



Methods and Strategies for Engaging People With Lived Experience

Session Resources

1. [Methods and Emerging Strategies to Engage People with Lived Experience](#)

This brief identifies methods and emerging strategies to engage people with lived experience and expertise in federal research, programming, and policymaking. It draws on lessons learned from federal initiatives across a range of human services areas to identify ways that federal staff can meaningfully and effectively engage people with lived experience.

2. [Lived Experience Starter Kit](#)

The Office of Child Support Enforcement partnered with the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation and ICF to develop a starter kit that child support professionals can use to engage people with lived experience in the child support program. The starter kit is a resource that can help child support agencies, grant recipients, and other stakeholders:

- ▶ Identify and recruit individuals with lived experience
- ▶ Determine equitable compensation for people with lived experience
- ▶ Engage respectfully and effectively with people with lived experience

Engaging people with lived experience—whose voices often go unheard—can help child support and other human service practitioners inform and improve their programs.

3. [Youth Engagement at the Federal Level: A Compilation of Strategies and Practices](#)

This compilation of briefs describes the youth engagement efforts of 12 agencies and departments, including the accomplishments and basic mechanisms of these strategies, the barriers and challenges they faced, and their vision for the future. The conversations that informed this report consistently clarified that federal policymakers engaging young adults do so with two clear aims in mind: 1) to better support completion of their agencies' missions and 2) to support the development of young adults.

4. [SAMHSA's Concept of Trauma and Guidance for a Trauma-Informed Approach](#)

This manual introduces a concept of trauma and offers a framework for becoming a trauma-informed organization, system, or service sector. The manual provides a definition of trauma and a trauma-informed approach and offers 6 key principles and 10 implementation domains.

5. [Listen Up! Youth Listening Session Toolkit](#)

Between 2017 and 2019, the Office of Population Affairs led a youth listening session collaborative pilot with 13 Teen Pregnancy Prevention program grantees to test different youth engagement strategies and develop resources to support organizations in meaningfully and systematically engaging youth in their projects. The Listen Up! Youth Listening Session Toolkit is the product of that collaboration and is designed to enhance organizations' capacity to:

- ▶ Conduct all stages of a youth listening session, including planning, implementation, extrapolating insights, and making program improvements
- ▶ Promote inclusive practices to support safe and supportive environments that accommodate equitable opportunities for youth participation
- ▶ Inspire innovative approaches and creative problem-solving when soliciting youth input and ideas

- ▶ Engage youth as equal partners meaningfully and authentically in the discovery, planning, implementation, and evaluation stages of youth-serving programs

6. [A Guide to Forming Advisory Boards for Family-Serving Organizations](#)

This guide walks professionals through the process of forming a board and highlights the common decisions groups have to make while outlining the options at each juncture. This guide helps to demystify the process and allows professionals to think about the bigger strategic decisions that will form the bedrock of their board.

7. [Family Empowerment Implementation Manual](#)

The manual combines research and guidance on best practices in family empowerment with the evolving field of implementation science. The manual also reinforces and expands on concepts introduced in the Center for States' Family Empowerment and Leadership Academy.