



"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

-Martin Luther King Jr

INFORMATION SHEET - January, 2016

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CLUB GOALS. The development of these FCA student clubs/organizations began in NYC in 2012 with an overall goal to demonstrate and provide opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to become more aware of the issues involving the *abuse* and *bullying* of children, especially those who are more vulnerable, i.e. those with disabilities or who are considered "different".

The clubs are designed to enhance advocacy and leadership skills that can be useful for next generation professionals, citizens – helping them to bridge the academic discourse in the classroom to the social realities and need to support a human community striving for equity and justice.

All club designs must include the following **goals** in their work, including suggested types of activities in order to access national training and support. Once approved by their college or university the official FCA website is then available to them including: **Activities**, **Partners and Resource** pages for further ideas.

- * **Public Awareness** events developed within campus community re issues of *Anti-Bullying* (October-Fall semester) and *Child Abuse Prevention* (April- Spring semester).
- * **Professional Development** activities on campus enhancing student knowledge, community needs across targeted child abuse and anti-bullying areas - networking with community experts and local/national sources. Course/credit opportunities.
- * **Community Service** in the areas of child abuse prevention and anti-bullying with approved child advocacy centers (CAC) or various types of curriculum infusion sessions in schools and local communities. Course/field work options.
- * **Advocacy Development** (including Community Fundraising skills) in order to successfully achieve club goals.

TYPES OF CLUB DESIGNS. *Future Child Advocates* student clubs/organizations were conceived and designed to be based on undergraduate or graduate school campuses with goals to support and enhance the knowledge and work within these types of communities in the areas of anti-bullying and child abuse prevention, involving students, faculty, staff and local community members. In some cases a brand new club needs to be started in order to initiate this focus and content development. In other situations, clubs or student organizations are already established that lend themselves to these concerns, but work is needed to enhance or build-in specific ways to support these targeted areas. The national FCA initiative, therefore, supports a club design that allows for campuses to become engaged in this work in one of two ways with requirements outlined below.

Club Design #1 - *Future Child Advocates* Club

Separate and newly established student organization

Requirements:

- Approval by a student affairs department in college/university as a formal student club/organization. (*Requirements established by college/university often including: constitution, “#” members already signed up, Faculty Advisor, Student Leadership in place, when approved “x” dollars provided by university to support club activities, etc.*)
- FCA goals included in the formal student club/organization constitution and submitted to National FCA team upon approval of college/university club.
- Pending acceptance by national FCA team of the approved college/university FCA club, local student group will also have support from the national team (e.g. training, consultation, access to resources) to implement its activities.
- Semester update report to FCA national on outcomes during this time period – i.e. Fall/Spring.
- Participation by local college FCA leadership in periodic conference calls with FCA national team leaders to provide assistance/support throughout the year.
- FCA club/student organization maintains national level support as long as it is supported within the university/college.

Club Design #2 - *Future Child Advocates Affiliate*

Activities/goals part of an already established club/student organization

Requirements:

- The “parent” formal student club/organization is already approved by their college/university and shares similar and/or mutually beneficial goals of a *Future Child Advocate* type of student group.
- There is an agreement by the Leadership of the “Parent” student club that the four goals of FCA can be added to their original goals and objectives.
- There is an agreement by the Leadership of the “Parent” student club that similar activities identified in the *FCA Club Guidelines Handbook* especially during October and April of each year can be incorporated into their current efforts.
- The “parent” student club/organization will appoint/elect a **POINT PERSON** from their club who will serve as the *Liaison* with national FCA and be available to participate with our FCA club leadership in regular Conference calls in order to receive additional support and guidance as needed.
- Pending the submission and approval by the national FCA team of anticipated activities which will meet the four goals of FCA , the Affiliate student group will then have full support from national (e.g. training, consultation, access to a variety of resources) to implement its activities.
- The *Affiliate Club Liaison* must submit for approval each semester a report of the outcomes and next semester plans in order to continue to be recognized and supported in all ways by the national FCA office.

REGISTER. Are you or your group seriously thinking about getting involved as an *FCA Club* or *Affiliate*? **Great!** Complete the *Survey Monkey registration/contact form* and an FCA national Team member will be in touch to answer questions or help move your ideas forward.

FCA Registration/Contact link: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FCA CLUB INTEREST](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FCA_CLUB_INTEREST)

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

- Margaret Mead

