

# Donald Taylor, Jr.

P. O. Box 23214 \* 727-415-1036 \* Donald@teachingtheroad.org \* www.teachingtheroad.org

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## **Mission:**

To create safe, inclusive and engaging environments where true youth development can take place—that in which youth realize their full potential and youth workers competently facilitate that process.

## **Experience:**

Working in the field of youth development for more than a decade—I have already seen fads come, and go. I have learned a few tricks along the route to real & lasting youth development:

- a safe place where children know they can be themselves, and yet change and evolve;
- an environment with few preconceived notions of individual success;
- an environment that utilized differentiated instruction to meet the unique learning needs of each learner;
- an intellectually stimulating environment; and
- lack of stagnation, a program must always evolve to meet its ever changing youth.

My combination of hands-on and administrative experience affords me the luxury of seeing what works behind the scenes as well as *in the trenches*.

## **Relevant Work Experience:**

### Taylor Consulting Group: Founder, 2004—present

Responsibilities include:

Staff recruitment & training	Client recruitment & retention
Curriculum design	Development of marketing & business plan
Coordinating retreats for youth and adults	
Developed Lead On! Character Education Program (now in three public school districts)	
Session Director: New Horizons, Camp for children of incarcerated parents	

### Pathfinder Outdoor Education, Diversity Specialist/Facilitator, 2004-2008

Responsibilities included:

Development of diversity training for rotating staff of 20	Fund development
Curriculum design and instruction	Client relations
Coordinating residential programs for up to 100	Adult & youth trainings

### First United Church of Tampa (UCC), Youth Outreach, 2003—present

Responsibilities include:

Coordination and growth of middle-high youth group

### National Conference for Community & Justice, Program Specialist, 2000—2004

Coordinated nation's largest residential diversity camp	
Recruited & trained 200 volunteer staff annually	Recruited 400 teen participants annually
Managed budget of \$200,000	Ensured grant compliance
Coordinated 6 weeks of residential programming annually	

### YouthBuild Louisville, Leadership Development Specialist, 1999—2001

Assisted with initial 501(c) development	Assisted with budget in excess of \$1 million
Recruited and trained 15 staff	Managed partners network of 40+ agencies

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**Relevant Media Collaborations:**

*A recognized contributor on youth issues in conjunction with:*

Tampa Bay Business Journal	Tampa Tribune	Louisville Courier Journal
News Channel 8	10 News Connects	Fox 13

**Relevant Memberships, Certifications and Education:**

BEST Certified Youth Worker: Juvenile Welfare Board, 2004  
Association for Experiential Education, active member  
High Ropes/Low Ropes Facilitator: Triple Eagle/Pathfinder, 2004  
First Aid for the Professional Rescuer: exp 2009  
Infant, Child & Adult CPR: exp. 2009  
Small Watercraft Safety: ACA, 2004  
University of Southern Indiana, courses in Business Administration: 1999-2001  
IUPUI School of Philanthropy, courses in Fund Development: 1997-1999

**National/Local Workshops & Publications:**

Lead On! Training Manual (ISBN Applied for)                      The Skin I Was Born In (Hays House, in process)

Juvenile Welfare Board, BEST Youth Worker trainer: GLBT Youth  
Association for Experiential Education: Partnering with Small Churches  
Association for Experiential Education: Partnering with Public Schools  
Pinellas County Character Camp: Creating Classrooms of Character and Care

**Professional References:**

Sherri Dunham

Supervisor of Safe & Drug-Free Schools Prevention Programs  
District School Board of Pasco County  
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