

Motivating Others through Voices of Experience



YOUTH MOVE NATIONAL™

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Building Youth Networks: Motivating Others through Voices of Experience

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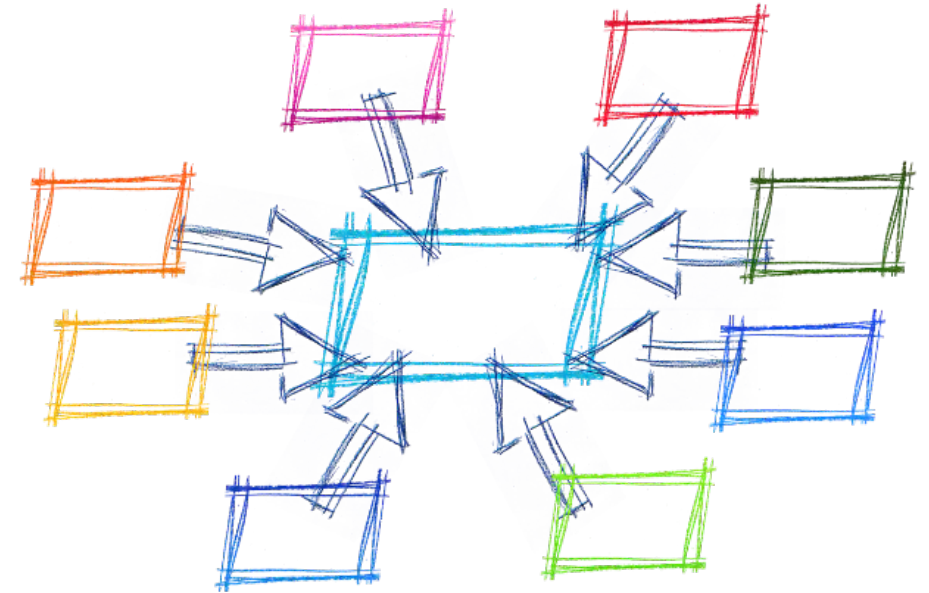
Youth MOVE National

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Objectives

- Underline the value of youth voice and engagement
- Provide orientation to current youth engagement work
- Identify key considerations in supporting the growth of youth voice
- Share take home messages you can use



What We Do...

- Unite the causes and the voices of youth while raising awareness around youth issues.
- Advocate for youth rights and youth voice in systems that serve us.
- Empower youth to be equal partners in the process of change.



How We Do It...

- Unite members by convening young people and connecting chapter to chapter.
- Identify best practices around TAY engagement in services
- Engaging young people as advisees to organizations, policy and systems design
- Develop resources and training for meaningful engagement.
 - Represent youth voice at the national level.

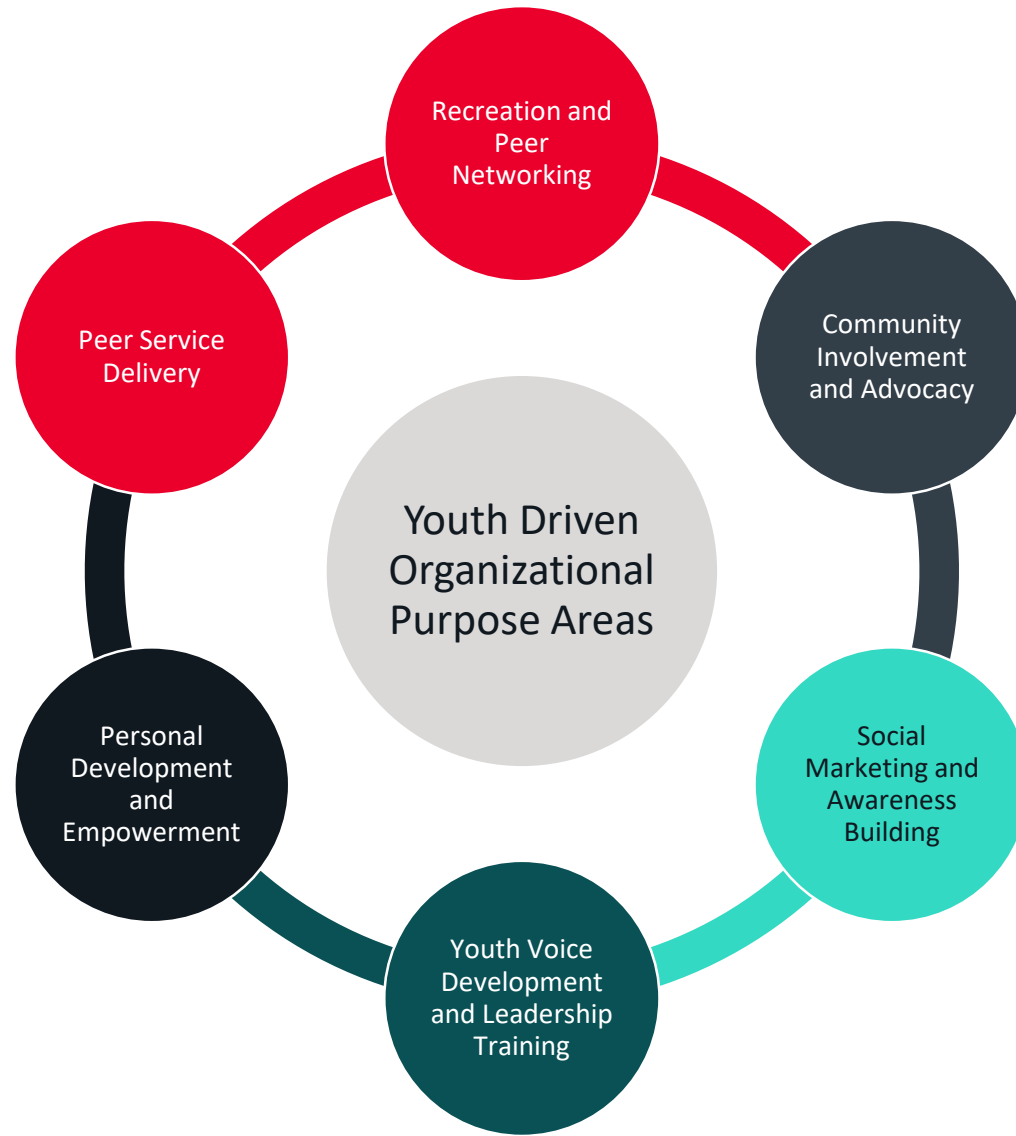


Why We Do It...

We envision a future in which every youth is recognized and accepted as an individual and a human who can make change — not just treated as a number, problem, or caseload.



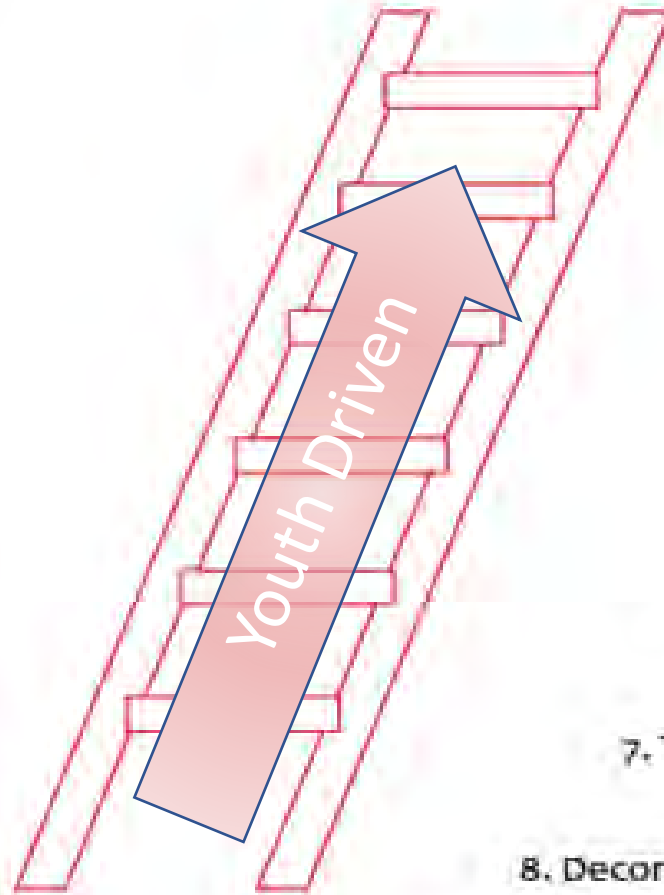
Chapter Purpose Areas



Foundation of Youth Development

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 5px; border-radius: 5px;">Object "To"</div> <div style="background-color: lightgray; padding: 5px; border-radius: 5px;">Recipient "For"</div> <div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px; border-radius: 5px;">Resource "With"</div> </div>		
Style #1	Style #2	Style #3
<p>The adult is in control with no intention of youth involvement.</p> <p>The Objective Personal growth of young people.</p> <p>The Byproduct Conformity of young people and acceptance of the program as it is.</p>	<p>The adult is in control and allows youth involvement.</p> <p>The Objective Personal growth of young people.</p> <p>The Byproduct Increased organizational effectiveness.</p>	<p>There is a Youth/Adult Partnership (Shared Control)</p> <p>The Objective Increased organizational effectiveness.</p> <p>The Byproduct Personal growth of young people and adults.</p>

Ladder of Youth Involvement



1. Youth Initiated and Directed

- Designed and run by youth and decisions made by youth

2. Youth Initiated, Shared Decisions with Adults

- Designed and run by youth who share decisions with adults

3. Youth and Adult Initiated and Directed

- Designed and run by youth and adults in full partnership

4. Adult Initiated, Shared Decisions with Youth

- Minimum Youth Participation, designed and run by adults who share decisions with youth

5. Consulted and Informed

- Designed and run by adults who consult with youth, Youth make recommendations that are considered by adults

6. Assigned and Informed

- Youth do not initiate, but understand and have some sense of ownership

7. Tokenism

- Symbolic representation by few, may not have genuine voice, may be asked to speak for the group they represent

8. Decoration

- Adults use youth to promote or support a cause without informing youth

9. Manipulation

- Youth are not involved in design or decisions; Youth involvement used by adults to communicate adults' messages



YOUTH MOVE NATIONAL

WE ARE CHANGE AGENTS "MOTIVATING OTHERS THROUGH VOICES OF EXPERIENCE"

What is Youth Engagement?

Building a Foundation

A strategy in which youth are giving meaningful input and have roles where they are authentically involved in working towards changing the service systems that directly affect their lives.



Value Added of Young Adult Voice

- Changes institutional culture and practice
- Can help design and implement new policies that better serve youth and young adults
- Builds awareness and understanding
- Builds self efficacy
- Builds sense of community
- Improves individual and organizational outcomes



<http://www.cssp.org/community/constituents-co-invested-in-change/other-resources/engaging-youth-in-community-decision-making.pdf>

<http://youth.gov/youth-topics/effectiveness-positive-youth-development-programs>

http://thirdsectorimpact.eu/site/assets/uploads/page/documents-for-researchers/TSI_impact-report_sports-leaders-literature-review-dec-2014.pdf

Meaningful Partnerships

What youth want:

- Choice of how to participate
- Options that build on skills/interests
- Clear understanding of roles, tasks, and expectations
- Support and coaching
- Be a meaningful partner
- Grow with opportunities to participate in the work
- Connection with others who share a common experience



Helpful Tips for Adult Allies



Adults looking to build partnership and better engage youth:

- Be open minded and flexible
- Respect the readiness of youth
- Create respectful and nurturing learning environment
- Don't over promise and under deliver
- Be supportive and communicate expectation, yet be willing to ask what support looks like

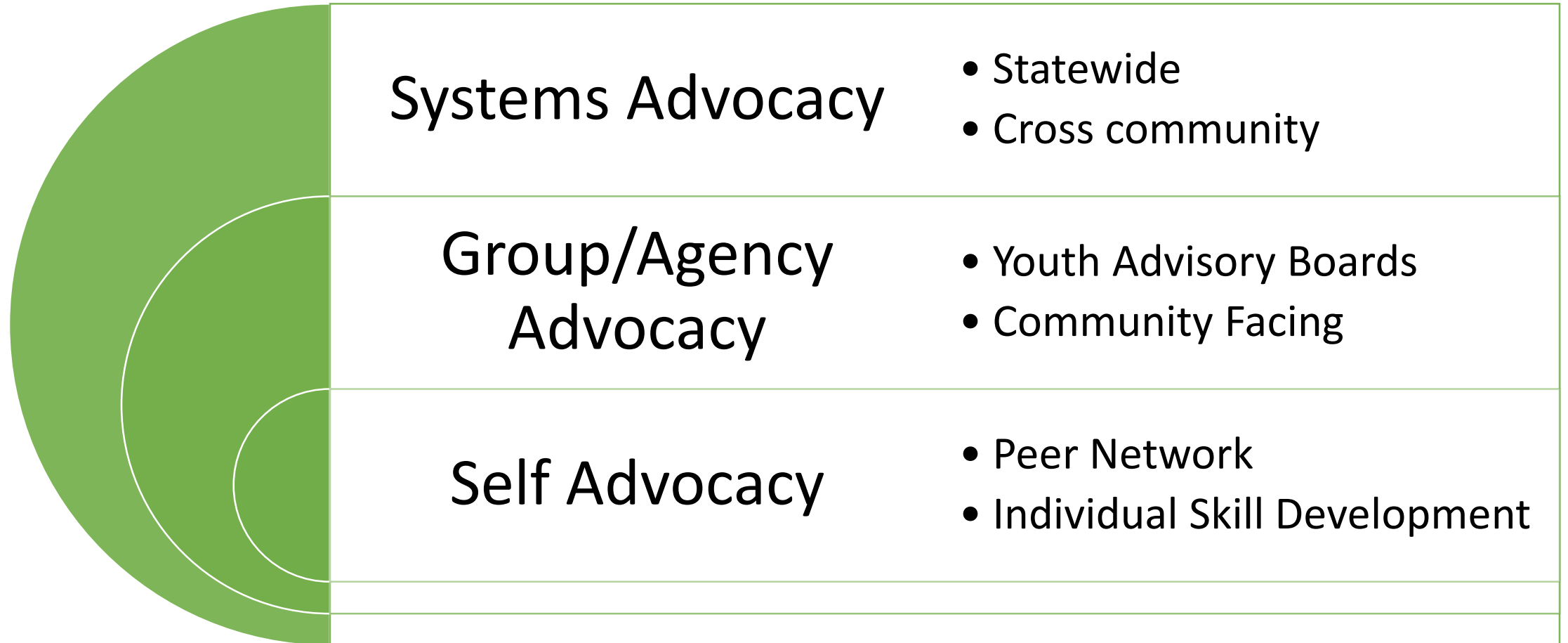
Examples: Services

- Treatment planning and goal setting with youth
 - Achieve My Plan
 - The Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS)
 - Self-written
- Innovative models of planning as standard practice
 - High Fidelity Wraparound
- Youth peer support
- Individualized treatment and support
- Measuring outcomes
 - Perception of Opportunity Scale
 - The Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS)

Examples: Organizations and Governance

- Youth advisory boards
- Youth MOVE Chapters
- Focus groups and organizational assessments
 - [Y-VAL](#)
 - [What Helps What Harms](#)
- Oversight groups
 - Required by state for every managed care county
 - Statewide youth advisory councils; Governor's Youth Taskforces
 - NAMI
 - Consumer Action Response Team
- Trauma Informed Care Organizational Models

Building a Network



Youth Voice – Agency Level Self Assessment (Y –VAL)

Youth MOVE National's Best Practice Committee

What does it mean to be youth guided and young adult driven?

- Youth and young adult leaders contribute to the field through meaningful engagement
- Youth organizations offer supports and services
- Indicators of success are related to...
 - Youth and young adult peer support
 - Meaningful youth and young adult engagement
 - Quality health and wellness for those with health concerns

Youth Voice – Agency Level Self Assessment (Y –VAL)

There is a need to understand **what will support youth and young adult voice** at the agency and system levels:

- Clarify what sort of resources and commitments are required
- Prevent people from reinventing the wheel each time and/or causing distress or harm
- Provide a tailored and data driven approach to developing, implementing and advancing youth driven activities



Components of the Y -VAL

1. Overall vision and commitment (8 items)
2. Collaborative approach (5 items)
3. Empowered representatives (5 items)
4. Commitment to facilitation and support of Y/YA participation (3 items)
5. Workforce development (4 items)
6. Participation in developing programming/ program policies (5 items)
7. Participation in evaluation (4 items)
8. Leading initiatives and projects (3 items)

So What Can I Do?

- Create intentional space for youth to express themselves and to develop goals and plans that meet **THEIR** self-identified needs.
- Identify a place in your organization where youth leaders can join the discussion and share experiences and ideas for future improvements and success.
- Find the youth-run organizations in your community (and state and nation) and make the connection.
- Promote and support youth engagement. Share the value of involving youth voice in your work.

Resources

- [Youth Engagement Guide – SAMHSA Store](#)
- [#Things2Consider: Youth Advisory Boards](#)
- [#Things2Consider: Stipending Youth and Young Adults](#)
- [#Things2Consider: Measuring Success](#)
- [A Guide to Recruiting Youth](#)
- [Other Resources from Youth MOVE National](#)



Discussion, Questions, Thoughts



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