Capacity Building
CENTER FOR STATES

Youth Engagement Blueprint

Improving Organizational Capacity to Support Youth and Young Adults Currently and Formerly in Foster Care

12' 2' 2' 12'

5' 5'

VIEWING YOUNG PEOPLE AS ORGANIZATIONAL ASSETS

Integrate youth voice and expertise in decision-making, policy development, program improvement, and training.

IMPLEMENTING FLEXIBLE AND INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES

Take a risk-tolerant approach that promotes creativity and allows youth to learn from mistakes.

USING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EFFECTIVELY

Apply research knowledge of adolescent brain development and trauma-informed care to practices and use mobile technology and social media to engage young people.

HAVING THE RIGHT PEOPLE

Build a shared commitment to working with youth through recruitment, training, and support of agency staff and collaboration with community partners.

14' x 20'

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Essential design elements for effective youth engagement

36'

The Youth Engagement Blueprint resulted from the collaborative thinking of child welfare experts, including young adults formerly in care, child welfare professionals, Federal grantees, and staff from the Children's Bureau and the Capacity Building Center for States.

For more information, visit
https://capacity.childwelfare.gov/states/focus-areas/youth-development/

Children's Bureau