

Dollars and Sense Harris joins KidsMatter for author appearance

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When companies make philanthropy a true part of their business plan, everyone benefits.

Harris Bank has been helping Chicagoland community-based organizations who are truly making a positive difference in our communities for more than 55 years. The bank's support takes many forms, with the goal being to enhance and strengthen the communities it serves through corporate giving, volunteer efforts, board memberships and active participation in agencies such as the United Way.

In Naperville, Harris is proud to be a sponsor, along with Anderson's Bookshop, for a special presentation Sept. 14 with bestselling author Sean Covey.

The event will benefit KidsMatter, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to empower youth and families to effectively manage the stress of everyday life through programming, education and collaboration. Covey will talk about his latest book, "The 7 Habits of Happy Kids," along with his best-seller, "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens."



*Tom McGee,
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Covey's message is inspiring greatness in youth, which is important in creating strong communities. IdaLynn Wenhold, executive director of KidsMatter, said, "Covey's seven habits can empower children and teens to feel confident in knowing that they have the power to decide for themselves who they will be and what they will do."

She said KidsMatter supports the same principles for young people that Covey promotes in his books, such as building friendships, resisting peer pressure, achieving goals and even getting along with their parents. This is a win-win for everyone.

Partnering with Harris and Anderson's is Naperville School District 203, where Covey will speak to the district's first and eighth graders.

District 203's director of communications, Melea Smith, is immediate past president of the KidsMatter board of directors. She said Covey will present students with valuable and age-appropriate tools to help them be happier and more successful.

"KidsMatter has long defined success as achieving one's personal best (the best me I can be), as opposed to being **the** best," Smith said. "District 203 is also committed to supporting the needs of each child."

KidsMatter emphasizes education, prevention and healthy life choices. Its programming is based on powerful research by the Search Institute, which notes that the more developmental assets young people have in their lives, the less likely they are to take part in risky behaviors and the more likely they are to exhibit thriving behaviors.

At Harris, we value the opportunity to provide worthwhile presentations that benefit the community and one of its most important resources -- its youth.

For more information about Sean Covey's presentation, visit www.kidsmatter2us.org.

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