



*"If we work upon marble, it will perish, if we work upon brass, time will efface it: if we rear temples, they will crumble into dust: but if we work upon immortal minds and instill into them just principles, we are then engraving that upon tablets which no time will efface, but will brighten and brighten to all eternity."  
-- Daniel Webster*

## Our Vision

### "Building On a Solid Foundation"

A community leader in Hempstead recently lamented that many of our youth-and their parents-have no standard to live by. Because the Character Council of Hempstead has recognized that character issues, that is, lack of standards, are at the root of almost every problem man faces, the members are committed to raising a standard of good character that will impact every aspect of the life of our city.

The Character Council will present a **new character quality** each month to the community through this website, strategically-placed signs in Hempstead, and through the media. In addition, various sectors of the community (**family, business, education, government, faith, and sports**) will begin to promote these qualities in their domain.

These **monthly character qualities** are "building blocks" through which a person's overall character is formed. As they are first built into individual lives, they will begin to change the mindset and culture of the **community** itself. Community transformation is a process, one person at a time.

The Council will encourage development of good character by a 3-legged approach:

- Educating about each character quality
- Showing practical steps to implement the quality
- Encouraging reward and honor to those exhibiting the character quality.

As the community begins to "think" character-evaluating and rewarding on the basis of character rather than outward achievements, talking about character, and looking for good role models in character development-many positive results will be evident:

- Families will be stronger
- Neighbors will care for each other
- Homes and streets will be safer
- Businesses will prosper
- Education will be more effective
- Government will work in harmony with the citizens
- A general sense of unity and cooperativeness will pervade.

As Hempstead begins to focus on the solution of good character rather than its problems, a new kind of pride and responsibility will fill the community. A culture of character will be built into the city, beginning with us as individuals.