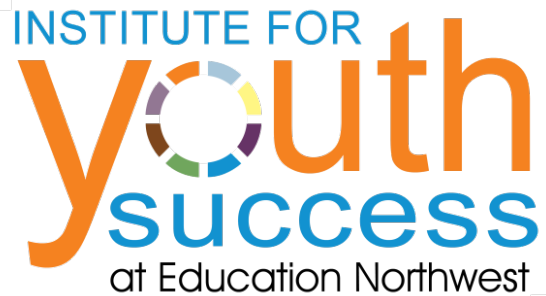


INNOVATIVE IDEAS TO BUILD YOUTH VOICE IN YOUR YOUTH PROGRAM

New YD Webinars



Policy

Practice

Research



Your Webinar Host

Meghan Perry

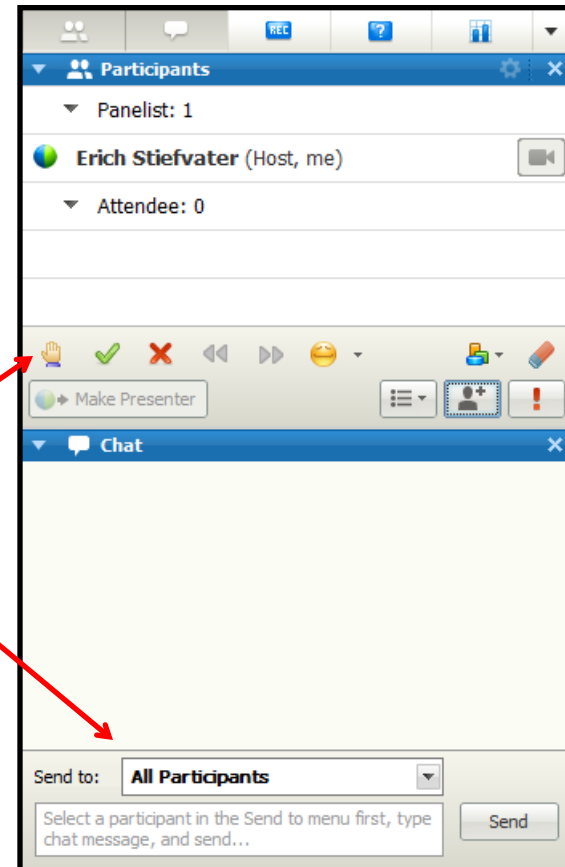
Advisor – Youth Programs
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Housekeeping

- Everyone is muted for optimal sound quality
- You can “raise your hand” to ask questions or make comments or post in the chat (send to “All participants”)
- Please complete post-webinar evaluation



Session Plan

- Overview of Y-AP
- Y-AP in youth programs
- Promising practices



Today's Presenter

Julie Petrokubi, Ph.D.



Senior Advisor
Youth Development & Evaluation
Education Northwest

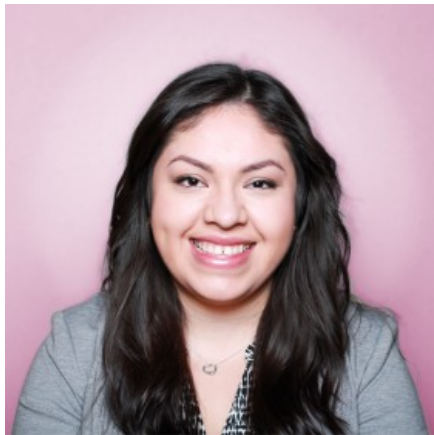
503-275-9649

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Panelists

- Mayra Perez, Latino Network
- Carolyn Manke, Camp Fire Columbia
- Rhen Miles, Camp Fire Columbia

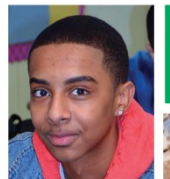


Webinar Goals

- Introduce core youth-adult partnership concepts and research
- Explore promising practices for promoting youth-adult partnership in youth programs
- Hear about the experiences of two youth programs that are working to promote youth voice



Overview of Youth-Adult Partnership



Word Soup

Voice

Participation

Leadership

Engagement

Empowerment

Partnership

What is Youth-Adult Partnership?

- A *group* of youth and adults working together on important issues.



- Assumes youth have the *right and capacity* to participate in decisions that impact their lives.



- Assumes *mutual learning* between youth and adults.



Where does Y-AP take place?



What does Y-AP look like in action?

Core Principles of Y-AP

1. Authentic decision making
2. Natural mentors
3. Reciprocity
4. Community connectedness



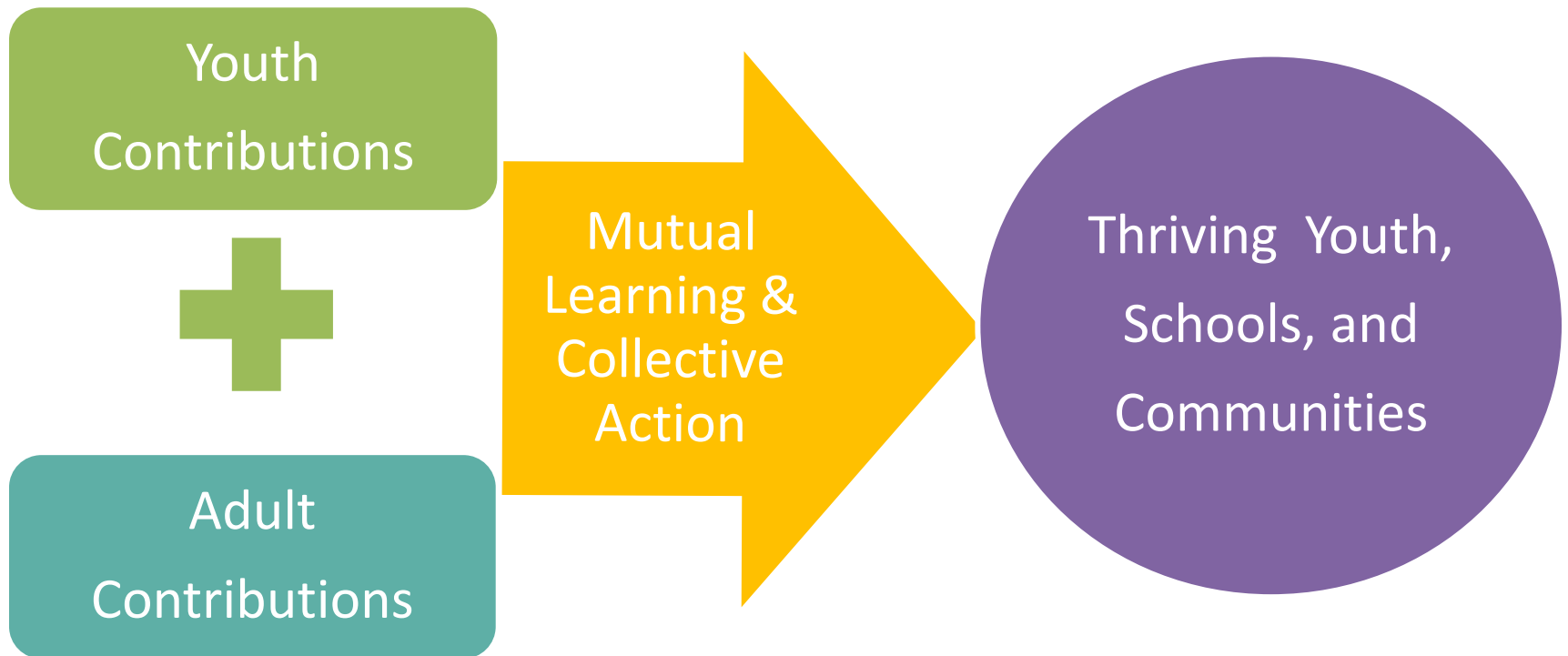
(Zeldin, Christens & Powers, 2012)

Why does Y-AP matter?

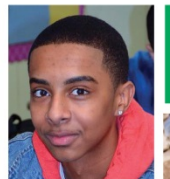
- 1. Adolescents seek autonomy and membership.** Youth thrive in settings that offer support for efficacy and mattering, where they feel a sense of purpose and contribute to a community. (Damon et al., 2003; Lerner 2005; National Research Council, 2002).
- 2. Y-AP promotes socio-emotional and civic development.** Quality Y-AP cultivates in youth a sense of efficacy and belonging as well as skills such as strategic thinking, group process, and leadership. (Evans, 2007; Kirshner, 2007; Larson & Hanson, 2005; Zeldin, 2004)
- 3. Y-AP promotes agency, empowerment and positive identity.** Community-based youth organizations may provide an “opportunity structure” (Watts & Guessous, 2006) to help low-income youth of color develop “critical social capital” (Ginwright, 2011).
- 4. Programs that provide opportunities for Y-AP may see higher retention and engagement** (Akiva et al., 2014; Deschenes et al., 2010).



Y-AP promotes thriving



Y-AP in youth programs



Benefits of engaging youth in program decision making

- Promote youth development
- Ensure program offerings match youth interests
- Increase youth recruitment and retention
- Enhance program quality and innovation
- Strengthen youth-adult relationships
- Increase adult engagement and job satisfaction



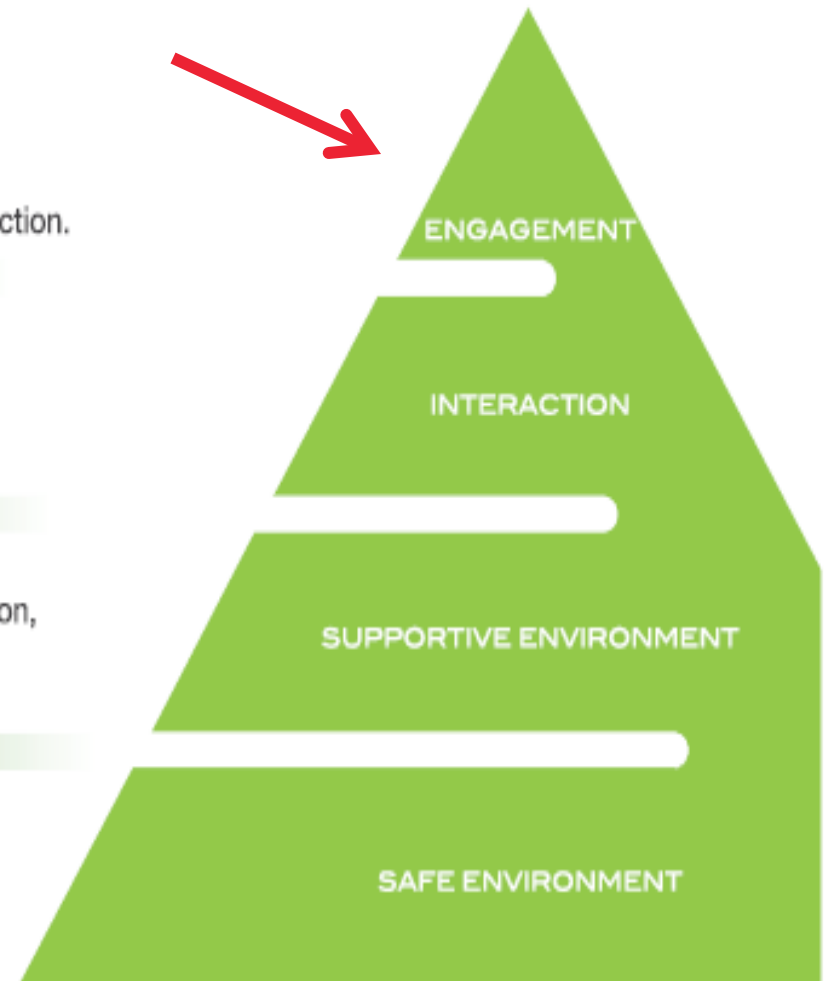
Y-AP is a best practice for youth work

Higher order engagement through choice, planning and reflection.

Peer interaction through grouping and cooperative learning.

Supportive environment through welcoming, conflict resolution, active learning, encouragement, and skill building.

Physical safety, emotional safety, and inclusive practices.



Opportunities for Youth-Adult Partnership



Opportunities for Youth-Adult Partnership

Program Implementation

- Organizing program space
- Planning, leading and debriefing activities
- Coordinating special events
- Establishing group norms and expectations
- Managing conflict
- Recruiting and orienting new participants
- Budgeting and purchasing supplies



Opportunities for Youth-Adult Partnership

Program Management

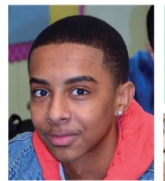
- Governance (e.g., youth advisory board)
- Human resources (e.g., staff hiring)
- Evaluation (e.g., action planning)
- Communications
- Fundraising



Engaging youth as community leaders



Promising practices



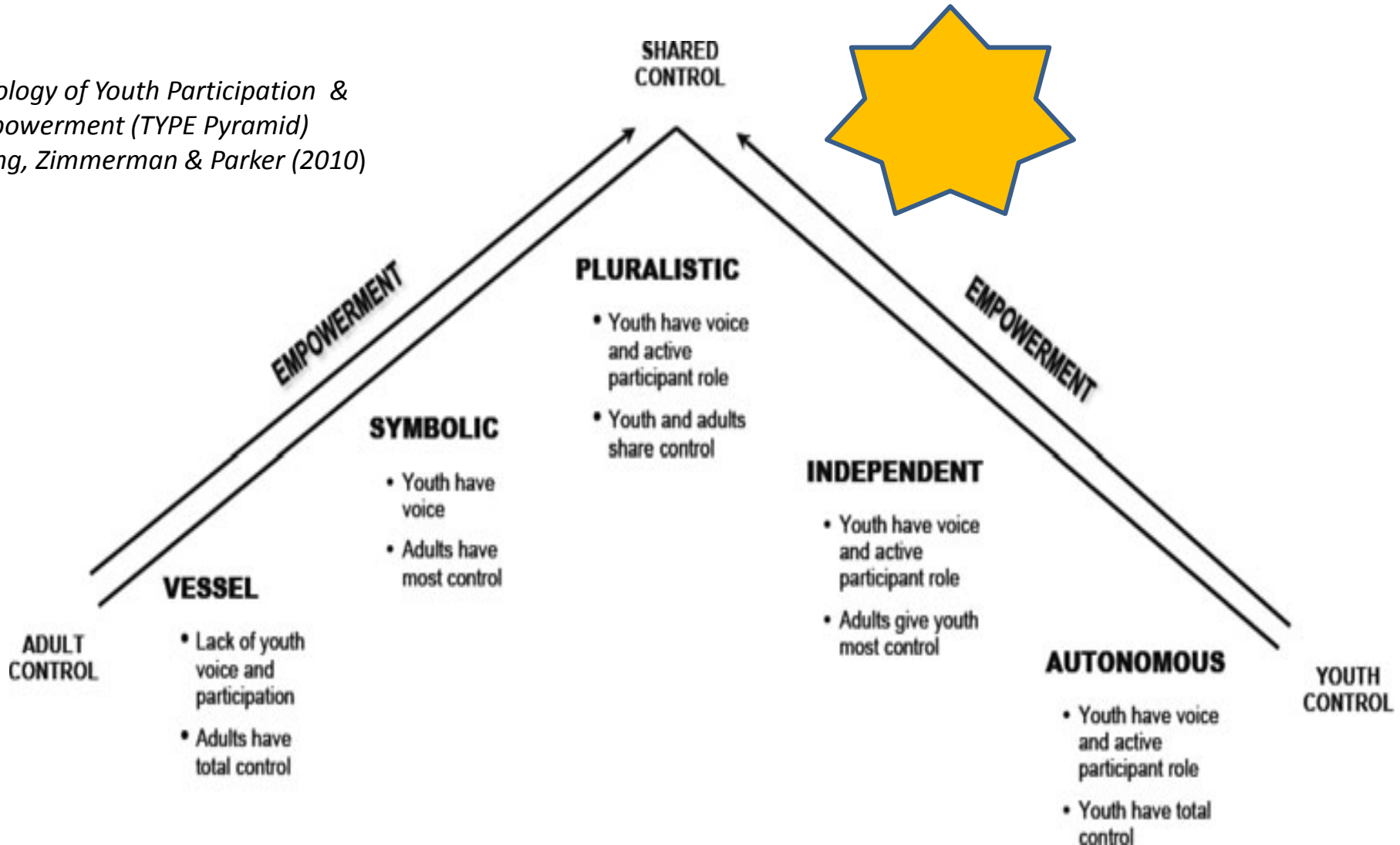
Moving from youth voice to impact

- Y-AP challenges conventional youth/adult roles and organizational norms.
- Organizations report that quality Y-AP requires a shift in “how we do business”.
- Promising practices are emerging around how to create an organizational “Culture of Youth-Adult Partnership”.



Y-AP is about youth and adults sharing control

Typology of Youth Participation & Empowerment (TYPE Pyramid)
Wong, Zimmerman & Parker (2010)



Poll: To what degree do youth and adults share control for key decisions in ...

■ Program Implementation

■ Program Management

■ Community Leadership



Share your responses using the chat box

- **What would it take to make that happen?**



Building an organizational culture of Y-AP

- Create **multiple options** for youth participation and expression
- Provide **scaffolding** for youth leadership and responsibility
- **Address issues of power** and foster “safe space” for respectful dialogue
- Cultivate **Y-AP coaches and champions**
- Align **policies and procedures** to support Y-AP
- Establish and document **clear youth/adult roles**
- Allow adequate **time and resources** for collective learning



Resources

- [Being Y-AP Savvy: A Primer on Creating & Sustaining Youth-Adult Partnerships.](#)
- [Youth-Adult Partnerships in Public Action: Principles, Organizational Culture and Outcomes](#)
- [Youth-Adult Partnerships in Evaluation \(Y-AP/E\): A Resource Guide for Translating Research into Practice](#)
- [Youth-Adult Partnerships in Decision Making: What Does it take to Engage Adults in the Practice?](#)
- [Youth-Adult Partnership Rubric](#)

