

## YOUTH INVOLVEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Instructions: For each of the following statements, choose the number that best describes the agency at the current moment. Base your score on your own perceptions and experience at this point in time. Use the “Not Sure” category only if you have no basis to make a response. Mark your answer in front of each question:

1 = Totally Disagree, 2 = Partially Disagree, 3 Not Sure, 4= Partially Agree, 5 = Totally Agree.

- The agency’s mission statement and goals reflect the intent to empower, support and strengthen youth.
- The agency’s administrators request input from youth in developing the agency’s mission statement and goals.
- The agency’s administrators develop specific plans that support and strengthen youth.
- The agency’s administrators organize opportunities to have direct contact with clients.
- The agency’s mission statement and goals reflect a commitment to a strength focused treatment perspective as a valuable part of the therapeutic process.
- The management staff supports and implements the agency’s goals and strategies to support and empower youth.
- The agency provides opportunities and further training for incorporating clients with skills and interest into agency operations.
- The agency administrator regularly reviews the agency’s performance in regard to youth involvement and empowerment.
- The agency’s policy and procedure manual includes references to youth empowerment.
- The agency has a clear process for evaluating the short-term and long-term impact of its programs and policies on youth.
- The agency invites youth to participate in all aspects of program development.
- The agency develops strategies to redirect the agency’s culture to one that supports and involves youth.
- The agency’s administrators include youth in the policy and procedure development process.
- The agency’s administrators include youth in the major and routine decision-making process.
- The agency involves youth in recruiting, orienting and training new staff.
- The agency provides ongoing staff training, retraining and educational opportunities on issues related to youth empowerment.

1 = Totally Disagree, 2 = Partially Disagree, 3 Not Sure, 4= Partially Agree, 5 = Totally Agree.

- Training opportunities at the agency include the youth perspective.
- The agency involves youth in the development and review of its published literature, including its web page.
- All written materials or communications with youth use youth-friendly language.
- The agency's written policies, procedures and service delivery are culturally competent and respect differences of ethnicity, religion, class and gender.
- Agency staff discusses with youth the findings of diagnostic assessments.
- Agency staff involve the youth in case plan development.
- Agency staff ask youth who their important community partners are, and include those partners in treatment plan development.
- Treatment plans include goals developed by the youth.
- Identifying strengths of the youth is a regular part of admission, assessment and treatment planning.
- Agency staff empower youth by building on their strengths and their informal support networks.
- Agency staff are honest and open with youth, explaining their concerns and the options that are being considered.
- The agency involves the youth in developing a crisis plan.
- The agency establishes and maintains links with community resources in the youth's home or future placement community.
- The agency affords youth the opportunity to participate in activities or engage resources in the immediate community, e.g., leisure, sports, spiritual and religious.
- The agency has a clearly written strategy for advocacy activities on behalf of youth and assigns responsibility to specific staff for implementation of these activities.
- The agency is involved in efforts to advocate for programs, policies, and services that empower youth.
- The agency invites youth with experience in treatment programs and advocacy to serve on its task forces, special committees and other advisory bodies.
- The agency evaluates outcomes for youth.
- Program evaluation materials are developed with youth input.
- Youth are surveyed regularly about their satisfaction with services.
- The agency has a formal procedure for youth to provide suggestions to administrators for program improvements.

1 = Totally Disagree, 2 = Partially Disagree, 3 Not Sure, 4= Partially Agree, 5 = Totally Agree.

- Agency staff are comfortable with involving youth in program decisions.
- Youth are included in most agency meetings regarding program issues.
- The agency teaches advocacy skills to youth.
- The agency provides support for youth to advocate for themselves within its programs.
- The agency provides support for youth to advocate for themselves with other community resources.
- The agency publicly recognizes and celebrates advocacy achievements of youth.
- The agency includes the youth's input in assessing the level and quality of service delivery
- The agency conducts exit interviews with each youth.

\_\_\_\_\_ Total

Scores

225 Highest

135-180 Right Path

90-135 More Training

45-90 Assess Philosophy