

# Youth Engagement Tool

## “Are we there YET?!”



### **PURPOSES**

The YET is designed to help you assess how much and how well your program is involving members. Specifically, the YET is about:

- ★ **Group Effectiveness**

How well the group functions – establishing trust, meeting goals, setting high standards, and providing enjoyment – and whether it accomplishes what it sets out to do

- ★ **Youth Voice and Opportunities**

Chances to be heard, respected, and taken seriously

- ★ **Impacts**

What members and the program gain—improvement, knowledge, skills, and abilities

The YET takes about 10-15 minutes to complete. At the end, there is space for you to provide comments and for you and your organization to add questions.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

*Put a checkmark in the blank that applies to you or write in your answer.*

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: GROUP EFFECTIVENESS

Indicate how well each statement describes your group. Circle your answer.

**1** = Isn't usually true in our group; we could do much better.  
**2** = Is sometimes true in our group, but we could improve.  
**3** = Is very true in our group; we don't need any improvement.  
**n/a** = Not applicable

- |  |          |          |          |            |
|--|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| 1. In this group, youth get what they need (people, information, and materials) to be effective. | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>n/a</b> |
| 2. In this group, youth get to make choices and decisions about the things they want to do.      | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>n/a</b> |
| 3. In this group, it is clear that youth and adults really respect each other.                   | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>n/a</b> |
| 4. Youth don't feel dominated by adults in this group.   | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>n/a</b> |
| 5. Youth learn a lot from adults in this group.  | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>n/a</b> |
| 6. Youth have a say in setting the agenda or goals for the work of this group.                   | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>n/a</b> |
| 7. People in this group talk honestly with each other.   | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>n/a</b> |
| 8. People in this group really seem to like each other.  | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>n/a</b> |
| 9. Members of this group trust one another.  | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>n/a</b> |
| 10. Adults learn a lot from youth in this group.   | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>n/a</b> |
| 11. Members of this group are excited about the things that are happening here.                  | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>n/a</b> |
| 12. There is a good balance of power between youth and adults in this group.                     | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>n/a</b> |



## ***PART 2: FOR YOUTH ONLY (ADULTS SKIP TO PAGE 5)***

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

**Circle one response for each statement.**

	<b>Strongly Disagree 1</b>	<b>Mostly Disagree 2</b>	<b>Disagree a Little 3</b>	<b>Agree a Little 4</b>	<b>Mostly Agree 5</b>	<b>Strongly Agree 6</b>	<b>Not Applicable n/a</b>
13. In this group, I get to express my ideas, concerns, and opinions publicly.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>
14. In this group, I have enough chances to work closely with adults to carry out activities and events.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>
15. Adults in this group help me solve problems and give me guidance instead of telling me what to do.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>
16. The responsibilities I have in this group are challenging and interesting.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>
17. If I disagreed with what everyone else said in this group, I would not hesitate to speak out.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>
18. My ideas and suggestions are taken seriously by others in this group.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>
19. Working in this program has made me more confident to express myself.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>
20. My involvement in this group has helped me strengthen my planning and coordination skills.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>
21. My involvement in this group is helping me move in the direction in life I want to go.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>



<b>Strongly Disagree 1</b>	<b>Mostly Disagree 2</b>	<b>Disagree a Little 3</b>	<b>Agree a Little 4</b>	<b>Mostly Agree 5</b>	<b>Strongly Agree 6</b>	<b>Not Applicable n/a</b>
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		<b>Strongly Disagree</b>				<b>Strongly Agree</b>		
22.	Because of my involvement in this group, I know where to go in my community to get support for the things I think are important.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>
23.	In this group, I've gotten to know adults I can call on in the future.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>
24.	My involvement has helped this group make better decisions.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>
25.	Adults' involvement has helped this group make better decisions.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>

**Skip ahead to page 7...**



## ***PART 3: FOR ADULTS ONLY (YOUTH SKIP TO PAGE 7)***

**Most of these questions ask about your observations of things going on with youth. Answer them to the best of your ability based on your observations and your experience.**

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

Strongly Disagree <b>1</b>	Mostly Disagree <b>2</b>	Disagree a Little <b>3</b>	Agree a Little <b>4</b>	Mostly Agree <b>5</b>	Strongly Agree <b>6</b>	Not Applicable <b>n/a</b>
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	Strongly Disagree <b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	Strongly Agree <b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>
26. Youth in this group have enough chances to express their ideas, concerns, and opinions publicly.							
27. In this group, I have enough chances to work closely with youth to carry out activities and events.							
28. Adults in this group help youth solve problems and provide coaching and constructive feedback rather than telling youth what to do.							
29. The responsibilities youth have in this group are challenging and interesting.							
30. If a young person disagreed with what everyone else said in this group, s/he would not hesitate to speak out.							
31. Young people's ideas and suggestions in this group are taken seriously.							
32. Working in this program has made the young people more confident in their ability to express themselves.							



<b>Strongly Disagree</b> <b>1</b>	<b>Mostly Disagree</b> <b>2</b>	<b>Disagree a Little</b> <b>3</b>	<b>Agree a Little</b> <b>4</b>	<b>Mostly Agree</b> <b>5</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b> <b>6</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b> <b>n/a</b>
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		<b>Strongly Disagree</b> <b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b> <b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>
33.	Young people's involvement in this group has helped them strengthen their planning and coordination skills.							
34.	Young people's involvement in this group is helping them move in the direction in life they want to go.							
35.	I expose young people in this group to contacts in the community that can support the things youth think are important.							
36.	Young people have gotten to know adults through this group whom they can call on in the years to come.							
37.	My own contributions have helped this group make better decisions.							
38.	Young people's involvement has helped this group make better decisions.							

**Go on to the next page...**



## ***PART 4: COMMENTS***

**Tell more about what you think. Write in your answers.**

39. What are one or two best things about this group or program?

40. What are one or two things about this group that you would really like to see improved in the coming months?

## ***PART 5: ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS (OPTIONAL)***

**If you or your organization would like to add questions to this assessment tool, please do so below.**

	Strongly Disagree <b>1</b>	Mostly Disagree <b>2</b>	Disagree a Little <b>3</b>	Agree a Little <b>4</b>	Mostly Agree <b>5</b>	Strongly Agree <b>6</b>	Not Applicable <b>n/a</b>
A.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>
B.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>
C.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>
D.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>n/a</b>



# SCORING

**(Optional. Please calculate scores for each section of the YET that you completed if you are interested in figuring out your own individual scores.)**

## Group Effectiveness

Add your responses to questions 1–12.

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Divide total by 12 for group effectiveness average.

Average \_\_\_\_\_

## Youth Responses: Youth Voice and Opportunities

Add your responses to questions 13–18.

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Divide total by 6 for youth voice and opportunities average.

Average \_\_\_\_\_

## Youth Responses: Impacts

Add your responses to questions 19–25.

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Divide total by 7 for impacts average.

Average \_\_\_\_\_

## Adult Responses: Youth Voice and Opportunities

Add your responses to questions 26–31.

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Divide total by 6 for youth voice and opportunities average.

Average \_\_\_\_\_

## Adult Responses: Impacts

Add your responses to questions 32–38.

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Divide total by 7 for impacts average.

Average \_\_\_\_\_

