

Youth Engagement Outcomes



IMPACTS ON YOUNG PEOPLE

(individual and social level outcomes):

- Personal growth and identity development
- Skill, knowledge and capacity building
- Positive health benefits including a reduction of negative risk behaviours, and positive academic outcomes
- Broadened social networks
- Strengthened relationships with social networks
- Networking and learning from adults about their communities and accessing resources

IMPACTS ON ADULTS

(individual and social level outcomes):

- Overcoming stereotypes about youth and greater recognition of youth diversity and strengths
- More energy, passion, optimism in governance activities
- Enhanced sense of personal efficacy and belonging
- Enhanced sense of collective purpose and feelings of commitment to the organization
- New perspectives in decision-making
- Increased feelings for connectedness to others within the organization

IMPACTS ON PROGRAMS/SERVICES

(system level outcomes):

- Improved responsiveness of programs and services to changing needs
- Improved service/program development
- Increased use of services/programs
- Increased participatory practice
- Improved staff abilities to meet young people's needs
- Increased program evaluation
- Better information sharing with young people and formalized processes for youth input

IMPACTS ON THE ORGANIZATION

(system level outcomes):

- Improved accuracy and relevancy of decisions and the likelihood that they are implemented
- Increased overall efficiency
- A culture of inclusion
- Increased influence on policy-makers outside the organization
- Strengthened connections between organizational governance and programming
- More entrepreneurial, innovative governance and organizational openness to change and debate
- More focus on diversity, representation, and better outreach and advocacy due to broader insights into youth needs
- Embedded youth involvement principles in the organizational culture
- Greater clarity in and focus on organizational mission and vision
- Increased credibility and appeal to funders