Youth Collaboration.

Created in collaboration with the National Youth Forum on Homelessness.
Objectives.

- Chat about the role of Youth Collaboration in our movement
- Unpack why lived experience is important to our work to end youth homelessness
- Provide concepts and ideas to consider when building a YC framework
Adultism and Youth Services.
Identifying & Reframing Adultism.

By the power vested in me as an adult who is a grown up.
What are we learning?
Input from Youth and Young Adults.

- Set youth and young adult leaders up for success.
- Create a collaborative environment for input and feedback.
- Set deadlines.
- Uplift the impact of their work.
Where are we headed?
National Youth Forum on Homelessness.
Leadership Development.
Don’t worry! Here’s a few more resources.
Youth Collaboration Toolkit.

YOUTH COLLABORATION TOOLKIT

Welcome

Whenever decisions are being made that impact young people, it’s important that youth are at the table and have an equitable decision-making representation. This can vary in number of youth depending on the issue at hand, but it should include at least one or more youth representatives in a board of directors, and creating opportunities for young people to speak for themselves. Young people who are receiving services should be encour-
aged to participate in decisions that directly impact their housing and well-being.

Developed as a partnership between the National Youth Forum on Homelessness (NYFH) and the True Colors Fund, this toolkit was initiated by NYFH and the content was shaped by their voices. The ideas and concepts included in this toolkit will help ensure that young people are authentically engaged while collaborating with the offering adults in their lives.

Identifying Barriers

Make sure to identify and address any barriers that may inhibit authentic youth collaboration. Here are some potential barriers you may consider along with strategies you can use to overcome them:

Building Trust

Establishing and building trust is essential to any effective working relationship. Once rapport is established, genuine collaboration can begin.

Potential Barriers

- **Cultural insensitivity:** Recognizing the needs and values of young adults across racial and socioeconomic lines.
- **Cultural insensitivity:** The reality in unclearness to iden-

Strategies to Consider

- Understand common values and ways of young adults across racial and socioeconomic lines.
- Maintain an accepting and affirming environment that meets the varied needs of a diverse population.

- Recognize and respect the unique challenges each young adult may face in terms of cultural insensitivity.

- Establish clear communication channels and decision-making processes that ensure youth participation.

- Promote leadership development opportunities for youth involved in decision-making processes.