



Youth and Family Partnerships in Mental Health

Topical Session 5

Presenters: Brittany Patterson, PhD, Johanna Bergan, Executive Director, Marco Erikson, M.S., Sylvia McrCee-Huntley, EdD, Taneisha Carter, B.A



Purpose

This discussion group facilitated by the Youth and Family Partnerships in Mental Health Practice Group is led by family members and embodies family-driven principles to support meaningful family-school-community partnerships in mental health.



What would you like to gain from
this session?



Objectives

- Participants will identify and discuss 1-2 ways youth and family should be engaged by school mental health.
- Participants will identify and discuss 1-2 strategies state and national organizations can use to meaningfully engage youth and family in school mental health initiatives.



Youth Leadership Summit

Nothing about us without us!



- Hosted at the Annual Conference on Advancing School Mental Health
- Advocacy
- Engagement and empowerment
- Bi-directional learning



Benefits of and Strategies for Engaging Youth and Family

Marco Erickson, M.S. Community Youth in Action (CYA)



Benefits of Partnering with Youth and Family

- Increased knowledge of systems of care
- Increased referrals and participation in programs
- Increased peer to peer prevention efforts



Strategies for Meaningfully Partnering with Youth and Family

- Listen to their voice
- Meet them where they are at in the process, don't force it.

Engaging Families

Embrace family networks.

Parent Café – a way to help build
and support families.





Think-Pair-Share

- What is your motivation to partner with youth and family?
- What 1-2 strategies would you like to try to partner with youth and family?
- Identify one point-of-contact or resource you can leverage to help you implement the proposed strategy.



UNIVERSITY *of* MARYLAND
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



State and National Organization Partnership with Youth and Family

Johanna Bergan, Executive Director, Youth M.O.V.E National



Motivating Others through Voices of Experience

What is Youth Engagement?

Building a Foundation

A strategy in which youth are giving meaningful input and have roles where they are authentically involved in working towards changing the service systems that directly affect their lives.



Value Added of Young Adult Voice

- Changes institutional culture and practice
- Can help design and implement new policies that better serve youth and young adults
- Builds awareness and understanding
- Builds self efficacy
- Builds sense of community
- Improves individual and organizational outcomes



<http://www.cssp.org/community/constituents-co-invested-in-change/other-resources/engaging-youth-in-community-decision-making.pdf>

<http://youth.gov/youth-topics/effectiveness-positive-youth-development-programs>

[http://thirdsectorimpact.eu/site/assets/uploads/page/documents-for-researchers/TSI_impact-report_sports-leaders-literature-review-dec-](http://thirdsectorimpact.eu/site/assets/uploads/page/documents-for-researchers/TSI_impact-report_sports-leaders-literature-review-dec-2014.pdf)

[2014.pdf](http://thirdsectorimpact.eu/site/assets/uploads/page/documents-for-researchers/TSI_impact-report_sports-leaders-literature-review-dec-2014.pdf)

Foundation of Youth Development

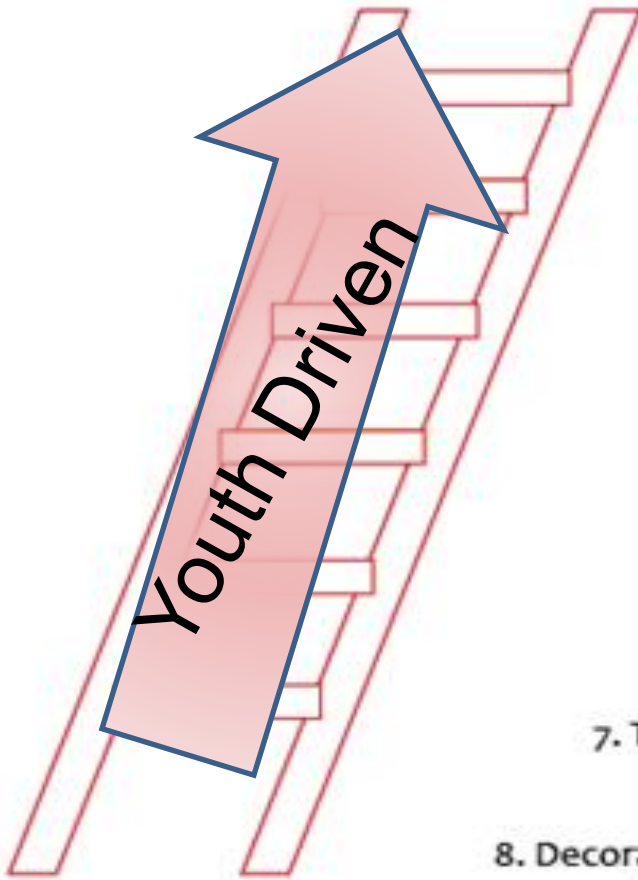
Object “To”

Recipient “For”

Resource “With”

Style #1	Style #2	Style #3
<p>The adult is in control with no intention of youth involvement.</p> <p>The Objective Personal growth of young people.</p> <p>The Byproduct Conformity of young people and acceptance of the program as it is.</p>	<p>The adult is in control and allows youth involvement.</p> <p>The Objective Personal growth of young people.</p> <p>The Byproduct Increased organizational effectiveness.</p>	<p>There is a Youth/Adult Partnership (Shared Control)</p> <p>The Objective Increased organizational effectiveness.</p> <p>The Byproduct Personal growth of young people and adults.</p>

Ladder of Youth Involvement



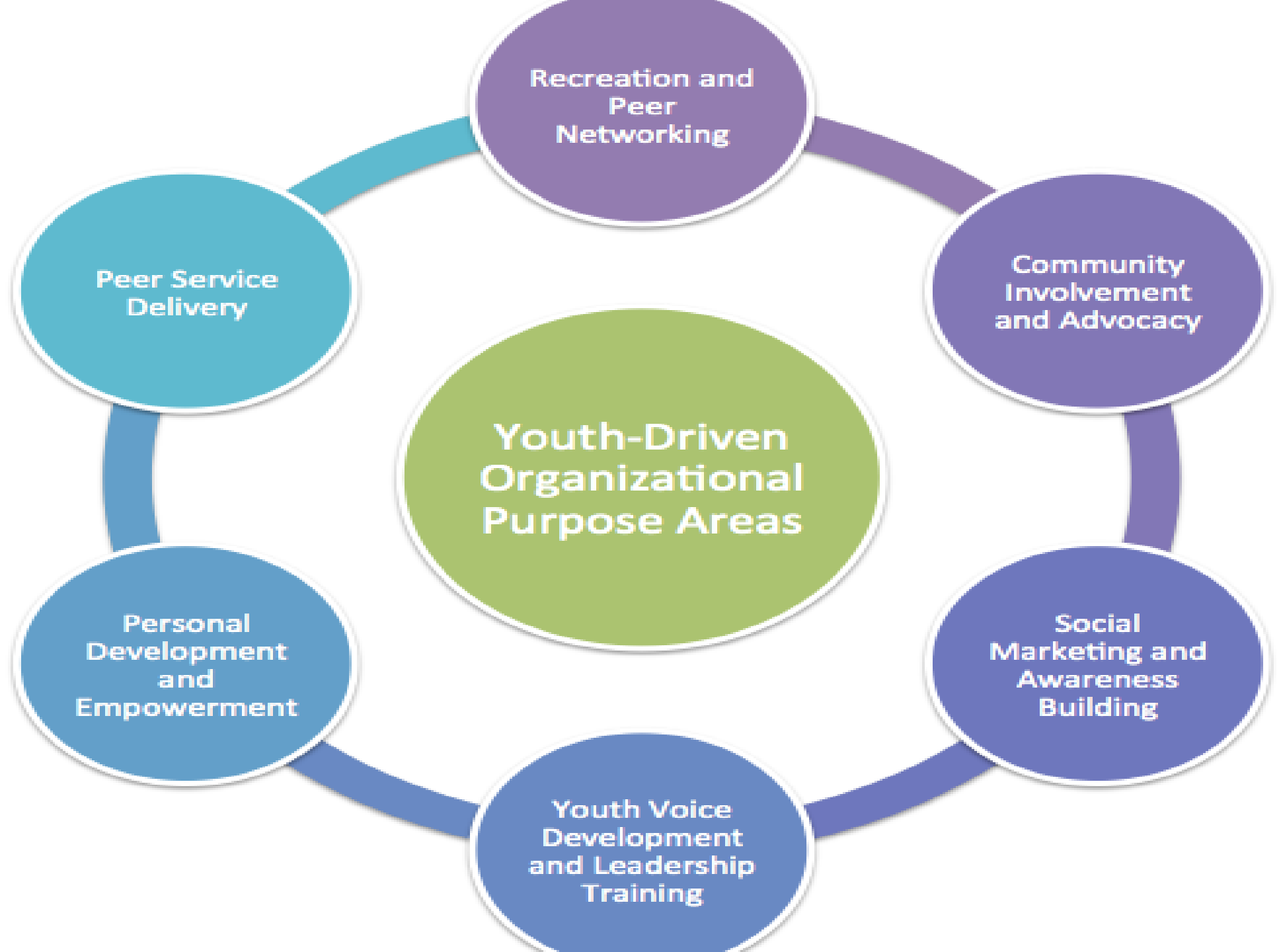
1. Youth Initiated and Directed
 - Designed and run by youth and decisions made by youth
2. Youth Initiated, Shared Decisions with Adults
 - Designed and run by youth who share decisions with adults
3. Youth and Adult Initiated and Directed
 - Designed and run by youth and adults in full partnership
4. Adult Initiated, Shared Decisions with Youth
 - Minimum Youth Participation, designed and run by adults who share decisions with youth
5. Consulted and Informed
 - Designed and run by adults who consult with youth, Youth make recommendations that are considered by adults
6. Assigned and Informed
 - Youth do not initiate, but understand and have some sense of ownership
7. Tokenism
 - Symbolic representation by few, may not have genuine voice, may be asked to speak for the group they represent
8. Decoration
 - Adults use youth to promote or support a cause without informing youth
9. Manipulation
 - Youth are not involved in design or decisions; Youth involvement used by adults to communicate adults' messages



YOUTH MOVE NATIONAL
WE ARE CHANGE AGENTS 'MOTIVATING OTHERS THROUGH VOICES OF EXPERIENCE'

Adapted from Hart, R. (1992). Children's Participation from Tokenism to Citizenship, UNICEF

MOVE NATIONAL™



[More Information Available Here](#)

Meaningful Partnerships

What youth want:

- Choice of how to participate
- Options that build on skills/interests
- Clear understanding of roles, tasks, and expectations
- Support and coaching
- Be a meaningful partner
- Grow with opportunities to participate in the work
- Connection with others who share a common experience



Helpful Tips for Adult Allies

Adults looking to build partnership and better engage youth:

- Be open minded and flexible
- Respect the readiness of youth
- Create respectful and nurturing learning environment
- Don't over promise and under deliver
- Be supportive and communicate expectation, yet be willing to ask what support looks like



Resources

- [Youth Engagement Guide – SAMHSA Store](#)
- [#Things2Consider: Youth Advisory Boards](#)
- [#Things2Consider: Stipending Youth and Young Adults](#)
- [#Things2Consider: Measuring Success](#)
- [A Guide to Recruiting Youth](#)
- [Other Resources from Youth MOVE National](#)



@ Us Next Time

Liked this presentation? Then follow us.

Or visit our website for more info.
youthmovenational.org



Facebook
[/youthmovenational](https://www.facebook.com/youthmovenational)



Instagram
[@youthmove](https://www.instagram.com/youthmove)



Twitter
[@youthmove](https://twitter.com/youthmove)



Strategies for Meaningful Partnership with Youth and Family

- Find what meetings interest you and attend them. Research what meetings and events are available in your area.
- Be authentic (You can't fake authenticity)



Think-Pair-Share

- What would motivate youth to partner with state and national organizations?
- What would motivate family members to partner with state and national organizations?
- What advice would you give to state and national organizations that want to partner with youth and family?



Questions/Answer