

# Welcome VLA attendees!

1. Sign in (sign in sheets).
2. Sign up for an activity or just engage.
  - Slime (sign up with staff)
  - Smash Bros (open)
3. Time to Play!



# Teens, Teens Everywhere!



Managing a large group activity for teens.

# History and Set up of AHTC

After Hours Teen Center (AHTC) opened at Cascades Library in 2005 in direct response to a Loudoun County Board of Supervisors initiative that focused on meeting the gap of community services for youth ages 12~18. (Pg. 1, VACO 2015).

Open to grades 6~12.

Every Friday night since 2005!



# Schedule

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**7:00 and 7:30:** Teens arrive to sign in or register.

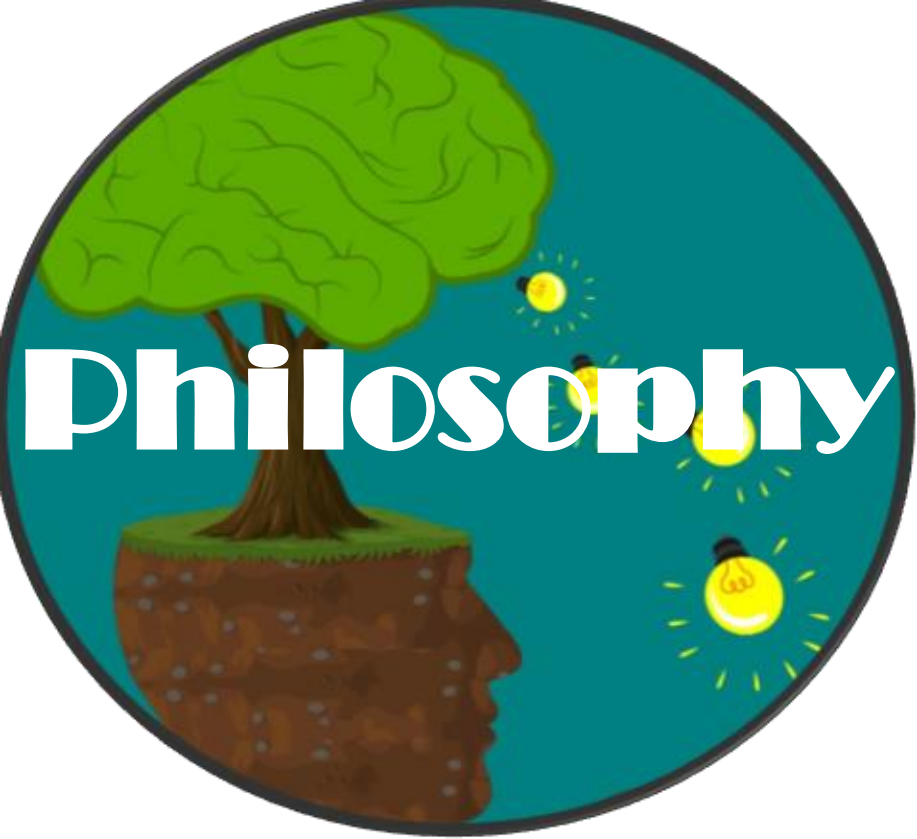
Teens are welcome to open spaces, games, and computers.

**7:30:** The doors close & pizza arrives.

**8:00:** Featured Programs begin.

**9:30~10:00:** Parents pick up teens.





A **safe, fun** space for teens,

Where teens **choose** what they want.

AHTC has served more than 50,000 teens since its inception and is the only program of its kind in Virginia.

# Strategies for Success

- Variety
- Space
- Both structured and unstructured programming
- Self led, staff led, and outside performers
- Going with tried and true but also trying new
- High level of planning and preparation
- Communication between staff
- Assigned staffing zones
- Visible without being intrusive
- Giving teens ownership



# Handball Tournament & Friendship Bracelets

What do you need?

A ball  
2 trash cans  
Friendship Bracelet string  
Instructions for friendship bracelets  
Tape



How many staff?

Handball – 1  
Friendship bracelets – 1  
And more!

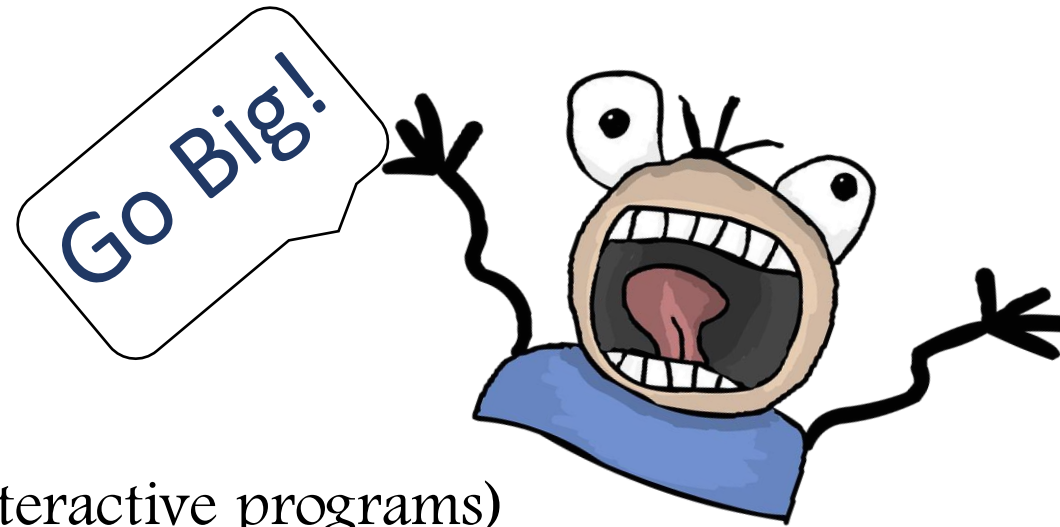
What else?



# Large programs in general

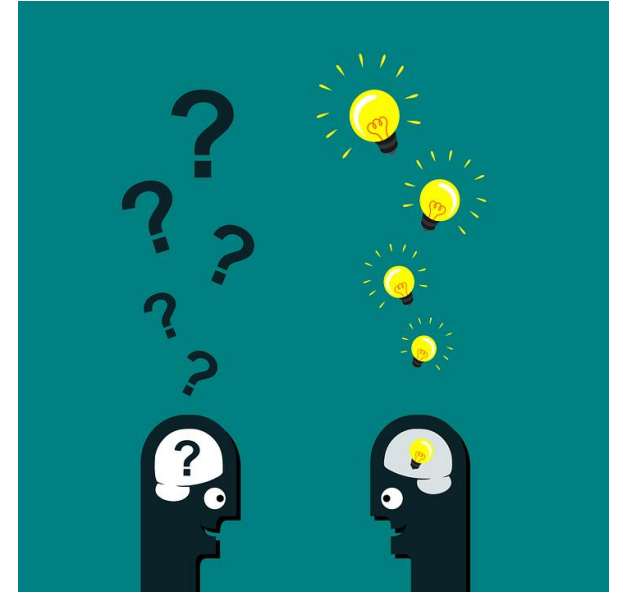
Many of the concepts used at AHTC can be translated to large programs in other environments.

- Plan ahead
- Ask the teens what they want
- Research trends
- Try something that has worked on a smaller scale
- Try what has worked somewhere else
- Plan for multiple options for teens (passive and interactive programs)
- Do the program in stages (i.e. 10 at a time or assembly line style)
- Prepare





# Questions?



## Contact

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# Fluffy Slime Recipe

Added by popular request!

- 1/3 cup glue
- 1 Tbs water
- 1.5 cup shaving cream
- 1 Tbs contact lens solution (ingredients should include boric acid)



# PIZZA RULES!

Pizza will be here at 7:30

You may only take 1 slice at a time - you can get more later + your friends can get their own!

Please reuse your plate

Pizza may only be eaten in the hallway + meeting rooms - not at the computers!

WELCOME to

# AFTER HOURS TEEN CENTER!

Please Sign In

Normally, teens sign in on an iPad. We have their name and contact info stored on a database. This makes it easier to manage stats and handle emergencies.

# VIDEO GAMES

AHTC has a lot of video games and it is one of our most popular activities

PS4

Nintendo Switch

PS3

Wii U

MineCraft

Roblox

Xbox 360

We don't police it - the teens have their own turn system!

## The MAIN Activity

"Mains" are staff or outside presenter led. They must handle at least 40 teens. This is the activity we advertise in our marketing materials.

DJ Night

Spoons

Laser Tag

Slime

Mini Golf

Human Football

Smash Bros Tournament

Soap-making

Murder Mystery Night

Glow Bowling

## Side + Passive Activities

These can be staff-led or done independently. They often reflect our Main-for example: if the Main is sports or physical activities, the Side will be crafts or art.

Perler Beads

Board Games

Puzzles

Friendship Bracelets

Cornhole

Ping-Pong

Sketching