# L1 - Allowing Youth Voice to Inform Mental Wellness **Efforts**

11:30am-12:45pm

Ami Flammini, Midwest PBIS Network (IL); Kelcey Schmitz, University of Washington SMART Center

Content Facilitator: Patti Hershfeldt, Center for Social Behavior Supports, Old Dominion University (VA)

Topic: Mental Health/Social-Emotional Well-Being

Key words: Youth Voice, Social Relationships, Community



### SESSION DESCRIPTION & LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The voices of our students are critical as schools navigate necessary changes to practices and policies which include mental wellness.

This session will highlight different ways students have become involved in supporting other students as well as informing adults of changes they feel are necessary to influence mental wellness for all.

- Participants will learn about different levels of student involvement
- Participants will hear about examples of student voice and mental health from the Northwest Region
- Participants will be able to identify next steps for incorporating student voice in mental health efforts in their settings



## Virtual Forum Expectations

EXPECTATI ON	OVERALL Event	CHAT Tab	POLLS Tab (+Q&A)
BE RESPONSIBLE	<ul> <li>Use a shared action plan for your team</li> <li>Complete session evaluations</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Post positive on-topic comments</li> <li>Questions for the presenters go in the POLLs tab ⇒</li> </ul>	Add questions before and/or during session
BE RESPECTFUL	<ul> <li>Limit distractions</li> <li>Follow up on your assigned action items</li> </ul>	♦ Use inclusive language	<ul> <li>Use sincere phrasing</li> <li>Complete additional polls when prompted</li> </ul>
BE SAFE	<ul><li>→ Take movement breaks</li><li>→ Be aware of your stress</li><li>level</li></ul>	Engage in <b>productive</b> dialogue	Ask solution- oriented questions
For Presenters	Ensure Files Tab has current materials and related weblinks	Monitor and remove inappropriate comments	Identify common Qs to address in final 15 minutes



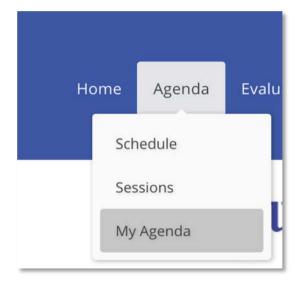


TIPS FOI FULLCIPALITS

# Finding Your Registered Sessions in Pathable

### Your Personalized Schedule (My Agenda)

Locate the Agenda Menu, Select "My Agenda" from the drop-down, and you will see the sessions for which you are registered. A green check mark in the upper right corner indicates you are registered.



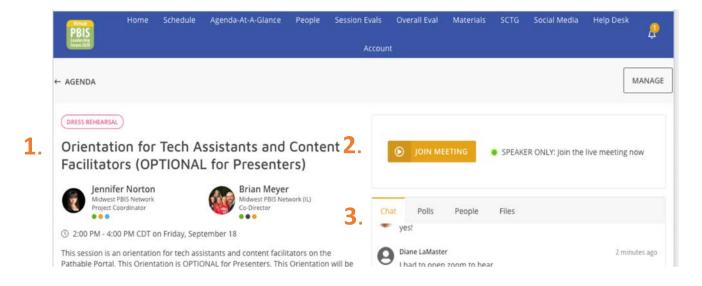




#### TIPS IUI Participants

## Navigating the Session Page

- 1. Session Details (Title, Presenters, Date & Time, Description, Keywords)
- 2. Join Session
- 3. Interact through Chat, Polls, & Uploaded Files





### Tips for Participants

## Chat, Polls, and Q&A

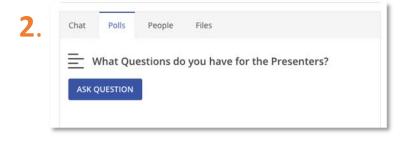
 Use Chat for engaging with other participants around the session topic.

Presenters may use chat differently in specific sessions.

Follow overall Forum expectations for responsible, respectful, and safe chatting



- Find the Q&A under Polls.Questions for presenters go there.
- Some sessions have other Polls or more Specific Questions.
   Complete those when prompted



Chat Polls People Files

What is your favorite thing about Fall?

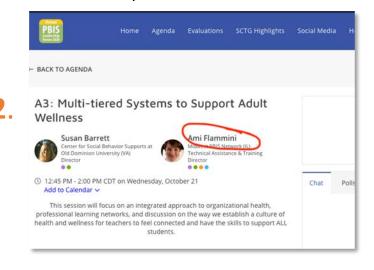
#### rips for Participants

## Be careful of accidently navigating away

### While participating in a live Session...Be Present!

- If you navigate away from the live Session you will need to press the "Join Meeting" button to get back in.
- What does navigating away look like? Here are some examples:
  - Clicking on any area of the navigation menu
  - Clicking on a Person's name







### Tips for Participants

## Support is Available

If at any time you need support as a participant, use the **Help Desk**:

PBIS Leadership Ferum 2020				
Home Agenda Evaluation		^		
	Presenters Account	Φ		
DRESS REHEARSAL				
D3 Dress Rehearsal	The webines has ended there is no video			



### When Working In Your Team

### **Consider 5 Questions**

- How does this compare to our priorities?
- What team would oversee this work?
- What should we stop doing to make room for this work?
- How will we assess whether it's (a) implemented well and (b) working?



### FACING SCHOOLS TODAY



https://soundout.org/2016/04/01/the-guide-to-meaningful-student-involvement/

What do you think of when you hear the words "Student Engagement"?

Giving feedback about school-wide

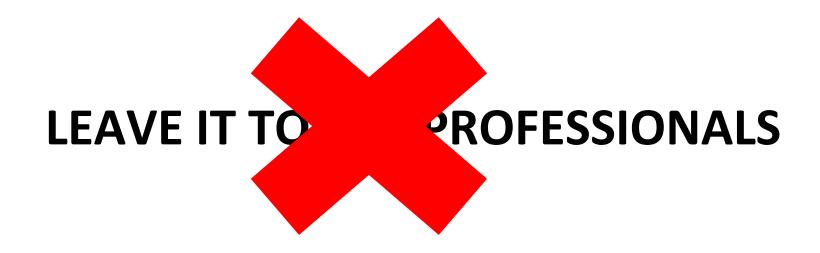
PLEASE SHARE IN THE CHAT BOX WHAT COMES TO MIND FOR YOU

Sitting on the PBIS Team gning the school logo

Helping decide prices for the valentines dance?

Organizing the homecoming dance

## **Expanding our Vision**



## **Expanding our Vision**

- 1. Curriculum
- 2. Time in school
- 3. Scheduling
- 4. Out of school time
- 5. Class and School Size
- 6. Teacher quality
- 7. Special Education
- 8. School Funding

### The **definitions**

## Student engagement:

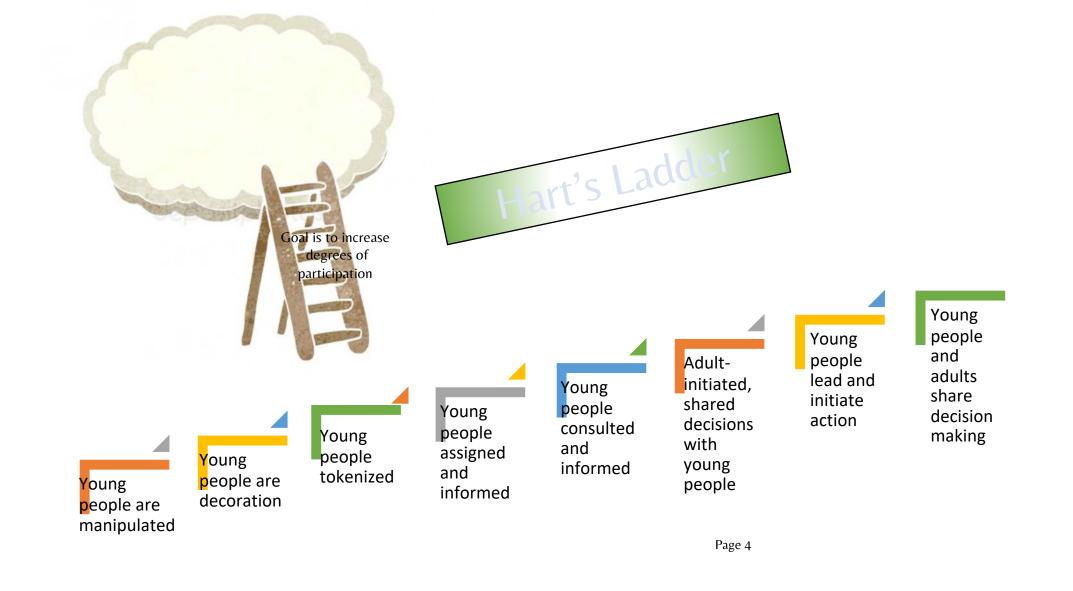
"the excitement and investment a young person feels towards learning"

### The definitions

Meaningful student involvement, which is a process for engaging students as partners in school improvement for the sake of education, community, and democracy.

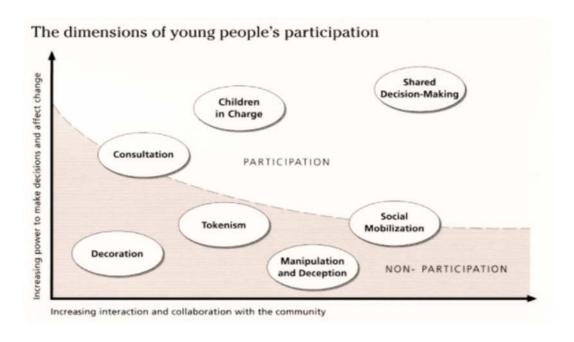
<u>Pupil consultation</u>, which is a systematic process for listening to students' opinions about school.

Student participation, which is a self-determined act of students committing to something in school.



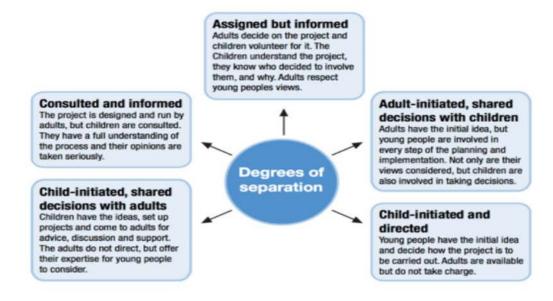
Hart, R. A. (1992). <u>Children's participation: From tokenism to citizenship</u>. Florence, Italy: United Nations Children's Fund International Child Development Centre.

### Variations of Hart's ladder



In <u>Creating Better Cities with Children and Youth: A Manual for Participation</u> (2001), David Driskell proposed another reconceptualization of Roger Hart's Ladder of Children's Participation called the Dimensions of Young People's Participation. The reconceived presentation places the eight rungs of Hart's Ladder on an X-Y axis. The vertical dimension illustrates increasing power to make decisions and change, while the horizontal dimension illustrates increasing levels of interaction and collaboration. Image source: Creating Better Cities with Children and Youth: A Manual for Participation.

## Variations of Hart's ladder



In Empowering Children and Young People: Promoting Involvement in Decision-Making (1997), Phil Treseder refashioned Roger Hart's Ladder of Children's Participation into a hub-and-spoke configuration to avoid common criticisms of the ladder metaphor: in real-world settings, participation does not unfold in an ordered sequence from higher to lower, and forms of participation that appear on lower rungs of the ladder are not intrinsically worse than higher levels—in fact, they may be appropriate in certain circumstances, such as when children and youth need adult support and guidance to fully participate in a leadership or decision-making process. Image source: <a href="Empowering Young People">Empowering Young People</a>, Carnegie UK Trust, January 2008.

## Variations of Hart's ladder

### **Ladder of Student Involvement**

- 8. Student initiated, shared decisions with adults
- 7. Student imitated, student-led decisions
- 6. Adult initiated, shared decisions with students
- 5. Students informed and consulted
- 4. Students informed and assigned
- 3. Students tokenized
- 2. Students are decoration

1. Students manipulated

Degree of Participation

**Degrees of Non-Participation** 

Adapted by A. Fletcher (2005) from R. Hart (1994)

# Considerations Incorporating Student Voice

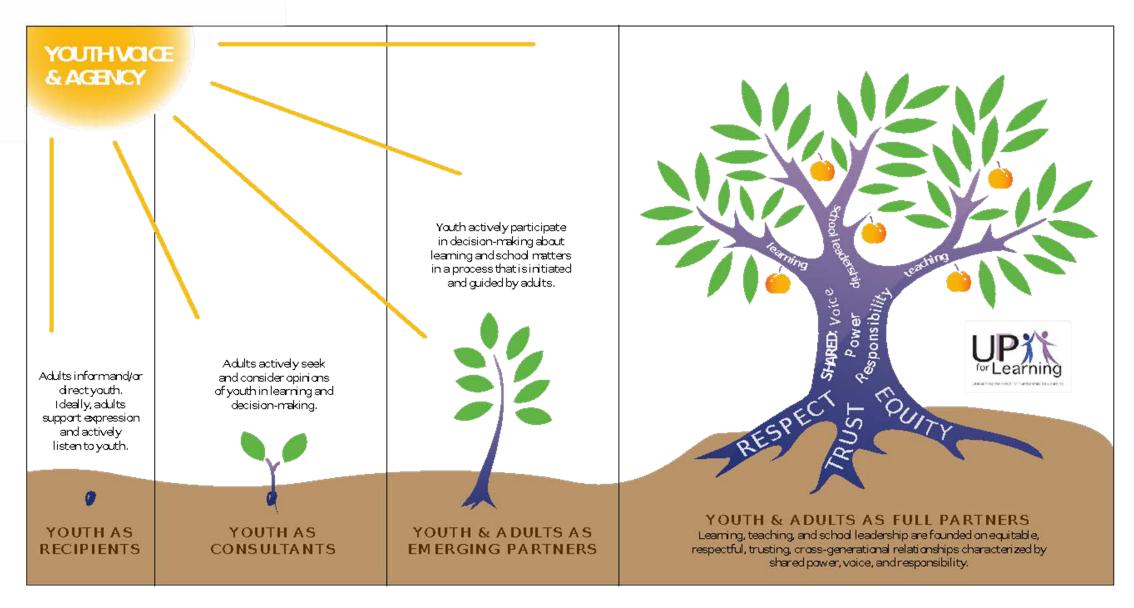
TFI Sub-Scale: Team		
TFI 1.1	Team Composition	
TFI 1.2	Team Operating Procedures	

TFI Sub-Scale: Implementation		
TFI 1.3	Behavioral Expectations	
TFI 1.4	Teaching Expectations	
TFI 1.5	Problem Behavior Definitions	
TFI 1.6	Discipline Policies	
TFI 1.7	Professional Development	
TFI 1.8	Classroom Procedures	
TFI 1.9	Feedback and Acknowledgement	
TFI 1.10	Faculty Involvement	
TFI 1.11	Student/Family/Community Involvement	

TFI Sub-Scale: Evaluation		
TFI 1.12	Discipline Data	
TFI 1.13	Data-based Decision Making	
TFI 1.14	Fidelity Data	
TFI 1.15	Annual Evaluation	



# Considerations Incorporating Student Voice



### PLEASE SHARE IN CHAT



WHERE ARE YOU IN THE SEED TO TREE CYCLE?
WHAT IS ONE STEP YOU CAN TAKE TO WATER THE TREE?



Kelcey Schmitz, MSEd
University of
Washington SMART
Center

Allowing Youth Voice to Inform Mental Wellness Efforts: Examples from the Northwest

### **Northwest MHTTC School Mental Health Center (NWSMH)**



#### Our goals:

Provide direct training and TA on the implementation of mental health services in schools

Build infrastructure and create learning communities

Support educational leaders to promote mental health for ALL

PROUDLY SERVING THE SCHOOL MENTAL **HEALTH WORKFORCE IN ALASKA, IDAHO, OREGON & WASHINGTON** 



https://bit.ly/NWSMH



nwsmh@uw.edu



https://bit.ly/NWSMHsignup

Join us on social media!



@NorthwestMHTTC



Northwest MHTTC







Foster regional alliances

## Overview of Examples

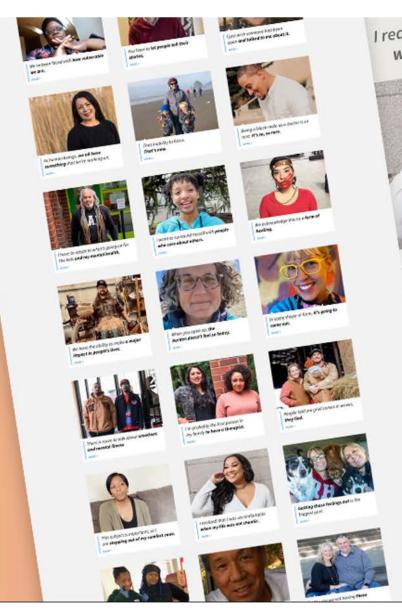
- A Mindful State's Connections We Need Washington Statewide Mental Health and Wellness Campaign Youth Voice Event
- Youth Aware
- Seeds of Peace: Youth Led PD and Advocacy
- Ingraham High School: Youth Voice on MTSS Team
- This is Me: Video Journaling
- Resources

## How are we really doing?

Listen to brave people opening up about the impact of the pandemic on their mental health:

**AMindfulState.org** 

#mentalhealthactionday



### I realized that I was a... when my life was not

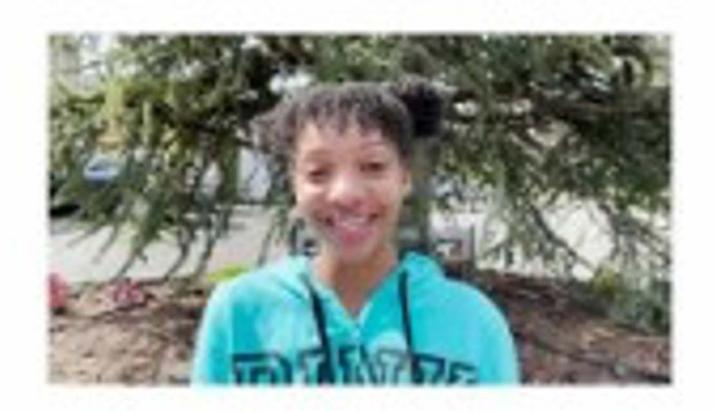


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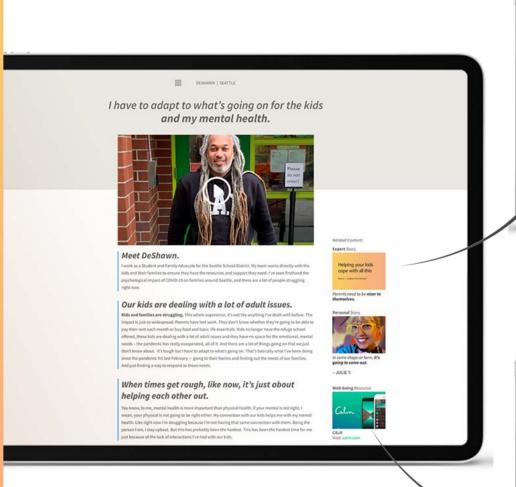
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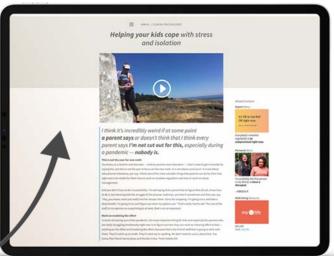
### all it, the twin pande cism and of COVID-15

u can't do equity, ithout centering



## The Manifestation







https://amindfulstate.org/







### How it's going

- 250 billboards and poster around the state (Tacoma, Seattle, translated in Spanish)
- Ads on Sounder Trains and buses moving up and down through communities
- Social Media
- Radio/TV press
- Connections We Need Event Elevating Youth Voice
- Summer PD for Out of School Time Providers -Youth-led

https://mindfulstate.com/
Facebook
Twitter
Instagram

### Find Help. Connect. Help Other





We've been faced with how vulnerable we are.



You have to let people tell their stories.



I just wish someone had been open and talked to me about it.



As human beings, we all have something that we're working on.



That inability to focus. That's new.



Being a black male as a doctor is so rare. It's so, so rare.



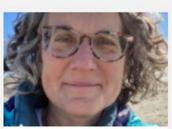
I have to adapt to what's going on for the kids and my mental health.



I want to surround myself with people who care about others.



We acknowledge this as a form of healing.



When you open up, the burden doesn't feel so heavy.



In some shape or form, it's going to come out.

## Connections We Need Event

- April 16, 2021
- Engage School Staff and After School Staff
- Collborative effort among several organizations alongside Youth who are part of Seeds of Peace
- Heard from four youth in Washington State

JOIN US | FOR A ZOOM CONVERSATION APRIL 16TH

# Connections We Need

Supporting the Resiliency of Youth and Young Adults





### Youth Speakers

- Bryan, Senior
- Hope, 10th grade
- Sourdsey, 11<sup>th</sup> grade
- Mehr, 8<sup>th</sup> grade

View the entire event here: <a href="https://mhttcnetwork.org/c">https://mhttcnetwork.org/c</a>
<a href="enters/northwest-">enters/northwest-</a>
<a href="mailto:mhttc/connections-we-">mhttc/connections-we-</a>
<a href="mailto:need">need</a>





"Being able to set aside the normal curriculum and be able to have space to talk and discuss about the events that were happening around us really helped." Brian



"The collateral damage of this pandemic is the great toll that it has taken on us teens." - Mehr



"I know for my classmates they were struggling because their family life isn't as good as mine and they don't have as good as support systems as I do and it's hard to see what they are going through." - Sourdsey

## Themes

## Equity & access for all

Youth need safe spaces for conversation

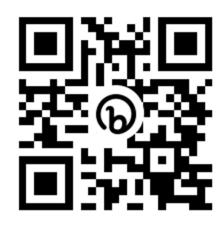
Youth need skills to provide peer supports

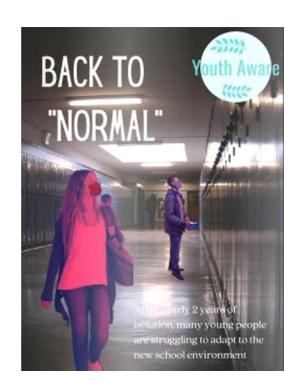
Grown ups need to create space to listen to youth





## Mehr Grewal





Youth Aware Magazine - About

Teen Café:
Online chat
every other
week during
the Pandemic

https://www.youthawaremagazine.c om/youth-engagement-forum/teencafes



https://www.youthawaremagazine.com/community-initiatives/worth-a-shot

Twitter: @WorthAShot7 Facebook: @worthashot01

# What participants had to say ...



- "This training will impact my work by advocating strongly for the inclusion of student voice in program development and evaluation."
- "Today's event spurs me on to have important conversations and to create community bridges for better connections."
- "I will share the recording with my staff so that they can hear from the young people and experience what a fully supportive interaction and embracing of social-emotional wellbeing looks and feels like."
- "It's helpful to hear from the students what their concerns were, what has been helpful for coping, and what is still needed."

### Seeds of Peace – Youth Summit



 Greentrike - Out of school time intermediary (OSTI)



- Youth-Led Advocacy
- Founded in 2011
- Fahren Johnson, Director of Strategic Initiatives

### Connect:

https://www.facebook.com/SeedsOfPc Fahren Johnson fjohnson@playtacoma.org





Healthy Minds Matter- Expanded Learning Opportunities- Youth Led PD Series

Facilitate by:

Isha Hussein-Lincoln HS Senior

Heaven Galvan-SAMI HS Senior

August 26th!







For registration information contact Venalin Aguilar at vaguilar@playtacoma .org

#### **Project TAT: Teens Across Tacoma**

- -Bring **Awareness** by distributing information to 500 Tacoma residents and youth peers
- **-Outreach** to at least 5% of teens experiencing housing insecurity and unaccompanied teens, providing them with resources that can connect them to ie: clothing, food, shelter and transportation, health/mental health supports
- -Increase social, emotional and mental health, self-esteem, wellbeing and identity by coordinating "safe space zones" in every school, where youth can go if they need time to process, needs support of a peer or caring adult, in the space will be an intake form, where students can sign in anonymously by their initials, there will be SEL items and strategies available like emotions checks
- -Engagement to encourage student leadership and community involvement in Tacoma high schools by organizing educational campaigns to raise awareness of the project.

#### Seeds of Peace Presents: Project "TAT"- Teens Across Tacoma









Seed of Peace presents Project TAT (Teens across Tacoma)

Project TAT is a district wide, school year effort to address teen homeless in Tacoma schools. It is powered and led by youth leaders from Mayor's Youth Council, Key Clubs, ASB clubs and infinity group with the aim to:

- Bring Awareness by distributing information to 500 Tacoma residents and youth peers
  - Youth Night Campaign Kick off at Alma Mater- November 8th (5-8pm
  - b. This will be done through a series of youth led PD offerings to adults who support teens: Students leaders will present in schools, advisory class, staff meetings, Expanded Learning Opportunities space, summits, conferences events and games.
- Outreach to at least 5% of teens experiencing housing insecurity and unaccompanied teens providing them with resources that can connect them to ie: clothing, food, shelter and transportation, health/mental health supports by coordinating:

#### 6-month Campaign project ideas:

- Adopt A Family
- 4. Cut's & Styles
- Beauty Bar
- 6. Thrift Exchange
- Safe Space Zones (school site space that is manned by a youth peer leader, counselor and caring adult support and resources)
- 8. Community Resource Center
- 9. Youth Led-PD to school staff (Teen Homelessness and Mental Health)
- 10. Care Kits (Winter, Spring, Summer)
- 11. Youth Night
- Improvement to increase 10% of homeless teens, social, emotional and mental health, selfesteem, wellbeing and identity by:
  - a. Coordinating "safe space zones" in every school, where youth can go if they need time to process, needs support of a peer or caring adult, in the space will be an intake form, where students can sign in anonymously by their initials, there will be SEL items and strategies available like emotions checks: <a href="Emotion Check In!">Emotion Check In!</a>



# Ingraham High School - Seattle, WA Student Voice Example Students Recruiting "A group of admin has reach

- School Climate Transformation Grant Site
- Implementing Interconnected Systems Framework
- Co-designing system WITH students



#### **Students Recruiting Students to Join MTSS Team**

"A group of admin has reached out to students to invite them to be part of their organization called MTSS, multi-tiered systems of support, and their main goal is to improve problems at Ingraham that students have pointed out, like microaggressions in classrooms/inequality in history curriculum, racial equality, inclusivity in the IB program and diversifying IB classes. We are looking for students to join this group, especially students of color who will bring better perspectives to the different issues we want to address, whether that means coming to every meeting or reaching out to other students about it or giving us suggestions to then bring to admin. This is not a club, and we do want to emphasize that this isn't something to join because you want to put it on college apps or your resume; instead, we're looking for people who want to help change Ingraham for the better. Also, we are primarily looking for juniors and underclassmen so we can keep this group going next year and beyond!" -Clara Fee, Senior 2022



VITSS Leads: John Houston, AP, & Jim Walters, SCTG Coach

# This is Me A Student Led Social and Emotional Learning Program in Schools

Https://Thisismevideojournaling.org

temporary link

https://Thisisme.org

permanent link (not available yet)



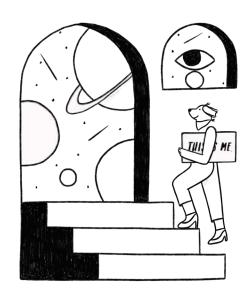
A Project of the Human Library Initiative (a 501c3 organization) and the University of Washington

## THIS IS ME

We own nothing more valuable than our own story. Discovering it is our gift to ourselves and our gift to the world.

### History of This is Me

- Launched during the pandemic
- Almost 100 students participated in the pilot
- More than 500 students are enrolled in the 2021-2022 school year
- Students and teachers are giving This is Me high marks
- Research grants to collect effectiveness and efficacy data are submitted



#### HOW DOES it Work?

- The StoryQ app supports students in completing three guided, verbal, video, journaling sessions
- Students consider key life questions choosing an interviewer they are comfortable with
- Classroom sessions build coping skills
- Private verbal journal sessions provide the raw footage for student directed short-films to share in a global forum



#### What Does It look like in a School?

- Schools sign-up at www.thisisme.com to unlock DIY webapp and curriculum
- 2. Cost is \$25 per student
- 3. Students complete 3 guided, verbal, video sessions (27 questions in total) in private
- 4. Teachers are supported in leading ten, 40 minute, interactive classroom sessions
- 5. Any health, humanities teacher, or advisor can use This is Me
- 6. Classroom sessions promote SEL benchmarks
- 7. Students can participate in the This is Me Film Festival

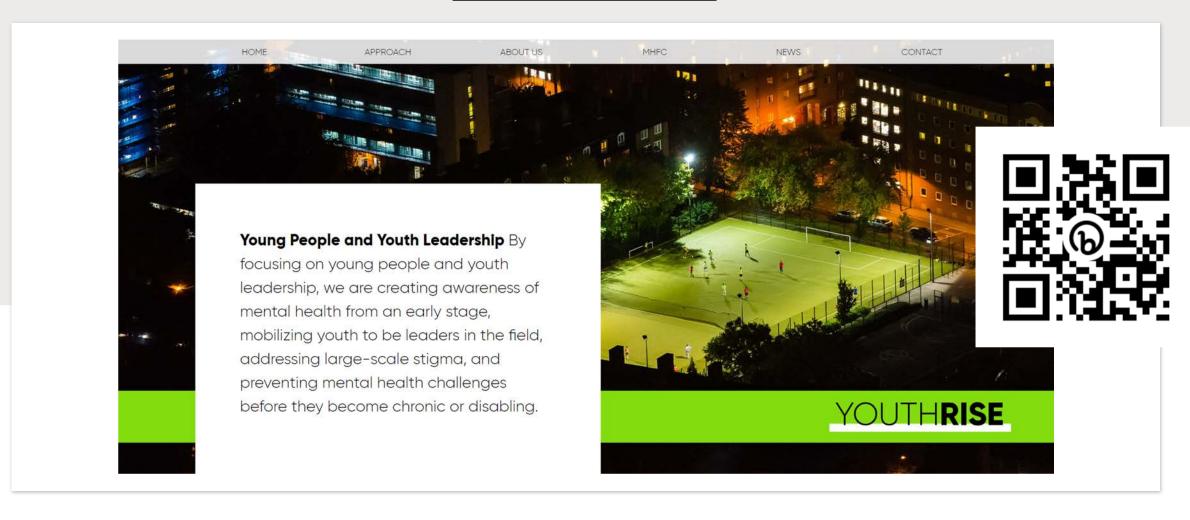




https://thisismevideojournaling.org/films

## Cities Rise Youth Rise

https://cities-rise.org/youthrise/



#### What is your next step?

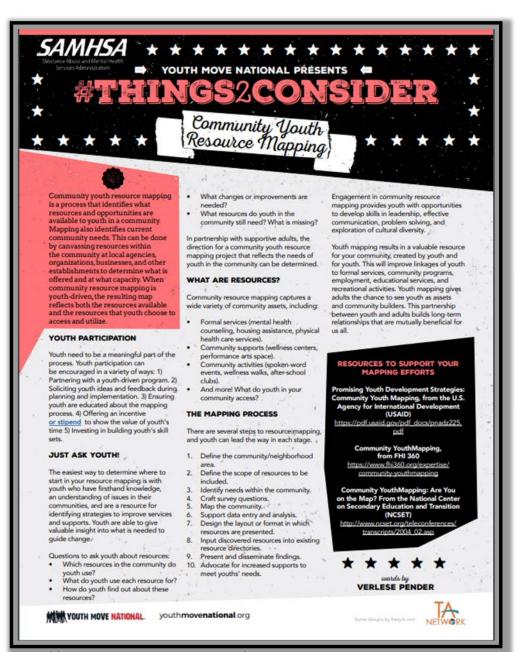
Share presentation materials with team members

Develop action plans to incorporate student voice and codesign mental health prevention, promotion and supports with students and families

Review resources shared

Tweet one takeaway!

Reach out today to students



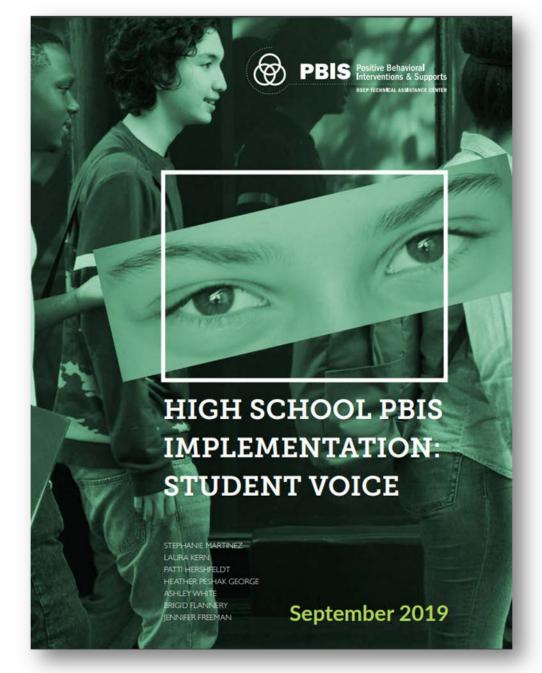




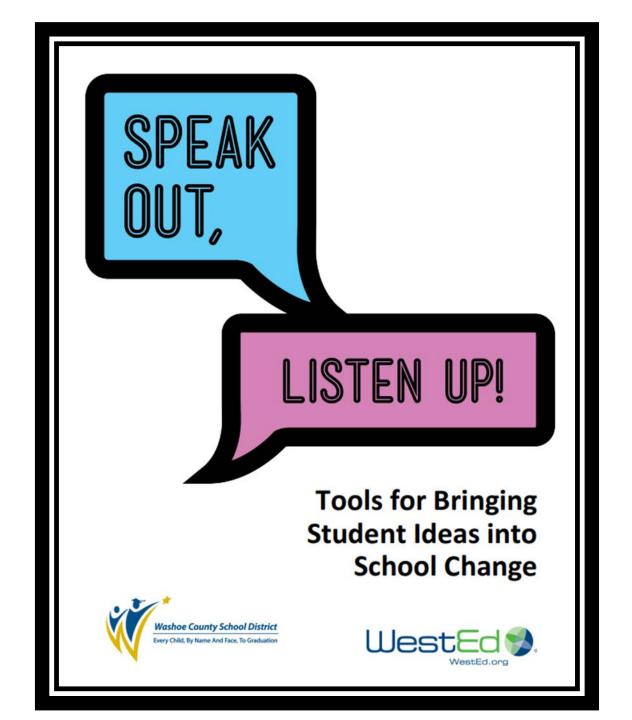
https://youthmovenational.org/wpcontent/uploads/2019/05/T2C\_5-Community-Mapping.pdf

https://youthmovenational.org/

https://youthmovenational.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/T2C 1-Stipending-Youth.pdf



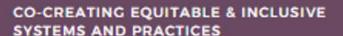






https://www.washoeschools.net/c ms/lib/NV01912265/Centricity/Do main/647/Comprehensive%20Tool kit.pdf

## Save the dates and join us in January!



# LEADING WITH YOUTH VOICE

A WEBINAR SERIES FOR HONORING AND AMPLIFYING ALL YOUTH



Kristin Thorp (she/her/hers), Youth Program Director | Youth Move National



#### YOUTH VOICE FOUNDATIONS

JANUARY 10, 2022 | 3:30-5:00 PM PST

## PART 2 BEST PRACTICES FOR YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

JANUARY 14, 2022 | 3:30-5:00 PM PST





## Please Complete this Session's Evaluation

## L1 - Allowing Youth Voice to Inform Mental Wellness Efforts

**OR** 

- 1.In the Event Platform/App:
- In "Files" tab,
- In "Evaluations" in the navigation menu
- In "Chat"

AFTER YOU SUBMIT EACH SESSION EVALUATION, CLICK THE LINK TO ENTER THE GIFT CARD RAFFLE 2. QR Code



Evaluations are anonymous! We send reminder emails to all participants.