail address on this form no later than October 26, 2007.

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**Nominate yourself or other high school FACS teachers to receive up to \$400 worth of free curriculum materials and corresponding professional development.** New Hampshire has been selected as one of the first states to participate in the **Healthy Relationship Education Project** sponsored by The Dibble Institute for Marriage Education. The curriculum materials have been adapted for teens from the highly acclaimed, research-based Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP®) and align with New Hampshire FACS Program Standards. Up to 75 Grade 8-12 Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS) teachers will be selected to participate. Criteria are specified above.

At the **November 1-2, 2007 FACS Professional Development Conference**, each New Hampshire FACS teacher participating in this project will receive curriculum materials **at no charge beyond FACS Conference registration**. For training purposes, you will be assigned to a breakout session specifically for the course and curriculum you sign up for on this form. After you

deliver the program to a minimum of 30 students, and submit a survey report and participation data to The Dibble Institute, you will receive a **\$75.00 benchmark payment** funded by their Administration for Children and Families (ACF) Healthy Marriage Demonstration Grant.