# Nothing About Us Without Us: Authentic Youth Engagement in Public Health

Webinar

July 16, 2019



# Welcome



Regina Davis Moss, PhD, MPH, MCHES
Associate Executive Director
Public Health Policy and Practice
American Public Health Association



#### About APHA

The American Public Health Association champions the health of all people and all communities. We strengthen the public health profession, promote best practices and share the latest public health research and information. We are the only organization that combines a nearly 150-year perspective, a broad-based member community and the ability to influence policy to improve the public's health. Learn more at www.apha.org.





#### OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HEALTH

# Positive Approaches to Adolescent Health

# Nothing About Us Without Us: Authentic Youth Engagement in Public Health

Diane Foley, MD, FAAP
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Population Affairs
Director of the Office of Adolescent Health
HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health
July 16, 2019



# **OPA's Youth Engagement Work**

- Grantee Youth Leadership Councils
  - Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) Program grantees implementing evidence-based programs expected to have Youth Leadership Councils
  - Council members contributed by:
    - ✓ Providing feedback on programming and curricula
    - ✓ Recruiting and mentoring other youth
    - ✓ Delivering program content
    - ✓ Helping hiring program staff
    - ✓ Participating in communications activities
- 2018-2019 Youth Listening Sessions Special Project
  - Supported 13 grantees in exploring different strategies for soliciting youth input
  - Conducting listening sessions allowed grantees to get feedback or program ideas they
    would not have otherwise known about







# Nothing About Us Without Us: Authentic Youth Engagement in Public Health



**Elizabeth Berard**, Youth Branch Chief, Office of HIV/AIDS, U.S. Agency for International Development **Topic**: What is authentic youth engagement







Nikki Payne, Assistant Vice President

Dr. Nakisha Watts, Program Manager

Jordan Jones, Youth Leadership Council Member

Delta Health Alliance, Stoneville, Mississippi

Topic: Authentic youth engagement in practice







# Positive Youth Development & Meaningful Youth Engagement

Elizabeth Berard eberard@usaid.gov USAID/Office of HIV/AIDS July 2019



#### **Overview**

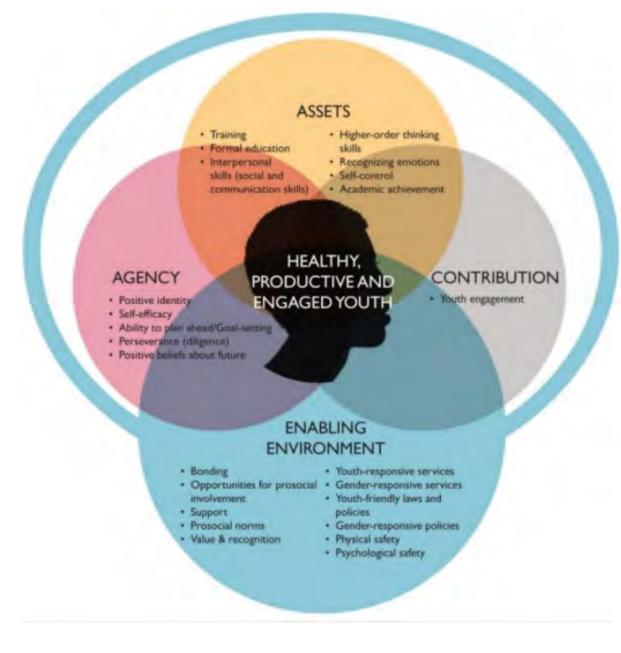
- I. How does Youth Engagement fit in Positive Youth Development (PYD)
- 2. Youth in the drivers seat (2 examples)
- 3. Youth Engagement Measurement
- 4. Challenges & Opportunities





# We're all about Positive Youth Development (PYD)

ASSETS + AGENCY +
ENABLING
ENVIRONMENT +
CONTRIBUTION =
Healthy, Productive,
and Engaged Youth





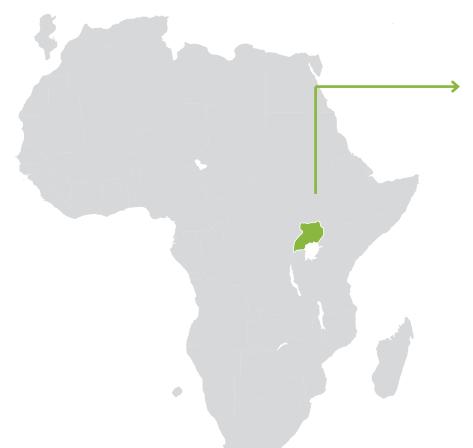
# **Definition: Meaningful Youth Engagement**



# 



# I. YouthPower Action: Anyaka Makwiri (Smart Girl) Pilot



# **GULU, UGANDA**

22 Anyaka Makwiri groups formed

490 Adolescent Girls Young Women

(AGYW) participated

88 mentors trained to facilitate sessions

6 months implementation





# Phase 2: Girl-centered design workshops told us:







## **Challenges**

- Persistent gender-inequality
- Domestic-violence
- Sexual violence
- Early marriage
- Early pregnancy
- Lack of work
- School-drop out

#### **Desired information**

- Relationships
- Gender-based violence
- Sexual and reproductive health
- Communication
- Financial capabilities

# **Youth Led Community Projects**

- Examples include:
  - Water source clean-up
  - Supporting the elderly by cleaning
  - Erected hand cleaning tap (Tippy Taps)
  - Fetching water for a health facility
  - HIV prevention skit targeting sex workers

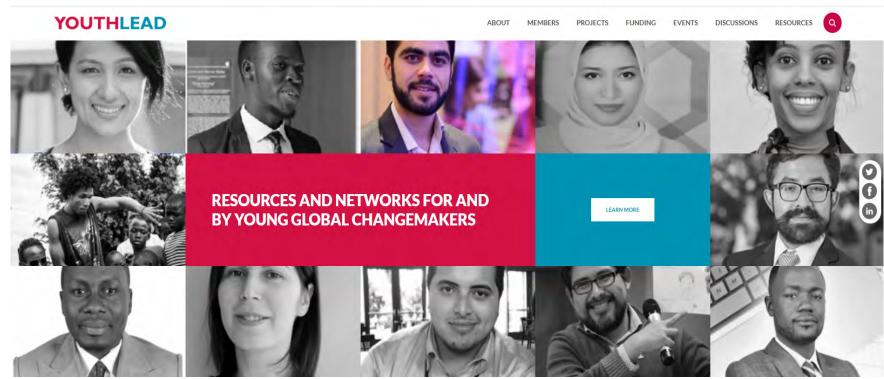






# 2: YOUTHLEAD

# The Virtual Destination Site for Young Changemakers www.youthlead.org





# YouthLead Features and Content to Help Young Changemakers



GET
CONNECTED:
PEOPLE

GET
SMARTER:
RESOURCES

RESEARCH AND EVIDENCE

New Directions: Creating Pathways for and with Opportunity Youth

GE/07/201

SECTORS:

Youth, Asset Building, Youth Engagement and Contribution +



GET INSPIRED: EVENTS

**GET FUNDED:** FUNDING

GRANT

Research Call on Adolescent Health and Wellbeing

02/28/2019

SECTORS:

Health and Wellbeing, Adolescent Health, Access to Health Care +

More



**GET KNOWN:** PROJECTS

GET
INVOLVED:
DISCUSSIONS







### YouthLead Ambassadors Selected











































# **Youth Engagement Measurement**

YouthPower Measurement and Indicators

Technical Brief: Making the Pitch for Youth Engagement

Six Tips for Increasing Meaningful Youth Engagement in Programs





# Youth Engagement Indicator Examples

Measurement statement	Illustrative indicator example	Source
Youth are actively engaged in program (a) design (b) implementation (c) monitoring and evaluation	<ul> <li>Number of invited young people in the program who attend 80% of all program activities.</li> <li>Number/proportion (%) of youth participating in: (e.g., program design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.)</li> <li>Number of youth trained in monitoring and evaluation</li> </ul>	PYD Measurement Toolkit
Community leaders see youth as credible and competent.	<ul> <li>Number of community leaders who adopt and implement policy recommendations made by youth</li> <li>Number of community organizations or institutions that hire or appoint youth to leadership positions as a result of their efforts through the program</li> </ul>	Indicators developed by YouthPower Learning

# Voices of Youth: Youth Engagement Moving Forward

#### **CHALLENGES**

- 1. Youth voices need to reflect all youth.
- 2. Engage youth at all levels
- 3. Provide youth more info on donors' processes, projects, requirements
- 4. Understand pain points for youth engagement
- Provide adequate funds for youth-led organizations

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**:

- Dialogue with youth has value in itself
- 2. Insert specific language in their solicitations/RFPs ensuring direct support to youth-led organizations
- Consider direct funding support for youth-led organizations





The findings and conclusions in this presentation are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the United States Agency for International Development, the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief or the U.S. Government.

