

Community Engagement

The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.

- Eleanor Roosevelt

Community Engagement is not a program. It is a movement towards more intentional involvement of every community member in the lives of our children. It is about building supportive relationships between youth and adults—relationships that build communities around youth success. In the words of James Baldwin, “They are all of our children, we will either PAY for or BENEFIT from who they become.” It is the SHARED responsibility of a community to assure youth success. We do this by living in ways that connect meaningfully with youth.

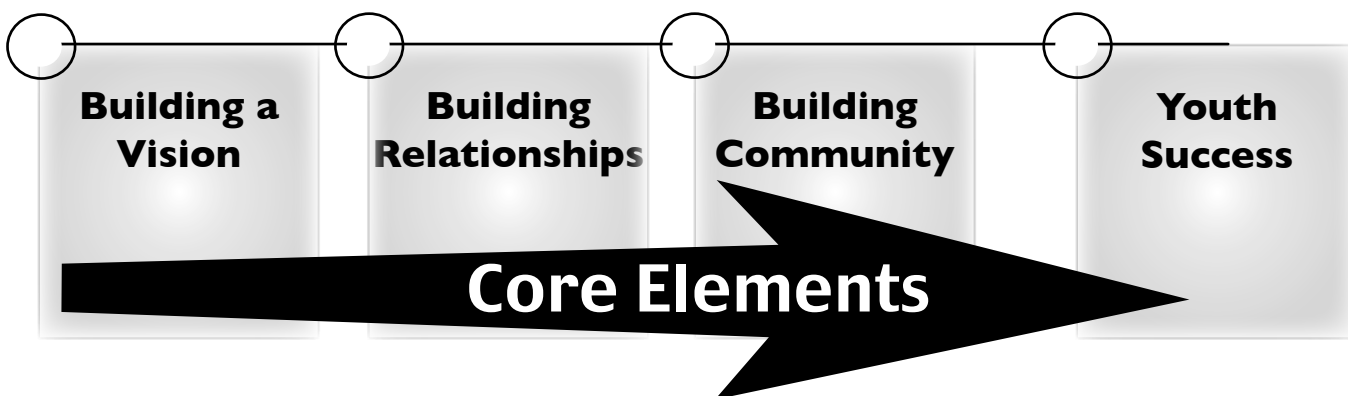
Some Strands:

What does “community” mean to you?

Who are the people who have and contribute to a positive vision in your community?

Who are the youth and adults who you observe to have healthy, strength-based relationships in your community?

What organizations and leaders in your community talk about and act to intentionally support youth success?



Over the course of this workshop, we will explore youth success in three different ways:

- Developing a **vision** of youth success,
- Building strength-based **relationships** with young people,
- Engaging the **community** to focus on youth success.

As we move through each of these approaches, we will create and model strategies to generate awareness, promote opportunities for action, and sustain community engagement initiatives. There will be some core elements of community engagement that hold true throughout. Each of these approaches towards youth success have these elements at their core. We'll discover these core elements together as we **educe** the framework.