

Masonic Model
By Thomas E. Reynolds, Grand Orator

“Masonic Model - Now you’ve heard it - What’s it all about?”

Harley is 12 years old and has always been in serious trouble from the day he entered school. His father has been in prison for 6 years, half of Harley’s life, and his mother cannot control him. Today he is succeeding in school because someone cared and used “The Masonic Model”.

Larry was a straight A, very positive student, in grades 1 thru 5. In grade 6 he failed every subject, was in all sorts of trouble, and raped a fellow student. One morning in the summer between grade 5 and 6, Larry and his sister found a note on the kitchen table saying that their parents had left them - abandoned them, never to return. Today, Larry and his sister are succeeding because someone cared and used “The Masonic Model”.

In the front of the auditorium at the Ohio Masonic Home in Springfield are the words “Concern – Caring – Compassion”. These words not only apply to our aged, but in Special Olympics, and “The Masonic Model”, they also apply to our youth.

The Masonic Model is a National Masonic program to assist youth that are at risk in their schools and communities. Ohio had a pilot program in March, 1997, in the 21st Masonic District. The 8 school districts that were involved are now assisting their students. It is too early to have results of this program, but the teachers who took the training are very enthused about the program.

Have you ever, in your discussions with your fellow men, especially Masons, said the youth of today have lost all respect and discipline for society, and that this problem is so large that we can’t do anything about it?

Well, now we can do something about it. Get involved today with the Masonic Model. With this program the Masons of Ohio can equip our teachers with the special training they need to assist at-risk students.

This program has been acclaimed by the educators of our State Department of Education as the best they have ever been involved with!

Now the question, “How do we get involved?” By making a contribution to the Grand Lodge Charitable Foundation marked “Masonic Model”. It takes approximately \$300 per teacher to provide the 3-day training necessary. But for that \$300, each teacher will touch approximately 2,500 students during their career. I taught in the public education system of Ohio for 36 years, and touched over 5,000 lives. How I wish I had had this training 38 years ago. I would have helped a lot more students that were at risk.