

OPENING/WELCOME/WARM-UP

Purpose: To have participants begin to explore the elements of effective youth-adult partnerships. To provide an overview of the workshop. To have participants introduce and get to know each other.

Materials: Questions along the walls, agenda on newsprint

Time: 30 minutes

Procedure:

Begin by welcoming people, have trainers introduce themselves, and explain briefly about the purpose of the workshop: “To increase the capacity of adults to work in full partnership with young people.”

“To begin, we want you to think about the issue of youth and adults as partners.”

Point out the questions along the walls and read each one out loud and ask participants to go stand by the question of their choice to discuss.

Questions:

- How can young people and adults work together as equal partners?
- What are some of the greatest barriers an adult brings in his/her ability to effectively work with young people?
- What is your vision of how young people will most benefit from working with adults?
- What is your vision of how adults will most benefit from working with youth?
- What is your greatest personal asset in working with youth?

Leader’s Notes

→ After a few minutes, ask them to sit down and pose the discussion questions.

Discussion Questions:

1. What was brought to mind for you when you read and discussed the question?
2. What is something you remember about your discussion?
3. Why would we begin a workshop this way?
4. What is significant about these questions in discussing youth-adult partnerships?

Have each participant introduce himself by stating:

Name

What do you do with young people?

What makes you proudest about the work you do with young people?

Once people have completed their introductions, explain that we are all in this learning together. Go over the agenda - amplifying what will be covered in each piece:

Opening/Welcome/Warm-Up

Self-Assessment

Examining a Young Person's Point of View

Benefits and Challenges of Working with Youth

Youth as Partners

Visioning/Evaluation

Leader's Notes

Give participants a few minutes to discuss feelings and reactions to the questions as a small group. This piece is important to them feeling comfortable in the workshop.

You might want to spend some time explaining "why" we do youth-adult partnerships and who is promoting and doing them. How both national and local agencies are finding it a highly effective way to accomplish more.

Assess how much time you have. You may not be able to do full introductions that take at least two minutes per person.

Go over agenda while referring to newsprint.

Workshop Objectives:

Participants will assess the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors necessary for working in partnership with young people, and develop action steps for their own development.

Participants will understand how young people are treated and why this understanding is significant to the work they do.

Participants will be able to articulate the ways young people bring both benefits and challenges in youth-adult partnerships.

Participants will identify three viewpoints from which adults tend to view the potential contributions young people make to society: youth as objects, recipients, or partners.

Participants will practice ways to treat young people as partners.

Participants will be able to articulate ways they intend to work with young people as partners.

Check in with the participants to see if there are any questions. Explain that we will begin by exploring what it takes to work in partnership.

Leader's Notes

Put a shorter version of the workshop's objectives on newsprint.

How can young
people and adults
work together as
equal partners?

What are the greatest
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to effectively work
with young people?

What is your vision of
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working with adults?

What is your vision of
how adults will most
benefit from working
with youth?

What is your greatest
personal asset in
working with youth?