



*A community alliance working toward a healthy, substance-free environment for youth.*

**NCDP Nexus Coalition for Drug Prevention**  
Friends of Navajo County Anti-Drug Coalition, Inc. (EIN 26-0468100)  
P.O. Box 1596 - Pinetop, AZ 85935 (928) 358-1645 Tel/FAX  
Physical: 1593 Johnson Drive – Lakeside, AZ 85929  
[vsncdp@gmail.com](mailto:vsncdp@gmail.com) [www.ncdp.rocks](http://www.ncdp.rocks) <https://www.facebook.com/ncdpncdp/>

## **Benefits of Junior Leadership Academy: Life-Skills Development**

### **Why Is It Important To Send Youth To JLA?**

Youth development experts agree that youth need a variety of experiences in their lives to help them grow into healthy adolescents and adults. For youth to develop positive behaviors, their experiences must produce:

- **A sense of industry and competency**

Do they develop skills? Do they learn to work for what is important? Are they successful at what they do?

- **A feeling of connectedness to others and to society**

Do they feel like they "fit"? Do they see a role they can play in their group, family, or community? Do they have friends?

- **A belief in their ability to make decisions**

Do they learn to make wise choices? Do they see the results of their decisions?

- **A stable identity**

Are they learning what their skills are? Are they receiving positive feedback about themselves?

JLA can provide an excellent experience for youth to learn and develop. According to the Search Institute, young people have seven developmental needs:

1. Physical Activity
2. Competence and Achievement
3. Self-Definition
4. Creative Self-Expression
5. Positive Social Interactions
6. Structure and Clear Limits
7. Meaningful Participation

The JLA experience is uniquely positioned to provide all of these developmental needs for youth. Consider JLA as the perfect partner to family, school, and community youth activities in helping youth learn independence, decision-making, social and emotional skills, character building and values - all in an atmosphere of creativity and enrichment under the supervision of positive adult & peer role models.

In today's pressure-oriented society, JLA provides a non-threatening environment for White Mountain youth to be active, to develop competence in life skills, to learn about and enhance their own abilities and to benefit from meaningful participation in a community designed just for them.