

# Issue: Involving Youth in Communities

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Region: South      Circle which primary base program it addresses -      4-H

## Section 1. Relevance

### Where did this issue surface?

Texas Community Futures Forum

### What is the issue/problem?

Youth voices are not being ask or heard in community decisions through other organizations, government, or schools.

### Problem size and scope? (How many people does it affect? How wide spread?)

There is a perceived issue that adults have the education and knowledge therefore know what is best for the community. The youth voice can be expressed but not necessarily acted upon.

**Problem severity?** (How serious is this issue?)      *Medium*

**Description:** There are some cases where communities need help, but others are doing fine.

### Target Audience? (Who does the problem impact and how many?)

Youth organizations, schools, and future of community as a whole.

### What are some general characteristics of the audience this program targets?

Many organizations provide physical resources but not structure or curriculum. TCE can furnish structure and facilitation to groups for increased youth voice.

## Section 2. Response

Response refers to how Extension intends to address the issue by developing an educational program.

### State the goal of the program.

*To increase the awareness of youth voices in communities and how an increased voice can improve the livelihood and productivity of a community and its citizens*

### State the outcome objectives.

Client Change	At the end of this program, will....
<i>Knowledge</i>	increase knowledge on.... increase knowledge of Benefit of a youth voice in the decision making process; governing boards and procedures
<i>Skills</i>	develop skills.... team work; assist in Increase skills in leadership of youth; inter-generational communication and public speaking skills

<i>Attitude</i>	change their attitudes pertaining to...Higher acceptance of youth voices; youth have a higher sense of ownership for and to community; higher sense of pride in community; higher acceptance of adults
<i>Behavior Change</i>	adopt.... Higher level of responsibility on part of both adult and youth; adults will be more professional and conscience of behavior in front of youth; Youth will become more aware of proper meeting behavior
<i>New Technology</i>	adopt....
<i>Best Practice</i>	adopt ..... Having youth serve in a decision making role

**Program Design.**

<b>Topic (Subject Matter)</b>	<b>Existing Resource(s)</b>	<b>Contact Person(s)</b>
Civic Activism	Chamber of Commerce	Chamber of Commerce Commissioner's Court Civic Organizations
Documentation and studies of youth lead organizations	Research papers/studies	Educators Educational foundation Civic Organization Studies
Development of youth leadership through involvement on boards	Extension volunteer publications Volunteer Center Publication	Civic Organization Boards
Inter-generational training for both youth adults	Speakers Presenters	Professional Organizations

**Section 3. Results**

The last section deals with evaluation of this program. The evaluation content should mirror the objectives that are outlined in section two. Please try and list some specific questions that should be asked to the target audience to determine if the intended change took place. List as many potential questions as possible. The goal here is to create a question bank for each client change level so that the educator can review these questions to see if any of them are relevant to their program. If they are, then they can use them to measure change in their program.

<b>Client Change Level</b>	<b>Sample Questions</b> (Review the objectives section to help place questions or statements in the space below)
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<i>Knowledge</i>	<p>Are you more understanding of youth's needs?</p> <p>Is there a notable benefit of youth serving on the board?</p>
<i>Skills</i>	<p>Have you noticed any increase of leadership skills of any youth serving with the organization?</p>
<i>Attitude</i>	<p>Are you more accepting of youth on your board and in the decision making process?</p> <p>Do youth have a greater sense of confidence by serving on this board?</p> <p>Do youth have a greater level of respect by you through their service of your board?</p>
<i>Behavior Change</i>	<p>Do you think by having youth involved on your board it will increase their future participation in the community? (Ask both to adults and youth)</p> <p>Do you think having a positive position for youth to serve in has decreased criminal activity among youth?</p>
<i>New Technology</i>	
<i>Best Practice</i>	

**Economic Indicators:** Are there economic indicators that can be measured concerning this issue?

YES

**Please list them below.**

Chamber of Commerce, Promotion of "youth involved community", Volunteer hours of youth working through organizations, Youth starting businesses because of participation in and on boards

**Interpretation.** The last step in the process is interpreting the results to our stakeholders. List internal and external stakeholders that would be interested in the results of this educational program. Do not forget to think about other state agencies and groups that would be interested in these outcomes.

<b>Internal to Extension Stakeholders</b>	<b>External Stakeholders</b>
All of Extension	Volunteers Chamber of Commerce City Governments County Governments Professional Associations State Legislators Organizations School Boards