

# Meeting 5 – Framework Drop In

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](mailto:amcklindon@childtrends.org) and Samantha E. Holquist at [sholquist@childtrends.org](mailto:sholquist@childtrends.org).

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# AGENDA



- Welcome & Teambuilding ●
- What is the Framework? ●
- Discuss Framework Component 1 ●
- Discuss Framework Component 2 ●
- Wrap Up & Next Steps ●

# TEAMBUILDING



# TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITY



**What is your favorite  
season?**

# YEP Research Group Norms and Expectations

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

Opposing views are welcome and should be shared with respect

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

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

Be curious, not judgmental

We all come from unique backgrounds and may not understand each other's experiences. We will be kind and process unsettling experiences together if they come up.

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

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

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



# WHAT IS THE FRAMEWORK?

We drafted a framework based on research that has been published on this topic. This is our starting point and we hope to expand and improve this framework based on what we learn from each of your organizations.

# UNDERSTANDING YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN POLICY ADVOCACY

This framework is designed to explore how youth engagement in policy advocacy leads to organizational and policy changes.

“**Policy**” refers to formal guidelines, standards, or procedures used by a government agency (e.g., a child welfare agency) or legislative body (e.g., city council) to provide public services.

“**Advocacy**” includes efforts within and outside of government agencies to influence policy in the public systems serving youth.

Drawing from existing models in the literature and the advocacy experiences and expertise of the project’s research group, this framework explores:

- (1) What organizational practices empower youth to engage in policy advocacy,
- (2) What roles do youth hold within policy advocacy,
- (3) In what ways do youth engage in the policy process, and
- (4) How does youth engagement in policy influence outcomes.

This process is not linear. For example, organizations will need to continually assess how their practices empower youth engagement, and youth roles will continuously shift as they move through different stages of the policy change process.

This framework will guide the Hilton Foundation Youth Engagement in Policy project and will be updated with the research group’s input and then again at the conclusion of the project to reflect our learnings.

# HOW WE'LL USE THE FRAMEWORK



This framework will:

- Guide the themes we look for in the data we collect from interviews and documentation of your policy win
- Inform how we structure the case studies of each grantee's policy win
- Be included in our final report to the Foundation
- Be shared in a webinar and more publicly as a tool for organizations who want to engage youth in policy advocacy



# **FRIDAY-DISCUSS FRAMEWORK COMPONENT 1**

# IN WHAT WAYS DO YOUTH ENGAGE IN POLICY CHANGE?

We essentially answered this question by highlighting three aspects of the policy change process:

1. **Policy Identification:** Activities that establish a need for policy change
2. **Policy Advocacy:** Activities that support a needed policy change
3. **Policy Implementation:** Activities that help enact a policy change

# IN WHAT WAYS DO YOUTH ENGAGE IN POLICY CHANGE?



Now we want you to answer the question!

Let's pretend we're founding a new organization, SafeNet Teens. Our goal is to end cyber-bullying for teens and we want to engage youth in policy advocacy efforts.

In Miro we will:

1. Spend 5-7 minutes brainstorming all the **possible activities** young people could do to be engaged in policy change
2. Then we'll decide if these activities can be categorized as policy identification, policy advocacy, policy implementation, or a new category.



# **FRIDAY- DISCUSS FRAMEWORK COMPONENT 2**

# HOW DOES YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN POLICY ADVOCACY INFLUENCE OUTCOMES?



An outcome is what happens or changes as a result of engaging youth in policy advocacy.

We answered this question by highlighting two levels of outcomes we want to focus on in this project:

1. **Organizational outcomes:** Changes to how the organization identifies and approaches its future advocacy priorities
2. **Policy outcomes:** All steps along the path to changing administrative and/or legislative policy

# HOW DOES YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN POLICY ADVOCACY INFLUENCE OUTCOMES?



Now we want you to answer the question!

Let's pretend we're founding a new organization, SafeNet Teens. Our goal is to end cyber-bullying for teens and we want to engage youth in policy advocacy efforts.

In Miro we will:

1. Brainstorm **what could change within our organization** as a result of engaging youth in policy advocacy.
2. Brainstorm **what results we might see on a policy level** of engaging youth in policy advocacy.



# WRAP UP & NEXT STEPS

**Child Trends will:** Incorporate the experiences and expertise you shared into our framework draft.

**Data Collection:** Please continue to work on identifying and sending us interview participant contact information and documentation of your policy win to review. You'll also have an opportunity to review and provide feedback on our interview protocols by 9/4 if interested.

**Next research group meeting:** We will reach out after Labor Day to schedule our next full research group meeting in late September or early October.