Accentuate the Positive: Developing a Youth Culture for Success

OAH/ACYF TPP Regional Training
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Objectives for Today

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Describe the link between positive youth development and culture
- Define the key elements of a positive youth development approach
- Explore how to incorporate positive youth development strategies into their program activities and agencies
Introductions

- Name
- Agency
- Role
Talking ‘bout My Generation

For your teen years….

What are the symbols and phrases of your generation?

What events shaped your generation?

What was the adult or societal perception of your generation?

What messages did you receive from peers, parents, society, media?

What view did young people hold about themselves?
What About...
Question

- How do these cultural influences affect youth?

- How do these influences affect your program/agency?
Positive Youth Development

- Is it a program model or a strategy?
Positive Youth Development (PYD)

Positive youth development is an intentional, pro-social approach that engages youth within their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups and families in a manner that is productive and constructive; recognizes, utilizes and enhances youths’ strengths; and promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities, fostering positive relationships and furnishing the support needed to build on their leadership strengths.

Positive Youth Development Frameworks

- 40 Development Assets
- The 5 Cs
- The 5 Promises
What Youth Really Need Are

- Positive opportunities
- Safe, supportive and inclusive environment
- Clear expectations
- Opportunity to participate and feel useful
- Connection and belonging
- Positive images of themselves
What the Research is Saying

- “there is compelling observational and controlled trial evidence that youth development programs can help youth develop the motivation, skills, and confidence needed to make healthy decisions.”

- PYD programs can promote adolescent sexual and reproductive health

- Youth with a positive future outlook and bonds with pro social adults are less likely to take behavioral risks that jeopardize their future goals

- “The atmosphere of the program should support and empower youth, communicate expectations for positive behavior, provide opportunities for recognition, and be stable and relatively long lasting…”

What the Research Is Saying

- Risk and protective factors influence adolescent sexual behavior
- Youth development approaches are a natural enhancement to TPP
  - Doug Kirby, ETR
- PYD facilitates positive socialization and pro-social competencies among youth
PYD in Action
Questions
Contact Information

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THANK YOU
Sources Cited


Resources

National Clearinghouse on Families & Youth

http://ncfy.acf.hhs.gov/

FindYouthInfo

http://www.findyouthinfo.org/

Resource Center for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention

http://www.etr.org/recapp/

The Forum for Youth Investment

http://www.forumfyi.org