

Organizational Support For Youth Engagement Tool



PURPOSES

This tool is designed to assess the level at which your organization/program actively supports youth engagement in decision making. Specifically, the tool asks about:

- **Degree of Youth Engagement in Decision Making**
Numbers and diversity of youth in decision-making roles
- **Leadership and Support for Youth in Decision Making**
How much adults and youth in the organization/program support youth engagement; how much the organization/program has structures to support it
- **Outcomes of Youth Engagement in Decision Making**
How much youth in decision-making is helping the organization/program do its work
- **Functions Where Youth are Engaged in Decision Making**
Areas of the organization/program where youth are engaged in decision-making; how much youth are involved in decision-making in those areas

By “youth engagement in decision-making,” we mean the integration of youth (aged 12-21) into the ongoing planning and implementation of policies and programs in groups (i.e., organizations, programs, coalitions, etc.).

By “youth-adult partnerships,” we mean that youth and adults work together as equitable partners to make decisions that benefit the organization/ program, or coalition and its programs.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Your gender: male female

Your age: under 18 18-24 25 or older

You are: a program member a staff member a volunteer

About how long have you been with this program? years and months

Name of the specific program being assessed: _____



PART 1: DEGREE OF YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

Numbers and diversity of youth in decision-making roles

1. Please estimate the total number of youth who are currently members of your program. _____
2. Of those youth, please estimate the total number of current members who are regularly engaged in decision-making. _____
3. Compared to last year, are there more, the same number, or fewer youth engaged in decision-making in your program? (Circle one response below.)

Many fewer	Somewhat fewer	The same number	Somewhat more	Many more
1	2	3	4	5

4. Are you satisfied with the number of youth who are involved in decision-making in this program? (Check one response below.)

_____ I am not satisfied. We need more youth to be involved.

_____ I am satisfied. The number of youth involved is about right.

_____ I am not satisfied. There are too many youth involved.

5. Are you satisfied with the diversity of the youth who are engaged in decision-making here? (Check one response below)

_____ I am not satisfied. We need more diverse youth to be involved.

_____ I am satisfied. The quality of diversity of youth involved is about right.

_____ I am not satisfied. There is too much diversity of youth involved.



PART 2: LEADERSHIP & SUPPORT FOR YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

*How much adults and youth in the organization/program support youth engagement
How much the organization/program has structures to support it*

Indicate the degree to which you agree with the following statements.

Circle one response for each statement.

Strongly Disagree 1	Mostly Disagree 2	Disagree a Little 3	Agree a Little 4	Mostly Agree 5	Strongly Agree 6	Not Applicable n/a
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		Strongly Disagree 1	2	3	4	5	Strongly Agree 6	n/a
6.	There are enough written policies in this program that speak to the importance of engaging youth in decision-making.							
7.	These policies are known and understood by all youth and adults in this program.							
8.	The adults in this program view youth as equal partners with adults in decision-making.							
9.	The youth in this program view themselves as equal partners with adults in decision-making.							
10.	All of the adults in this program believe that a high level of youth engagement is critical to the success of this group/organization.							
11.	The staff at top levels of this program are good role models for how to engage youth in decision-making.							
12.	The staff here make sure that the issue of youth engagement is a frequent focus of discussion.							
13.	The youth and adults get enough training and support to work effectively with each other.							
14.	(Additional question can be added here)							



PART 3: OUTCOMES OF YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

How much youth in decision-making is helping the organization/program do its work

**Indicate the degree to which you agree with the following statements.
Circle one response for each statement.**

Strongly Disagree	Mostly Disagree	Disagree a Little	Agree a Little	Mostly Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
1	2	3	4	5	6	n/a

		Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	n/a
15. This program makes better decisions because of the participation of youth in decision-making.	1	2	3	4	5	6	n/a
16. This program is better at reaching its goals because of the participation of youth in decision-making.	1	2	3	4	5	6	n/a
17. The youth here in this program have done work that has made a significant and visible contribution to the larger community.	1	2	3	4	5	6	n/a
18. This program has a good reputation among youth in the community as a place where youth can make a difference.	1	2	3	4	5	6	n/a
19. When youth or adults leave the program, we can always find good replacements to fill their roles.	1	2	3	4	5	6	n/a
20. (Additional question can be added here)	1	2	3	4	5	6	n/a



PART 4: FUNCTIONS WHERE YOUTH ARE ENGAGED IN DECISION MAKING

*Areas of the organization/program where youth are in decision-making
How satisfied you are with how involved youth are in those areas*

For each of the following group functions, please indicate the degree to which you are satisfied with the current level of youth engagement in decision-making. Please circle one response for each group function.

Group function	The current amount of involvement is:				
	Way too little	Too little	About right	Too much	Way too much
21. Board of Directors	1	2	3	4	5
22. Key Advisory Groups	1	2	3	4	5
23. Staff Hiring Committees	1	2	3	4	5
24. Fundraising/Proposal Writing	1	2	3	4	5
25. Budgeting/Allocating Funds	1	2	3	4	5
26. Program Planning	1	2	3	4	5
27. Implementation Work Teams	1	2	3	4	5
28. Community Outreach/ Public Relations	1	2	3	4	5
29. Community Training/ Workshops	1	2	3	4	5
30. (Additional function can be added here)	1	2	3	4	5



SCORING

(Optional. Please calculate your scores for each section if you are interested in figuring out your own individual scores.)

Leadership & Support for Youth Engagement

Add your responses to questions 6-14 for total. _____

Divide total by 8 for average. _____
(Divide by 9 if a question was added.)

Outcomes of Youth Engagement

Add your responses to questions 15-20 for total. _____

Divide total by 5 for average. _____
(Divide by 6 if a question was added.)

Functions Where Youth are Engaged in Decision Making

Add your responses to questions 21-30 for total. _____

Divide total by 9 for average. _____
(Divide by 10 if a question was added.)

