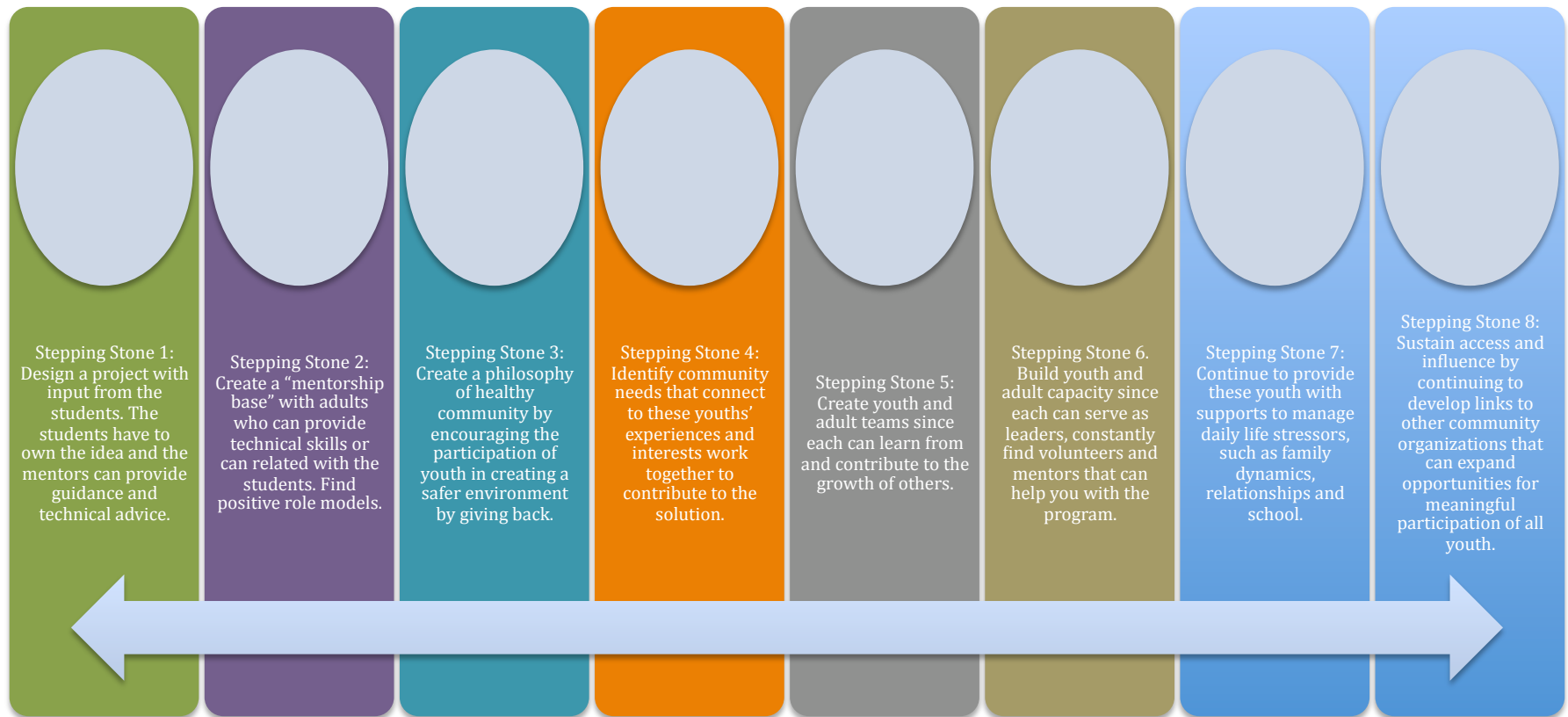


Designing a Service Learning Project involving Mentors, Families, Community and STEM based education.

In 2002, Youth Service America, in collaboration with the Independent Sector, published a monograph Engaging Youth in Lifelong Service: Findings and Recommendations for Encouraging a Tradition of Voluntary Action Among American Youth. Based on their recommendations we have created our stepping-stones to develop an effective Service Learning Collaborative project, that can provide hands on learning experience.



Program Highlight

Equipo Verde

Equipo Verde - "Green Team" - is designed to engage Latino high school youth in ongoing watershed restoration activity. Partnering with the 4-H Tech Wizards program, *Equipo Verde* introduces students to the three-part restoration cycle of assessment, restoration and monitoring. Specific academic goals in science, mathematics, communications, and technology are combined with leadership skills, to help students meet Oregon's new high school graduation requirements. Students also are asked to outreach to their families and community, demonstrating their new skills and knowledge by leading a restoration event.

Project Highlights

The program engaged students in planting more than 450 trees and shrubs, contributing more than 500 hours of service. Students were also engaged in monitoring and maintaining their newly-planted trees and shrubs, as they learned the importance of water quality and biodiversity in the riparian habitat. At the conclusion of the school year, students prepared and delivered a PowerPoint presentation about their involvement with the program, sharing their experience with their friends and families during a graduation ceremony.



Equipo Verde students remove invasive Himalayan Blackberry along Council Creek in Cornelius as part of Earth Day, 2008