

Meeting 16 – Full Group

Youth Engagement in Policy (YEP) Research Group

If you have questions about the [Authentic Youth Engagement in Policy Project](#), please contact co-Principal Investigators Amy McKlindon at amcklindon@childtrends.org and Samantha E. Holquist at sholquist@childtrends.org.

This study is supported by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation through its Foster Youth and Opportunity Youth Initiatives.

Child Trends

AGENDA

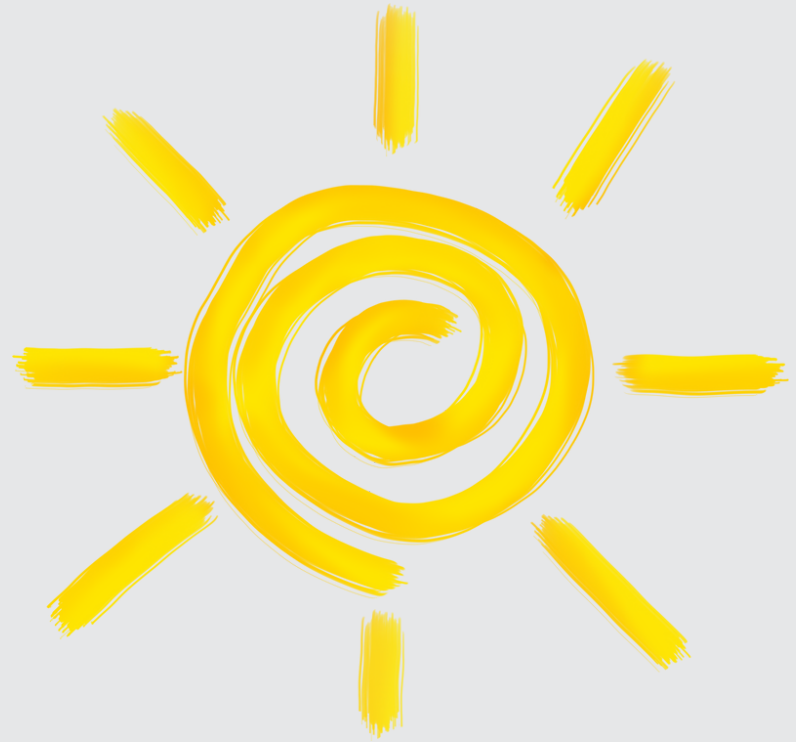


- Welcome, Teambuilding & Norms ●
- YEP Project Highlights ●
- Reflections ●
- Sharing This Work ●
- Closing & Next Steps ●

TEAMBUILDING



TEAMBUILDING ACTIVITY



What is something you're looking forward to this summer?



YEP Research Group Norms and Expectations

Collaborate so we can build upon each other and create the best possible outcome

Opposing views are welcome and should be shared with respect

Meet people where they are in how they want to engage and share their perspective

Honor everyone's unique experiences, perspectives, and backgrounds - we are all in this together

Hear what others have to say (e.g., listen to understand), respect their thoughts, ideas, and feelings, and strive to understand one another

Foster a welcoming environment where everyone feels comfortable and respected

Make decisions using democratic processes (e.g., discussions, voting)

When disagreements occur, keep lines of communication open and work together to resolve conflicts

Be curious, not judgmental

Set clear objectives and expectations (e.g., creating agendas for meetings, having a clear path of where we are going)

PURPOSE FOR TODAY



During today's meeting, we plan to:

- Reflect on what we've accomplished and learned throughout this project.
- Share status updates to wrap up all aspects of the project.



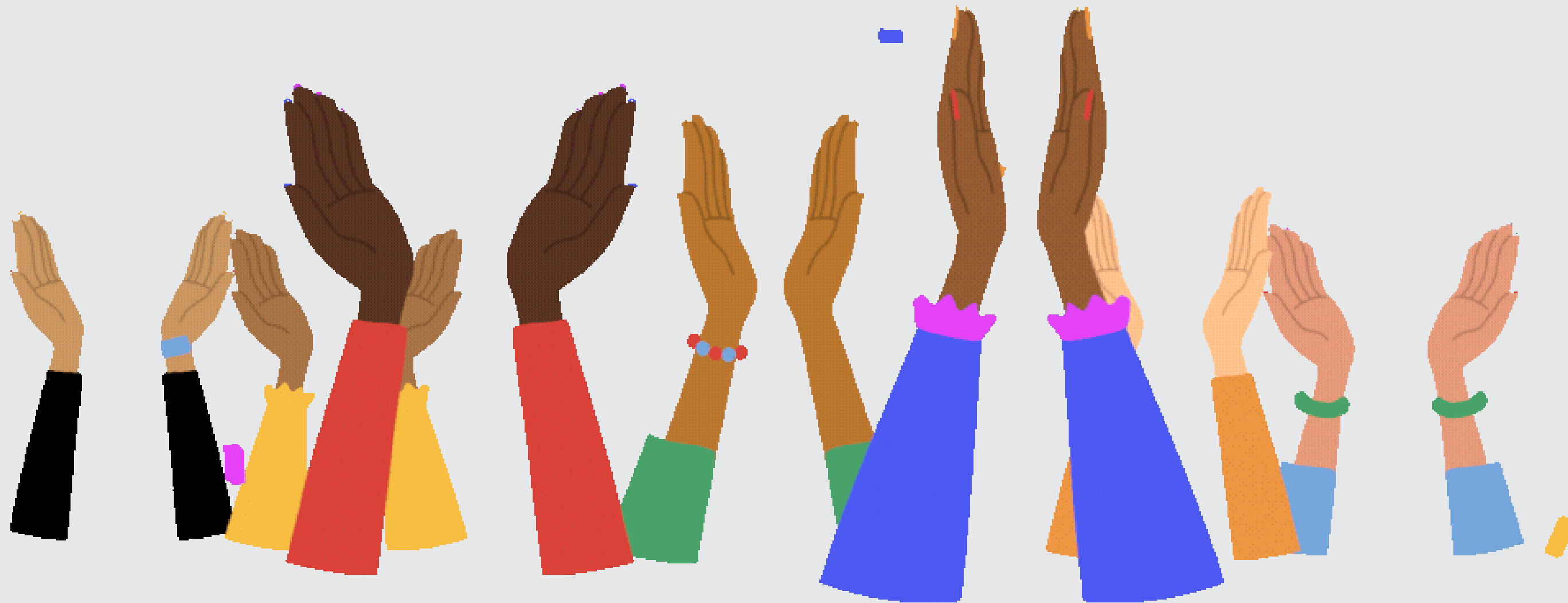
WEBINAR REFLECTIONS

We'll take time to discuss highlights of the webinar and reflect on what went well, what we would do differently next time, etc.

WEBINAR HIGHLIGHTS



CONGRATULATIONS!! Thank you for all the work you put into the webinar! We had 321 attendees!



WEBINAR HIGHLIGHTS



Most Child Trends staff got at least one message telling us how amazing it was.

“I attended the recent webinar and found it very insightful and relevant to the work we're doing...It would be really helpful to revisit the main points and reflect on how we might integrate some of the findings into our own initiatives.”

“What a great webinar! You all did such a great job, and the youth leaders were amazing! Well done! I was communicating with partners and colleagues, and they were so impressed!”

WEBINAR REFLECTIONS



Let's spend a few minutes reflecting on the following:

What went well?

What was challenging?

What would you do differently next time?



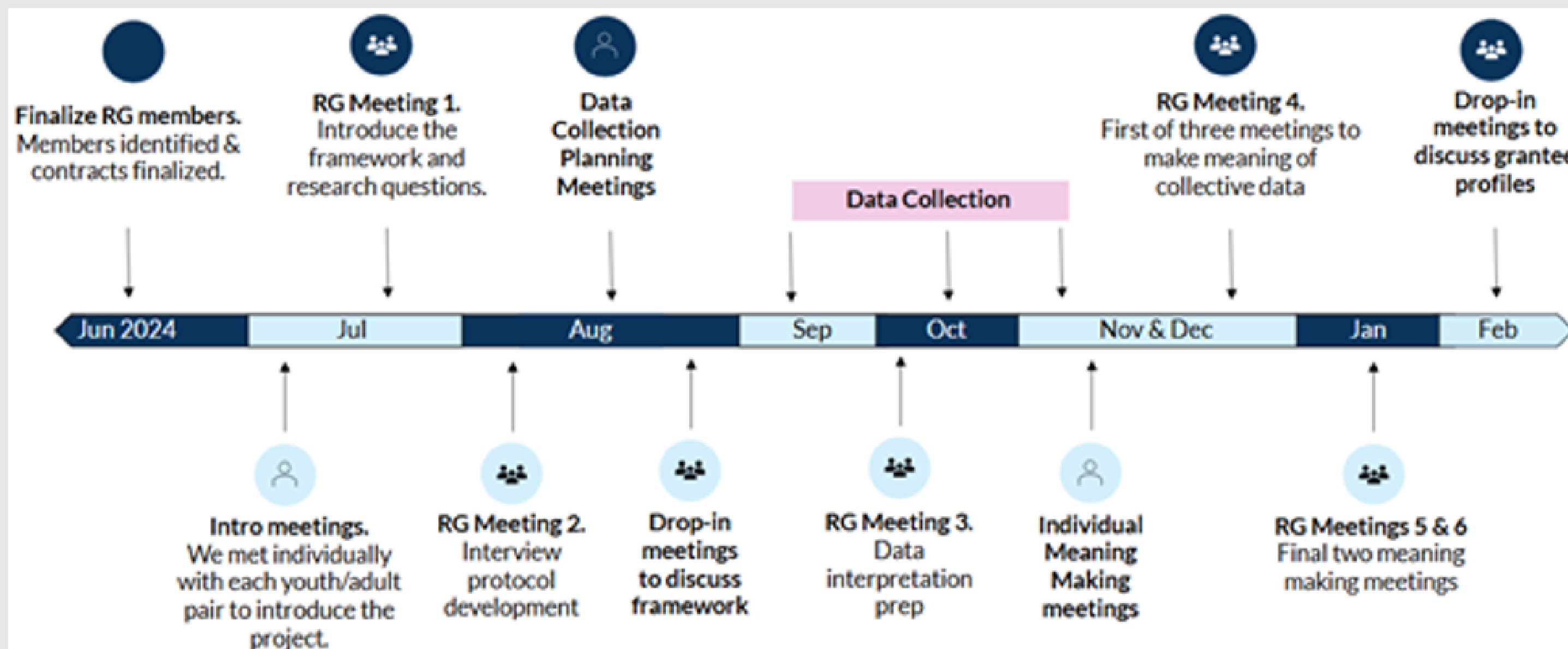


YEP HIGHLIGHTS + REFLECTIONS

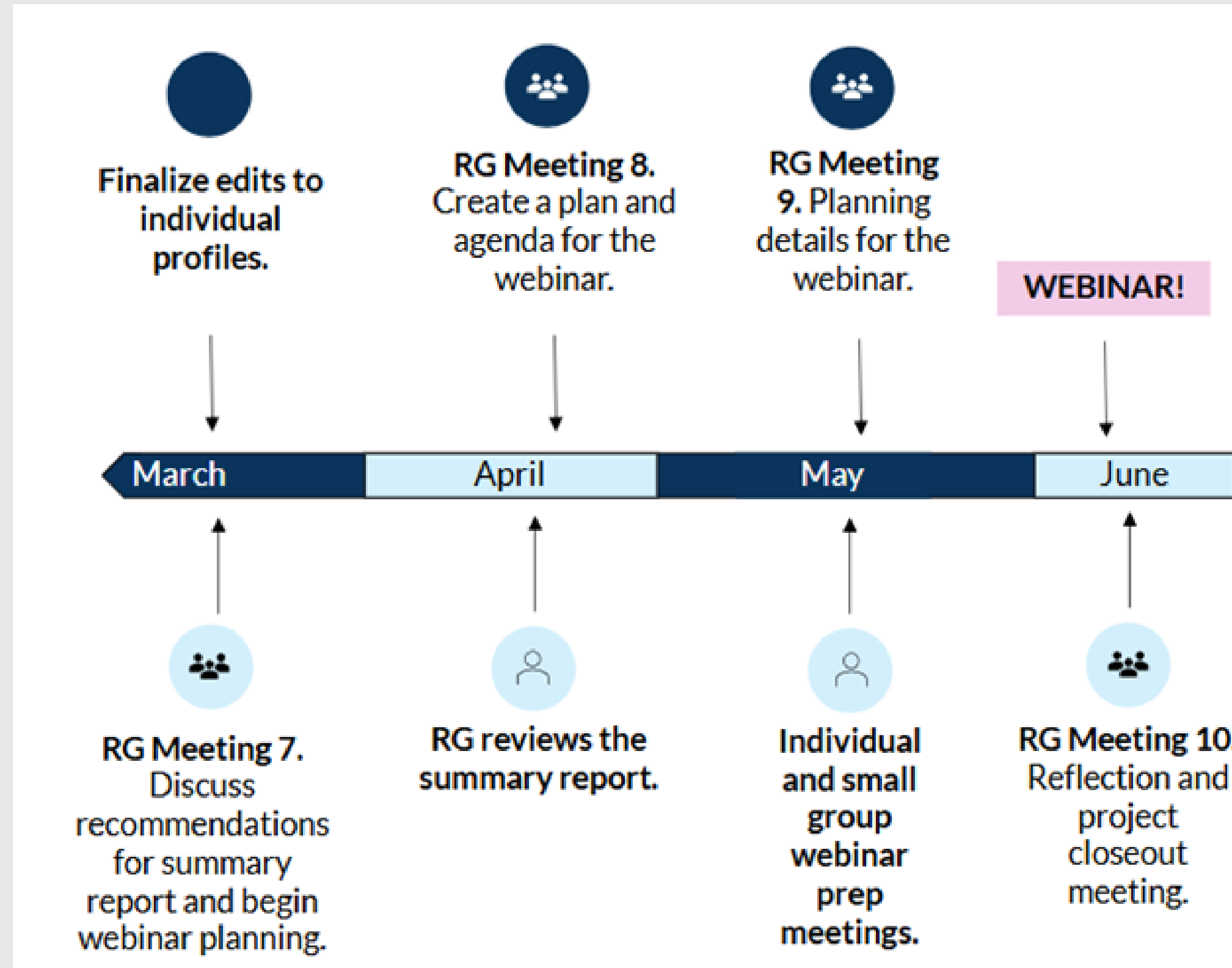
Timeline review: We want to celebrate everything we've accomplished, so we'll start with a timeline of what we've done over the past year.

Reflection: Let's talk about what we learned, what knowledge and skills we've gained, and how this experience has been.

TIMELINE REVIEW



TIMELINE REVIEW



PROJECT REFLECTIONS



Let's do some reflecting on the project as a whole. Feel free to share your answers out loud to these questions:

- How has your understanding of how to engage young people in policy advocacy changed?
- What have you learned about research?
- What new skills or knowledge have you gained?

RESEARCH GROUP REFLECTIONS (IF TIME)



Let's do some reflecting on the project as a whole. Feel free to share your answers out loud to these questions:

- Why did you continue to engage in this project over time?
- In what ways did you feel your contributions to the project were valued or acknowledged?
- What could we have done differently to make this a better experience?
- Based on what we've learned from this project, what else do you and your partners need to continue your work in authentically engaging young people in policy?



HEADLINE ACTIVITY

Future Casting: We'll do an activity where you imagine it's five years in the future. Our findings are being implemented and organizations across the country are using the framework we adapted, which has had a huge impact on youth involvement in policy!

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS



Draft a newspaper headline that speaks to your vision of youth engagement in policy efforts five years from now. Think about:

- What does it look like for young people to be involved in policy efforts?
- How are policies made?
- What types of policies have been created with more youth engagement?

We'll spend five minutes thinking independently and then ask you to share some of your headlines or visions.



WRAP UP & NEXT STEPS

Sharing Your Work: We'll go through more details on the next slide.

Final Invoices: Your final invoices will be due on July 7th. It's really important to get these in because this project closes at the end of July, meaning we won't be able to access the funds. And we want you to be paid for your work!

Summary Report: Will be published in July!

Webinar: Getting your input on having it searchable on YouTube or only available with a link.

Exit Ticket: We'd love to know more about your experience with the Research Group so we can continue to improve!

JOB DESCRIPTION + CERTIFICATES



- We'll be emailing each of you a certificate, which includes some of the things you've done as part of the research group. We hope these points can be useful to you as you update your resume with this experience!

ALL OF YOUR PUBLISHED WORK



We recommend that you also include the things we've published for this project in your resume! You could add a section called "Publications" or "Written Products". You can then either add citations for or links to all the materials from this project!

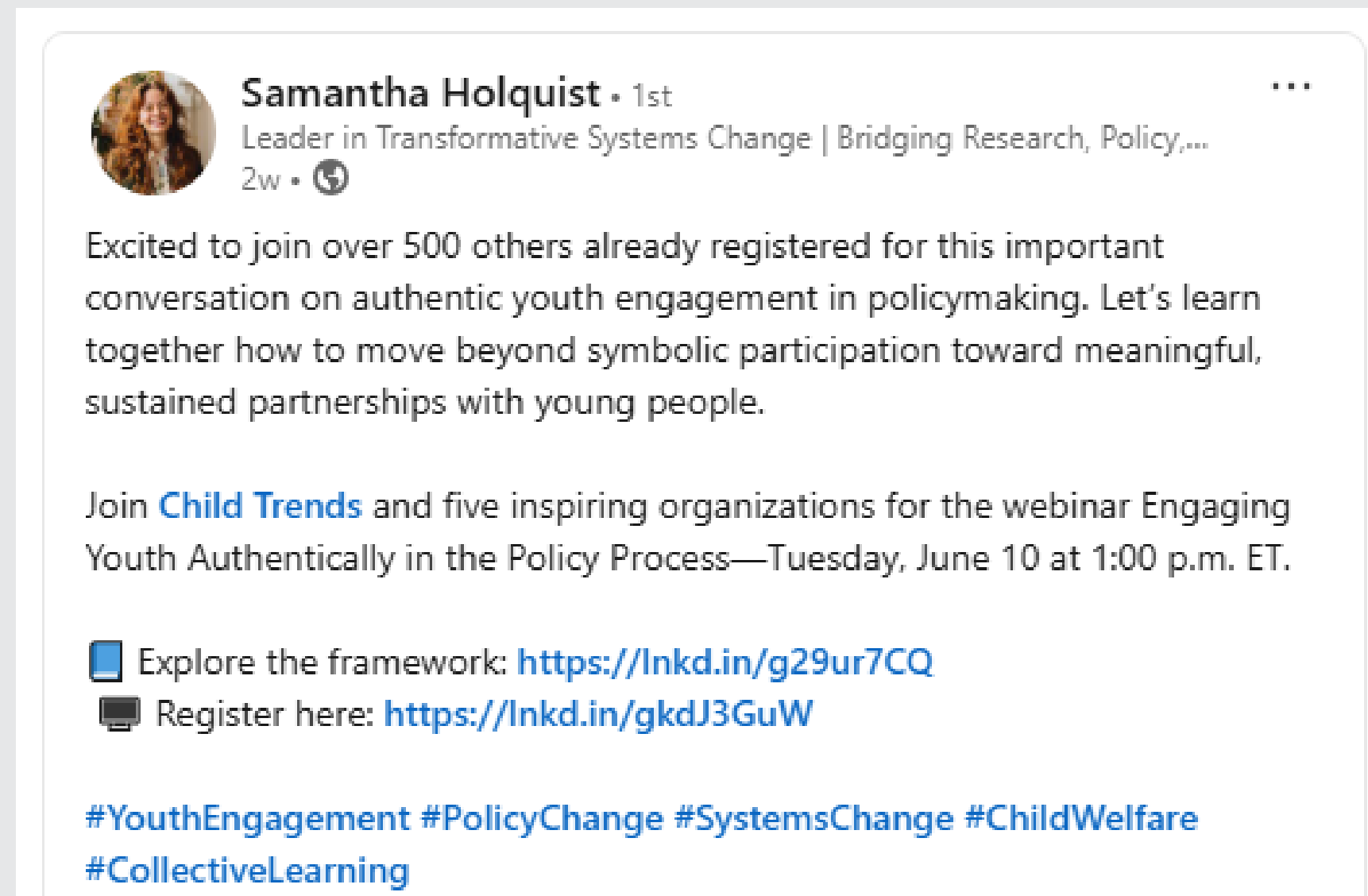
- Project page
- Authentic Youth Engagement in Policy Framework
- Your organization's profile
- Summary report (when it's published)
- Webinar



We will follow up with a resume template example that includes these links.

SHARING THIS PROJECT ON SOCIAL MEDIA





At Child Trends, our staff shares their work on LinkedIn a lot. If that's not your jam, we encourage you to share links to any of the products we've created or just your thoughts on what you've learned about research or authentic youth engagement to your social media of choice!



 **Samantha Holquist** • 1st
Leader in Transformative Systems Change | Bridging Research, Policy,...
2w • 

Excited to join over 500 others already registered for this important conversation on authentic youth engagement in policymaking. Let's learn together how to move beyond symbolic participation toward meaningful, sustained partnerships with young people.

Join [Child Trends](#) and five inspiring organizations for the webinar Engaging Youth Authentically in the Policy Process—Tuesday, June 10 at 1:00 p.m. ET.

 Explore the framework: <https://lnkd.in/g29ur7CQ>
 Register here: <https://lnkd.in/gkdJ3GuW>

[#YouthEngagement](#) [#PolicyChange](#) [#SystemsChange](#) [#ChildWelfare](#)
[#CollectiveLearning](#)

THANK YOU!



This project would not have been the same without each of you, and it has been such a pleasure working with you all!

