
Youth Involvement

3.5 Recruiting, Preparing and Retaining Young People for Active Youth Involvement

Objective: Participants will develop strategies to recruit, prepare and retain young people

Material: Prepared newsprint, markers, tape

- Handouts:
- 3.5. A. Recruitment of Young People
 - 3.5.B. Logistics
 - 3.5.C. How do we Prepare Young People?
 - 3.5.D How do we Retain Young People?
 - 3.4. Increasing Youth Involvement
 - 3.5. E. Recruiting and Retaining Young People

Time: 45 minutes

Audience: General

Lesson Plan

Prepare four large worksheets (newsprint size, sample below) for the following topics:

1) Recruitment of Young People

Worksheet #1		
<u>Recruitment</u>		
Issue	Strategies	Comments
Motivation		
Diversity		
Marginalized youth		
Mixed age group		

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2) Logistics

3) How do we Prepare Young People?

4) How do we Retain Young People?

Step 1> Small group activity (45 min)

We want young people to be actively involved in shaping our programs and organizations. We want to give them a voice. We want them at the table as partners to help us plan, implement and evaluate what we are doing. We have the commitment to do this. Let's talk about how we get them involved. How do we recruit young

people? How do we prepare them? We often assume that they want to be involved – is that really so? What are some practical concerns that often get in the way? How and who do we outreach? How do we prepare them and how do we keep them involved?

To save time, we prepared a large worksheet for each of these issues. We have four groups; each group will take on one issue and think about concrete strategies, ideas and approaches to deal with this issue.

Give each group one worksheet. Explain the sheets. They have 15 minutes to write down their ideas.

Ask each group to present their work. Start with recruitment, then logistics, preparing and retaining youth. Ask for clarification questions and additions. Highlight some key findings.

Distribute Handouts: 3.4 Increasing Youth Involvement, 3.5.E. Recruiting and Retaining Young People.

Wrap up the session by a brief discussion of what participants need to move ahead with youth involvement.

Facilitation Tips

1. Prepare large worksheets using handouts 3.5.A – 3.5.D. Use newsprint or large sheets of butcher paper.
2. Instruct participants to be very concrete and specific in their strategies.
3. Offer to type up the worksheets if participants are interested in all the ideas that were generated.
4. This would be a good follow up activity to activity 3.1 Meaningful Roles for Young People and 3.2. Youth Involvement: A Challenging Notion!
5. If the group is small, participants can deliberate on the 4 areas using the handouts instead of the large newsprint or butcher paper.