

**WELCOME/WARM-UP  
UP/INTRODUCTIONS/OVERVIEW**

**Purpose:** To create a safe atmosphere for learning. To inform participants regarding the agenda and get their input into their expectations.

**Materials:** Koosh ball, newsprint, markers, sayings prepared in advance and put around the room, agenda handouts.

**Time:** 60 minutes

**Procedure:**

Welcome everyone to the workshop on youth-adult partnerships. Have facilitators introduce themselves. Explain that this workshop was created by both youth and adults and will be conducted by a team of youth and adults. ‘We expect that everyone in the room has expertise and activities are designed to tap into that expertise. The approach is that we all work together to better understand what it takes to create equitable partnerships.’ As a beginning, ask that they get up and read all the 8-10 statements posted on the wall. They are to choose one of the sayings that really “speaks” to them. Give participants time to read each statement and then select one. Each participant is to stand in front of the one they select. Ask participants to share with each other why they chose this statement. Use the Koosh ball to “choose” people to speak about why they chose to stand where they did and a little bit about their experience in adult-youth teams (as well as their name and where they are from). Make sure that one person is chosen from each statement and, if time permits, all people have a chance to speak.

When done, ask them to return to their seats.

**Leader’s Notes**

Each of the sayings are in this packet. You might find you want to make them larger.

Make sure you give people a little time to talk to one another in their small groups. This is what makes people connect to others and helps them feel they belong.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What did you see or hear that you thought was particularly significant in this activity?
2. What were differences or similarities that you noticed between youth and adults?
3. What do you think is important about these particular statements?
4. What do you want to remember from these statements when working in youth-adult partnerships?
5. What does this tell you about what to expect in this workshop?

Ask people what they want to learn in our time together. Put their comments on newsprint and then compare them to the overview of the agenda for the workshop.

Go through the agenda explaining what will be covered.

**Leader's Notes**

Be clear about what we won't have time to do, but also make sure that if you can cover something within the context of the agenda that you mention it.

Have the agenda on newsprint so people can follow along. Keep the agenda posted throughout the training. This also helps you as a leader to keep track of the flow. Hand out copies of the agenda if you feel people need it.

Explain that the agenda was created to accomplish the following purposes:

Participants will have the opportunity to:

Understand an effective approach to creating youth-adult partnerships.

Develop and practice skills of working together in partnership.

Develop strategies for overcoming the challenges.

Create tips for youth and adults to use in working together more effectively.

Develop action steps for working as a youth-adult team.

Let people know that this is THEIR workshop and the trainers will do everything to meet their needs. Let them know where the bathrooms are and that they are free to get up and get water and go to the bathroom when necessary.

**Leader's Notes**

Put the purposes on newsprint and post to be seen throughout the training. This also helps you as a leader to keep track of the flow.

## **Leader Resource**

Statements:

Except for prisoners and a few institutionalized groups, young people are more controlled than any other group in society. (John Bell, "A Key to Developing Positive Youth-Adult Partnerships" *Humanics* - Spring 1996, p. 7)

Young people can create change. (p. 7 - *Adults as Allies* created by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation)

Partnership arrangements are distinguished from mentorships. Partnerships are about sharing information and ideas, not about an older, wiser person bestowing wisdom on a younger one. Mentoring implies a leader and a follower. (p. 14 - *Younger Voices, Better Choices*)

Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success. Unknown (p. 55 - *Younger Voices, Better Choices*)

There is no institution, community or organization that can not find a meaningful role for young people. (youthACTION! An initiative of the Alameda County Public Health Department)

The adult organizer must genuinely respect the ideas and abilities of the teenagers, and must make this constantly clear.

In a youth-adult partnership, adults should let young people fail. (p. 75 - *Younger Voices, Better Choices*)

Adults are just as uncertain as youth; they have just learned to disguise it more. (p. 64 - *Younger Voices, Better Choices*)

I am committed to creating partnerships because I believe that young people are resources for today, rather than in some distant future. (p. 32 - *Younger Voices, Better Choices*)

Young people take adults very seriously. (p. 49 - *Younger Voices, Better Choices*) Social institutions are often sicker than the people they are trying to help. (Bill Lofquist)

AGENDA

Welcome/Warm-up/Introductions/Overview

Taking a Stand

How Decisions Are Made

Perceptions of Power

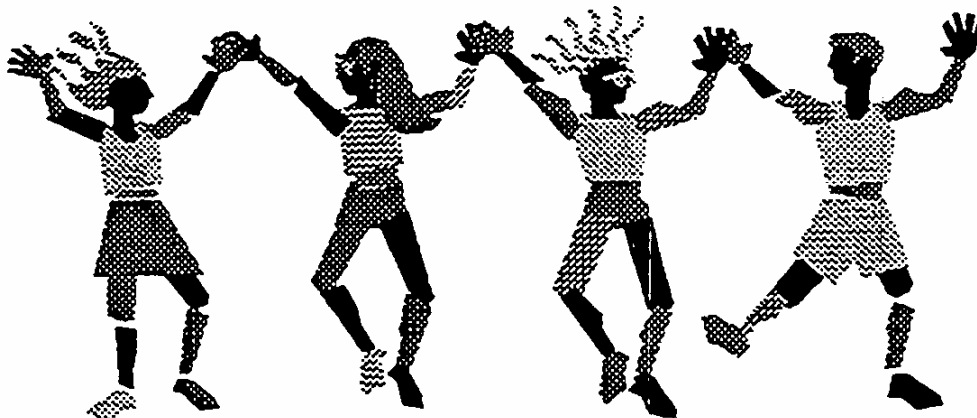
Solving the Challenges Together

Tips for Success

Can the Balance of Power Change?

Team Meetings for Action Steps

Closure/Evaluation



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Develop action steps for working as a youth-adult team.

Other issues?

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