



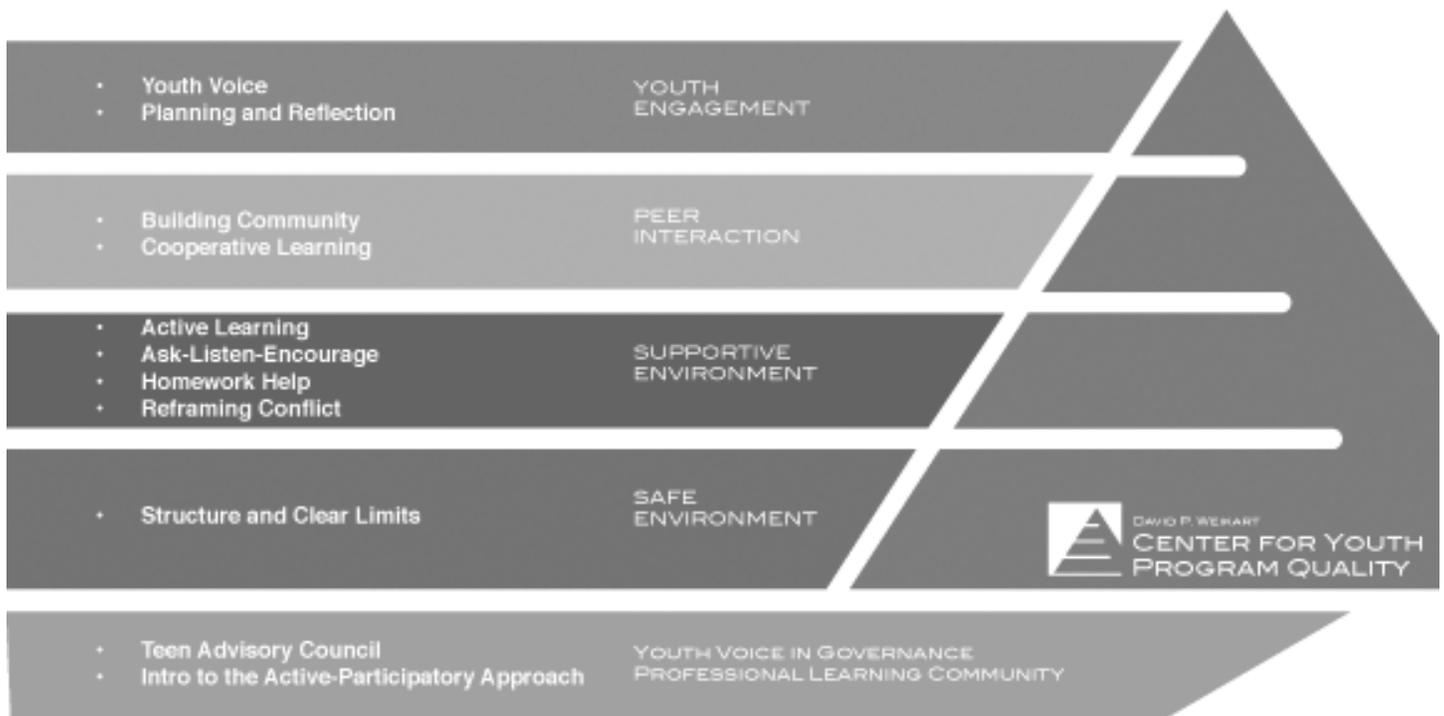
The Youth Work Methods are powerful strategies for working with young people, bringing together over fifty years of experience and the latest research in positive youth development.

The Methods are a key part of the Youth Program Quality Intervention (YPQI), a comprehensive system for integrating assessment and training. After gathering data from a Youth Program Quality Assessment (PQA) and creating a plan for improvement through participation in a Planning with Data training, program managers can choose to offer trainings to program staff that are aligned to their improvement plan.

The workshops in the Youth Work Methods series are aligned with the items of the Youth PQA found in the pyramid. These interactive and hands-on courses provide participants with practical skills that are geared to improve the quality of interactions with youth.

Live workshops are typically two to three hours in length, and are delivered by regional trainers who have completed the Weikart Center's Training of Trainers course. To sign up for our next Training of Trainers, visit [www.cypq.org/events](http://www.cypq.org/events).

Watch a video about recent updates to the materials and the benefits of new online modules at [www.cypq.org/methods2011](http://www.cypq.org/methods2011). Sign up for an online course today through the store!





DAVID P. WEIKART

CENTER FOR YOUTH  
PROGRAM QUALITY

YOUTH WORK  
METHODS SERIES

*The letters that follow each title reference the Youth (Y) or School-Age (SA) PQA items to which the method is aligned.*

**Introduction to the Active-Participatory Approach** – Youth programs can be optimized for youth needs, motivation, and engagement. The Active-Participatory Approach to youth work was designed to address these goals. This youth-centered approach is the foundation for the Youth Work Methods Series

**Active Learning** (Y/SA: II-H) – Do you know the difference between active learning and “hands-on” learning? Giving youth materials is just the beginning. This interactive workshop introduces strategies for incorporating active learning, and helps participants create more powerful learning opportunities for youth.

**Ask-Listen-Encourage** (Y/SA: II-J) – Do you communicate with youth in a way that makes them feel supported and heard? This workshop introduces communication techniques that help you build more supportive, youth-centered relationships. Participants learn how to ask effective questions, to listen actively to youth, and offer youth encouragement rather than praise.

**Building Community** (Y: III-L, SA: III-M) – Do you know what it takes to build an emotionally and physically safe space for youth? Building an emotionally safe community of peers and adults is essential for youth to learn and develop as individuals. This interactive workshop will introduce participants to a variety of activities designed to support the community building process.

**Cooperative Learning** (Y: III-M, SA: III-O) – Do the youth in your program have opportunities to work together in groups, teaching and learning from each other? Cooperative learning is an excellent way to nurture youth leadership, build community, and keep things fun. This interactive workshop will equip participants with grouping strategies and ways to think about building cooperative learning into any program offering.

**Homework Help** – This course focuses on making homework help time effective by helping youth get organized, by providing an atmosphere that helps youth focus on their work, and by building a supportive relationship with youth. These elements help participants reconsider Homework Help as an opportunity to build relationships and nurture positive growth, beyond getting the work done.

**Planning and Reflection** (Y: IV-P, IV-R, SA: IV-Q, IV-T) – Are you engaging youth in the critical life skills of planning and reflection? Are you ready to be more intentional about including planning and reflection strategies into your daily activities but not sure where to start? This workshop introduces participants to powerful and easy to use methods that promote youth engagement in planning, implementing, and evaluating activities and projects.

**Reframing Conflict** (Y: II-K, SA: III-P) – What role do you play in conflict situations in your program? Do you know how to turn a conflict situation into an opportunity for growth? This interactive workshop introduces participants to a step-by-step model for reframing conflict as well as general principles of conflict resolution.

**Structure and Clear Limits** (Y/SA: I-A through E, II-G) – How do you prevent chaos in a youth environment without stifling the positive energy of youth? Youth need structure and clear limits in order to feel safe. This interactive workshop helps participants analyze the level of structure in their programs and practice identifying and maintaining clear limits.

**Youth Voice** (Y: V-C, V-D, III-N, SA: III-O, IV-S) – Are you providing young people with authentic, meaningful choices throughout your program? Does your program reflect the input of the youth involved? Research shows that quality programs incorporate youth input at both activity and organizational levels. This workshop will emphasize the importance of offering real choices and meaningful participation to youth, and nurturing youth leadership. This interactive workshop is focused on providing meaningful choice within activities and opportunities for youth input within the youth program itself.

**Teen Advisory Council** (Y: V-C, V-D, III-N) – This course is a collaborative project of the Weikart Center and the Neutral Zone teen center. It emerged from an exciting two-year venture called the Youth Driven Space initiative ([www.youthdrivenspace.org](http://www.youthdrivenspace.org)). A goal of this initiative was to learn about the key ingredients for creating dynamic youth-driven programs for teens. We learned that one of the best ways to make a space youth-driven is to support a teen advisory council!