

Youth & Adult Partnerships

Action Steps

1. If a new group cannot be created, discuss the need to change/alter one that exists.
2. Reach mutual consensus on why you want youth involved.
3. Brainstorm pros and cons of what could happen – be mentally prepared.
4. Ask each member to invite a youth to the group – **never just one** – and tell youth why the group would benefit from youth involvement.
5. Address logistics. Food. Time. Location. Incentives if appropriate.
6. Have a short social before the meeting with music.
7. Provide an appropriate but not “over the top” welcome.
8. Review group goals and how the group could be improved with youth involvement. Be sure to identify concrete activities the group wants to accomplish.
9. Before the meeting ends, ask youths if they have any thoughts about the purpose of the group, how it could be enhanced, ideas about the identified activities, and to come back. (Do not evaluate at this time whether their ideas are feasible... at this point, you just hope they will say something.)

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