

# Engaging Youth in Making Community Change

An Examination of Youth Engagement  
Strategies Across the NNIP Network and Beyond

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## What is your experience with youth engagement in your work?

- A. I've participated in/led youth engagement work or youth action research
- B. I understand the concept but have never participated
- C. I am unfamiliar with the concept

**Engaging youth in your work is  
beneficial to both your  
organization's work and the  
youth involved.**

# Benefit to Your Organization



- Grounds your work in lived experience
- Provides new ideas
- Increases credibility
- Promotes inclusivity and personal investment
- Appeals to funders

# Benefit to Youth



- Build personal skills: leadership, critical thinking, relationship formation, analysis, public speaking
- Empowered to make changes in their communities
- Elevate youth to serve as role models and experts in their community
- Lead to better health and interpersonal outcomes later in life

# Ways to Engage Youth



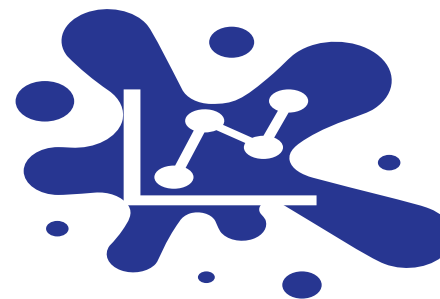
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Youth Voice



Youth Led Initiatives



Creative Dissemination

# Ways to Engage Youth



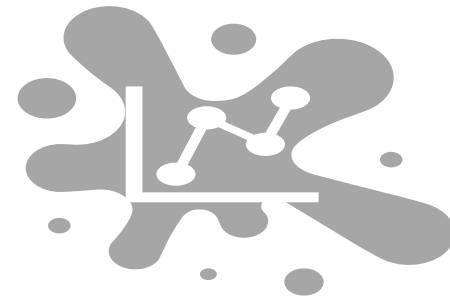
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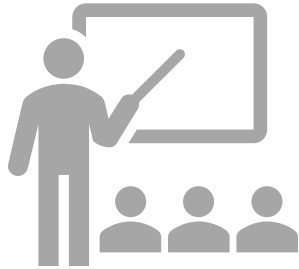


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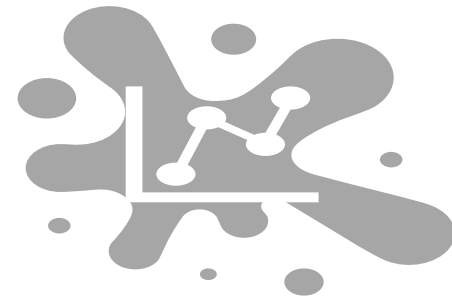
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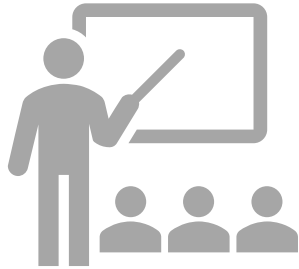
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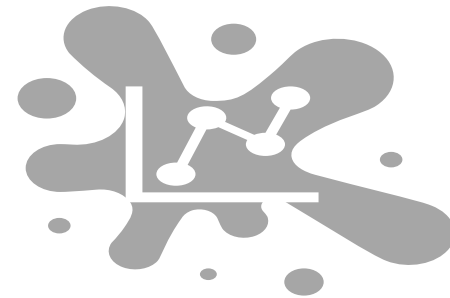
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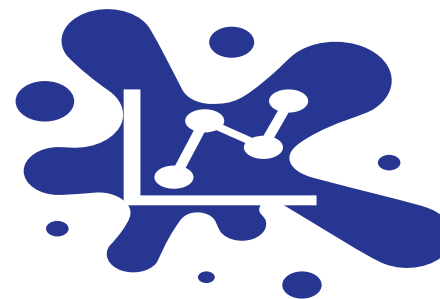
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# Youth Engagement Project Examples

# Young Leaders, Strong City Program



- Run by the Institute for Urban Policy Research (IUPR) at the University of Texas at Dallas and the IF Institute
- This youth summit teaches advocacy, data literacy, and analytical skills to high school students
- Focused on topics of social justice
- Some students went on to lead youth summits and projects in their schools around topics such as racial justice, immigration, and microaggressions

# The Social Service Run Around

- Partnership between the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs at the University of Minnesota the youth participatory action research at Juxtaposition Arts in Minneapolis
- Investigated the experiences of people facing evictions
- Youth research team conducted interviews and developed creative dissemination methods of their findings



# King County CHNA



- The Public Health Department of Seattle and King County conducted LGBTQ youth focus groups
- To help interpret and contextualize quantitative data findings in their lived experience



# Take Aways



- Youth engagement takes effort and commitment.
- Leverage partners with experience working with youth.
- Match your methods to your goals.
- It's worth it!

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# THANK YOU



NATIONAL  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
INDICATORS  
PARTNERSHIP

For more information about NNIP, visit  
[www.neighborhoodindicators.org](http://www.neighborhoodindicators.org).

For questions, email [CApoll@Urban.org](mailto:CApoll@Urban.org).