10 To Build Your Child's

Self-Esteem

- 1. Hug, kiss, and say, "I love you" to your child every day.
- 2. Give your child specific praise often. For example, instead of "good job" or "you're great," say "I love it when you pick up toys without me asking."
- 3. Try to turn around your child's negative thoughts about him/herself. Teach positive self-talk, such as "I like who I am" and I can do it!"
- 4. Talk with your child every day, and really listen. Show respect for his/her ideas and opinions.
- 5. Avoid put-downs, even as jokes. Kids take them seriously.
- 6. Assign your child chores and let him/her help you with tasks. Acknowledge your child's hard work.
- 7. Encourage independence and problem-solving. Allow your child to make choices, find solutions, and learn to accept consequences.
- 8. Teach your child to set goals. Pick a specific goal that's realistic but will take effort. Then track and celebrate progress!
- 9. Don't compare your children. "Your older brother was able to do this faster," only discourages a child and causes resentment.
- 10. Encourage success, but assure your child that you love him/her unconditionally.

Call for Help: 1-800-843-5437