



"All kids, regardless of their background gain hope and confidence through their own actions, interests and abilities. The Who Is NOBODY? Program helps kids do this. It teaches young people to discover the talents that make them somebody."

Ajike Akande, Teacher,
Upper Canada College, Toronto
& Nelson Mandela PS, TDSB



## **Executive Summary**

#### What is the Who Is NOBODY? Literacy Program?

*Who Is NOBODY?* is a group-based program, developed by a teacher named Kelly Clark, that applies all four strands of literacy to real-life experiences. Individuals build self-esteem by discovering their strengths and using them to help the community in a personal way.

Reflecting, documenting, sharing and celebrating each participant and the group as a whole are built right into this self-running program via NOBODY, a class scrapbook and weekly presentations.

It is easy to set up with any age or ability level, the materials are reusable and the impact is tangible.

#### How does it work?

The program begins when a mysterious package arrives in the post that says:

#### To: EVERYBODY From: NOBODY

Inside is 'NOBODY', a blue denim doll that has no interests, abilities, age, gender, ethnic or cultural identity, friends or character.

#### Students find out that: EVERYBODY will help NOBODY become SOMEBODY

by following the 5 *Who Is NOBODY?* Choose-Your-Own-Adventure Steps that support students in discovering their interests and abilities and using them to help a person, animal or the environment by creating awareness and/or donating time, materials or funds.

#### 35 000 Recorded Literacy Projects (to date), range from:

- Planting an apple seed for a neighbour
- Researching and designing pamphlets against animal testing
- Creating awareness against drinking and driving

#### What is the result?

Each participant develops literacy skills, character and self-esteem by reflecting, documenting, sharing and celebrating their experience by:

- 1. **NOBODY becoming SOMEBODY!** (Media Literacy) Adding 3D attachments to 'NOBODY' who becomes SOMEBODY that reflect the unique strengths of EVERYBODY in the group
- 2. Class Scrapbook (Writing and Media Literacy) Writing a story and drawing a picture that goes in the class Scrapbook
- Class Presentation (Oral Communication and Reading) Speaking about their Who Is NOBODY? Experience – how they put their interests and abilities into action and reading their story to the class

#### 4. "I'M SOMEBODY" Bracelets

Each participant receives an "I'M SOMEBODY" Bracelet that is a tangible reminder of the amazing project he or she did to help the community by putting his/her interests and abilities into action!





## **Program Impact**

# Impact over first 9.5 Years

	WWF (World Wildlife Foundation)
	Oxfam
	World Vision (glasses & child sponsor)
	Heart & Stroke Foundation Humane Society
	Anti-Bullying Hotline
	Food Bank
	Council of Jewish Women (Kosher Food Bank)
	RAFT (Resource Association for Teens)
	Lady Bug Foundation (for the homeless)
	Goodwill
	Salvation Army
	JDRF (Junior Diabetes Research Fund)
	Interplast
	Women's Place
	St. Vincent De Paul Niagara Peninsula Children's Centre
	Red Cross Association
	United Way
	Scott Mission
	Bloorview McMillan Centre (donated books)
(	CNIB (Canadian National Institute for the Blind)
(	Canadian Diabetes Association
•	James Birrell Fund (Neuroblastoma)
	Sick Kids Hospital
	Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
	Oasis Clothing Bank
	MS Read-a-thon
1	Cell Phone Collection
	Misiones Salesianas
	Green Peace
	Children's Foundation
	Play it Again Sports
,	Aga Khan Foundation
	Canadian Cancer Society
	Angel Hair For Kids Foundation
	Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation
	Bay Crest Centre
	Toronto District School Board
	Toronto Zoo (Endangered Species) Sir Adam Beck Daycare
	Free The Children
	Earth Rangers
	SPCA
I	POGO (Pediatric Oncology of Ontario)
	Humber River Hospital Foundation
	Tender Care (Nursing Home)
	Blind Research Center (TO Gen. Hosp.)
	Autism Society Canada
	York Region Children's Centre
	Kidney Foundation
	Value Village Mavis Road Homeless Shelter
	Interval House
	Cross Zone Youth Hostel (Homeless Youth)
	Zack's Walk For Comfort (founded by student)
l	Raising The Roof (Homeless Organization)
;	Smith Integrative Brain Tumour Research Centre
	Botanical Gardens Conservation Program
(	Guatemala Stove Project
	Gulu Charity Walk
	Grenada Relief Fund
	Guangzhou Zoo (Endangered Panda Bears)
	PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals Ronald McDonald Charity
	New Orleans Hurricane Relief
	Eglinton Centre
	Canadian International Hearing Services
	Mayor Miller's Community Clean Up Day
	Lieutenant Governor's Book Drive
(	Christie-Ossington Homeless Shelter
	Bloor Gladstone Library
	Liver Disease Foundation
	OFOCP (Ontario Federation of Cerebral Palsy)
	Walmart Glasses Collection for developing world
	KARE (Cancer Research)
	Jane Goodall Organization
(	Children's Wish Foundation
	Peregrine Falcon Foundation Blythwood Charity

#### CAUSES Drinking & Driving Child Labour Recvcling Multiculturalism Physical, Sexual & Drug Abuse Anti-Smoking Endangered & Extinct Animals (clean beaches, stamp series, etc.) Pet Therapy at Nursing Homes Help & Visit Nursing Home Preserving Habitats (Wetlands, Penguin, etc.) Pesticides School/Neighbourhood/Park Cleap Up Neighbours (walking dogs, baking cookies, old clothes, etc.) Tutoring a Younger Student (school work/sports) Planting Flowers/Trees Pop tabs for wheelchairs Greenhouse Effect Global Warming Composting Pollution (garbage in water, driving cars, battery disposal, etc.) Forest & Nature Preservation Animal Rights (puppy mills, de-clawing cats, seal hunting, etc.) Shoveling Snow/Raking Leaves/Mowing Lawn, etc. for others (Seniors, Blind) Helping Others (elderly, blind, disabled, children, etc.) Visiting/Making Gifts for Seniors at Nursing Home Toys for Tsunami Orphans Environment (Hybrid Cars/Front Load Washers) Responsibilities at Home Children in Dominican Republic, Peru, Iraq Orphans in (Bangladesh, Ukraine) Walk/Bike to School (Environment & Health) Health (Exercise & Nutrition) Missionary in Africa Homeless Library (local, church daycare, etc.) Responsibilities at School Understanding a spectrum of abilities (Spina Bifida) Clothes & Toy Collection for a Local Family at Xmas Blind Awareness People (Ikaluit, Darfur, Armenian, Africa, Sri Lanka) Education is important Recycled Art Supplies for Street Kids Cancer (Skin, Breast, Leukemia) Hospital Safety (Fire, Bike, etc.) Responsibilities at Home Peace Effort Petition Against Immigration Fees Stereotypes & Racism in Sports Education is a Human Right HIV/AIDS World Poverty Appreciation (Police, Fire Fighters) Over Fishing Information About Animals (zebras, etc.) Drug Store Containers Add Pennies - every little bit helps Inclusiveness (not excluding & bullying) Non-Violence Sportsmanship Rabbis Awareness Citizenship Organic Foods Bullying FairTrade Healthy lifestyle Premature babies Learning sign langauage Handicapped children Importance of friends Celebrating diversity Post hurricane relief Citizenship Assisting the elderly Importance of Rememberence Day Sporting spirit Integraton (rejection and intimidation) Puppy mills Celebrating music Supporting young mothers Rabies Book drive Homophobia



**Over 700 Different Organizations and Causes Helped Between January 2002 – June 2010** As many as 800 initiatives have been completed per Organization or Cause. Visit www.whoisnobody.com/studentimpact for the most updated list.

## **Example Media Coverage**



# **Quick Facts**

Programs: Who Is NOBODY? Qui est PERSONNE? (French Version) Who Is GREEN? (EcoVersion)

#### **Program Goals:**

#### 1. EVERYBODY's good at something:

Who Is NOBODY? creates a chance for participants to identify, share & celebrate their strengths

#### 2. We all have obstacles in our lives but there is still lots of good in the world:

*Who Is NOBODY?* reminds participants, through their personal outreach projects of helping people, animals or the environment that there is so much to be thankful for: fresh water, democracy and education - despite personal challenges

#### 3. Change starts with kids:

Global warming, Child Labour, Animal Testing... how do you stop that? Who Is NOBODY? empowers youth to make change by experiencing how easy and fun it is to help others

#### Who Participates?

Anybody! Gr. 1 – 12 Special Education to Gifted Inner-city to Rural ESL & French Classes (*Qui est PERSONNE?*) Adults for team building, women's shelters, etc. ...To date over 35 000 students have participated

#### **Curriculum Supported:**

Character Education Literacy Safe Schools Guidance The Arts ESL French Health & PE & a subject of each student's choice

#### **Teacher Commitment:**

Playing a 25 minute DVD Directly to students (can play in parts for younger students)

#### **In Class Commitment:**

5 minutes per week with optional extension lessons





## **Quick Facts**

#### **Start Time:**

Anytime before April

#### **Provinces Participating:**

Ontario (primarily) Nova Scotia Newfoundland New Brunswick Nunavut Quebec Alberta British Columbia

#### **Program Highlighted:**

Radio: CBC, BBC Television: Global News, Ottawa A Channel, Daytime TV Magazines: Professionally Speaking, Autisim Matters OSCA Today, Canadian Living (April 2011)





# **Three Example Projects**



### A 17 year old helped People by:

Running an after-school basketball program for students in Grade 9.

Her volunteer time was put towards her Mandatory Community Involvement Hours, and she added this experience to her resume to support her future goal: to be a teacher!





# An 8 year old helped People and the Environment by:

Collecting pop tabs at recess and lunch hour to donate to an organization that recycles them to make more affordable wheelchairs.

He has continued this initiative over the last 6 years.

### A 13 year old helped People by:

Asking local stores for t-shirt donations to redesign and auction-off to raise funds for an Anti-Tobacco Awareness Campaign.

Her choices were based on her love for fashion and because her grandfather has lung cancer.