

Addressing Health Inequity Through

Meaningful Youth – Adult Partnerships

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DENVER HEALTH PEDIATRICS™
AT DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH

Session Overview
Here's the Plan



- ✓ Why and how to build youth-adult partnerships
- ✓ What we've been doing
- ✓ Get started on your plan
- ✓ Questions

Learning Objectives

You Will Be Able To

List

At least **three components** of a meaningful youth – adult partnership

Identify

At least **one barrier** to implementing a successful youth engagement strategy

Outline

At least **two achievable steps** their program or organization can take to build a youth engagement strategy

What best describes you/your organization

Just starting to think about engaging youth in program planning

know it's a good idea but have no idea where to start

Periodically engage youth in program planning

Survey young people, conduct the occasional focus group etc.

Regularly engage youth in our program planning

youth are considered a key partner in program planning, engage with them regularly, and treat youth as experts

Why Care About Youth Engagement?

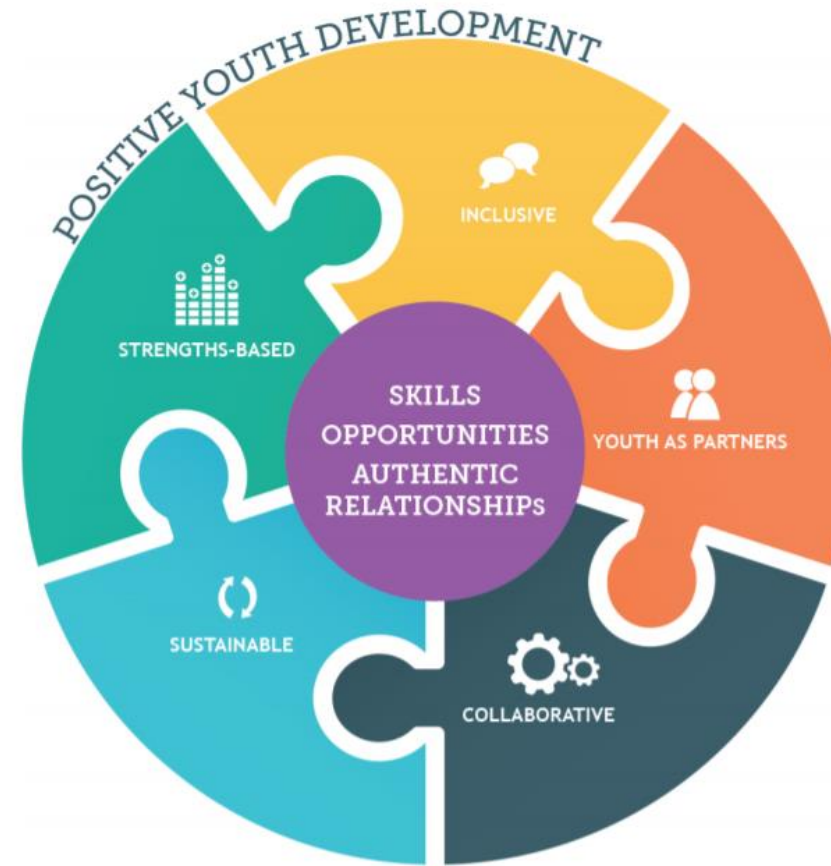
“Young people are effective advocates for and consumers of their own health care. As key stakeholders...youth can shape programs, policy, and outreach activities that affect the health of their peers in their schools, communities, and nationwide.”

- The School-Based Health Alliance

“Nothing About Us,
Without Us”



Colorado's Approach



What is Positive Youth Development?

Strength Based

- Use **strengths** individuals already have and build upon them
- Explore strength, and directing an individual's ideas/ belief/motives

Inclusive

- Use individuals' ideas to achieve greater things
- Hearing out individuals' ideas
- Being **aware** of race, gender, culture, language, social comfortability, sexuality, accessibility

What is Positive Youth Development?

Youth as Partners

- **Building relationships w/ youth**
- Encouragement of ideas and exploration
- Providing opportunities
- Keeping things simple and interactive
- **Asking for youth input**
- **Shared decision making**

What is Positive Youth Development?

Collaborative

- **Acknowledging** the caring adults in youths' lives
- Community partnership

Sustainable

- **Ongoing Support**
 - Leadership buy-in
- Continuous Quality Improvement



PYD looks like many different things

- On-going events/opportunities that engage youth along with their families, communities, and/or governments so that youth are empowered to reach their full potential
- An approach used to build skills, assets, and competencies; foster healthy relationships; strengthen the environment; and transform systems.

Not an alternative to models of care

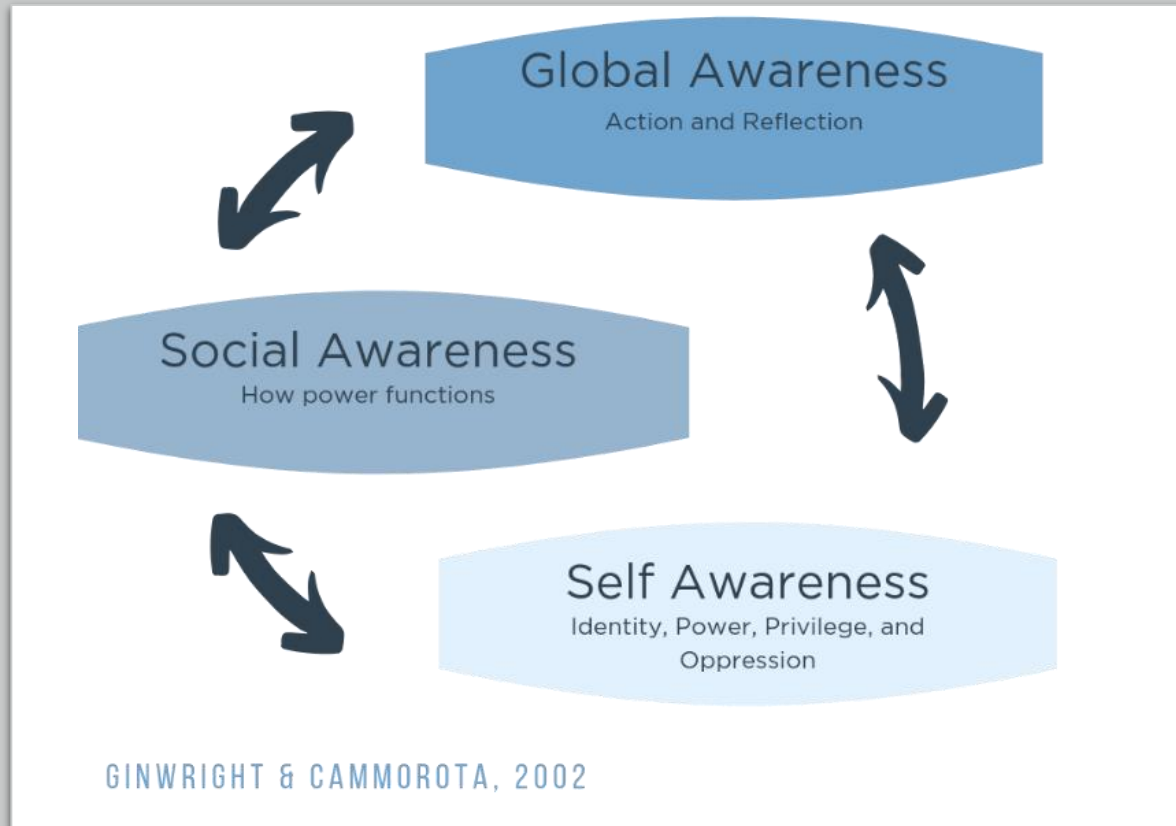
Not meant to dictate steps

Denver Health Pediatrics at Denver Public Schools Approach— Social Justice Youth Development



The Goal of Social Justice Youth Development (SJYD) is critical consciousness:

A person's ability to critically interpret their world and act upon it



Self Awareness: When an individual learns, accepts, and acknowledges their relationship with power

Social Awareness: understanding and recognizing how power operates in society

Global Awareness: Individual/group of people take action to address unjust power

Embrace Youth Culture

- Celebrate youth culture in organizational culture
- Language
- Personnel
- Recruitment Strategies



Analyze Power in Social Relationships

- Political Education
- Political Strategizing
- Identifying Power Holders
- Reflecting on power in one's own life



Encourage Collective Action

- Involve oneself in collective action and strategies that challenge local and national systems and institutions
- Community Organizing
- Rallies and Marches
- Walkouts
- Boycotts and Hunger Strikes
- Electoral Strategies



Make Identity Central

- Join support groups and organizations that support identity
- Read material where one's identity is central and celebrated
- Critique stereotypes regarding one's identities



Promote Systemic Social Change

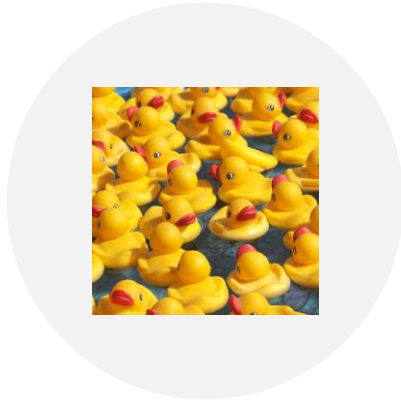
- Work to end social inequality
- Refrain from activities and behaviors that are oppressive to others



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Core Principles
S J Y D

Ginwright and James, 2002

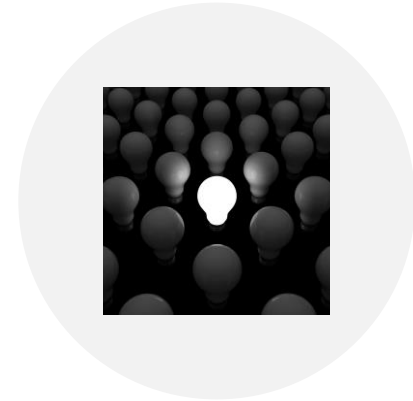
Benefits of PYD & SJYD



PEOPLE GAIN A SENSE OF
BELONGING



HOPE FOR THE FUTURE



OPPORTUNITIES TO SPARK
INTERESTS AND SELF EFFICACY/

What is Meaningful Youth Engagement

Youth-led activities with little input from adults

Youth-led activities with shared decision making between youth and adults. Working as partners

Adult-led activities, in which decision making is shared with youth

Adult-led activities, in which youth are consulted and informed

Adult-led activities, in which youth understand the purpose and have a role in decision-making

What is Not Meaningful Youth Engagement

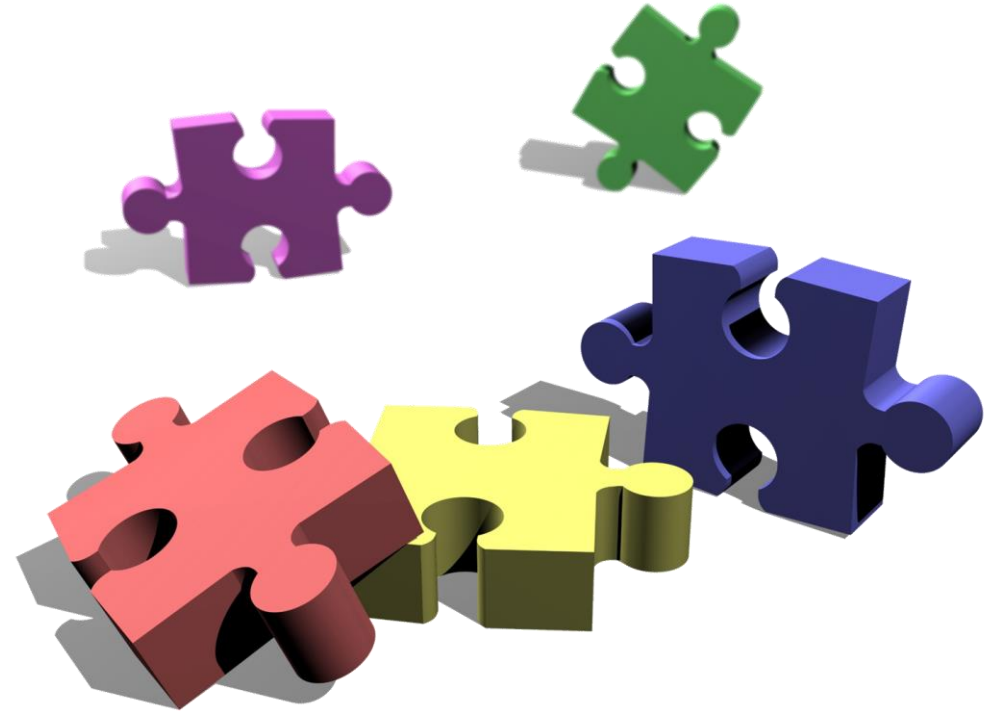
Adult-led activities, in which youth follow along as directed without understanding purpose

Adult-led activities, in which youth understand the purpose but have no input on how it was put together

Adult-led activities, in which youth have zero to minimal opportunities to give feedback

Important considerations

- Organizational Buy
- Paying Youth





The Youth
Advisor Role
within our
SBHCs



Some projects to increase youth engagement, utilization and quality of care



Community Outreach



Replication of
Evidence Based
Practice: PATCH



Social Media

Outreach Ideas

Stickers

- Brainstormed some ideas
- Focus group

Freshman Academy

- Jemima created power point
- Students edited the power point (more youth friendly)
- East High School students presented

Vyond

- Youth friendly informational cartoon video for all DPS students
- Cover different content (how to make appointments, consent, confidentiality, SBHC services etc.)
- <https://www.denverhealth.org/services/family-planning/teen-and-young-adult-family-planning>



PATCH Teen Educator

PAID (\$15/hr) Position for High School Students



WHAT IS PATCH?

PATCH stands for Providers and Teens Communicating for Health. We believe that for YOU (and other teens) to be your best self, you should be able to have open and honest conversations with a trusted health care professional. For many, this isn't the case. That's why PATCH exists! We want to make sure that ALL youth are able to get the health care they need and deserve.

In this program, we ask YOU to be the expert and share what you know about being a teen, like:

- What are you and your peers concerned about when it comes to health and health care?
- What are things that make you like or dislike a health care professional?
- How much do you and your friends know about your health care rights?
- And so much more!

For more information about the program, please visit www.patchprogram.org.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

As a Teen Educator, you will work with other teens to make change within your community. You will be asked to:

- Attend and participate in a five-day Teen Educator Training. The 20-hour training (4 hours each day) is scheduled for **October 6th, 8th, 9th, 14th, & 15st at Denver Health, downtown.**
- Attend and participate in two 2-hour enrichment meetings each month (usually every second and fourth **Wednesday** of the month **from 6-8pm**).
- Lead *PATCH for Providers* and *PATCH for Teens: Peer-to-Peer Workshops* (at various dates and times).
- Provide teen voice and act as a teen representative at community events and conferences.
- Be a reliable source of information for other teens.
- Advocate for change in your community and health care systems.

Most Teen Educators work between 4-10 hours each month. The amount of time spent on PATCH each week will depend upon what events you sign up for.

QUALIFICATIONS / REQUIREMENTS

You are encouraged to apply if you:

- Will be in high school during the 2022/2023 school year
- Attend a Denver Public School
- Enjoy being part of a team and can work well with others who are different from you
- Demonstrate responsibility and reliability. This includes:

Keeping up good communication via e-mail and in person.


NOW HIRING YOUTH!



Do you know a passionate, motivated, change-making, young person who would enjoy **GETTING PAID** to help improve adolescent health and health care?!

Encourage them to apply for a position as a **Teen Educator**.

Scan to Apply





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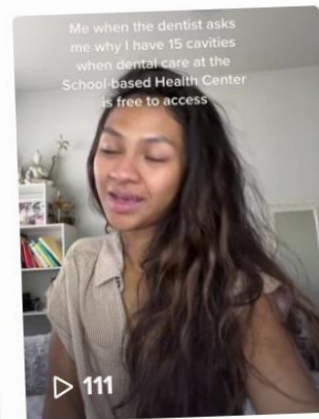
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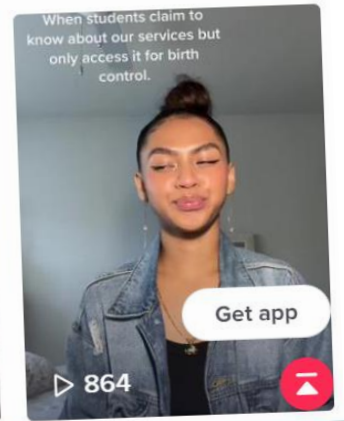
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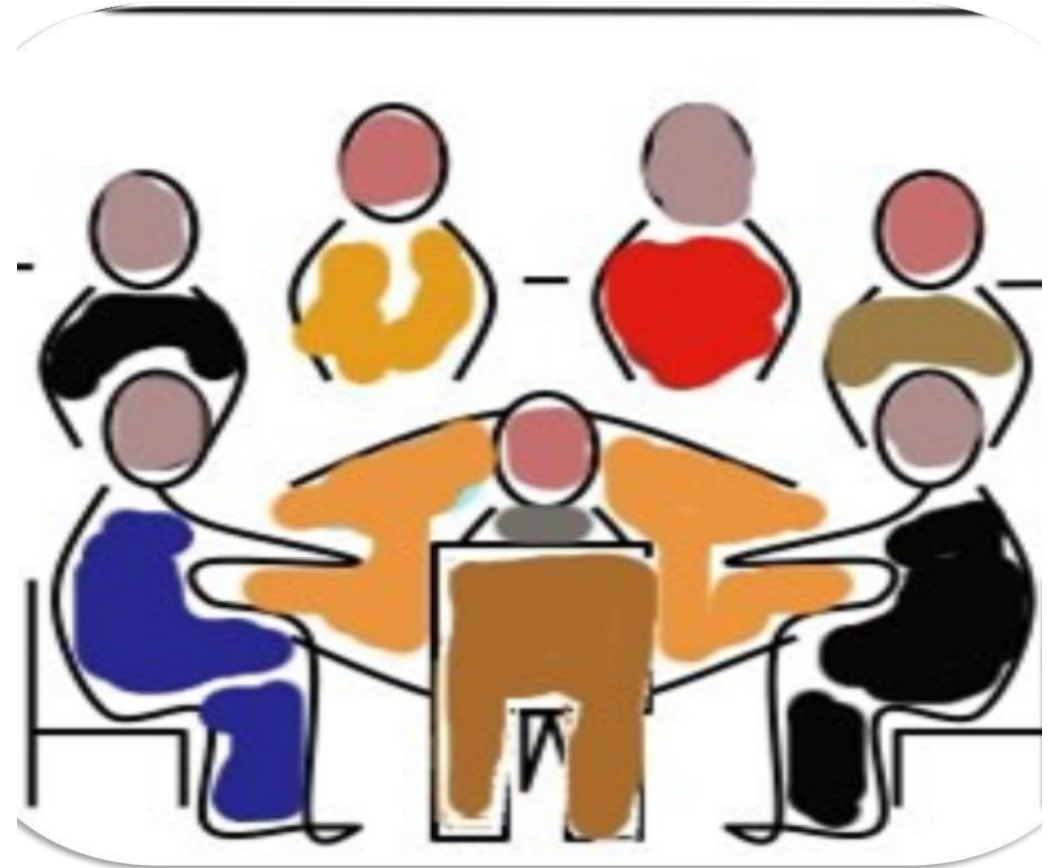


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Get app

Next Steps for YOU

- Benefit Statement
- What are you currently doing?
- What is your long-term goal?
- Where would you like to be in a year?
- Three specific steps







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FOR LIFE'S JOURNEY

Get in touch

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