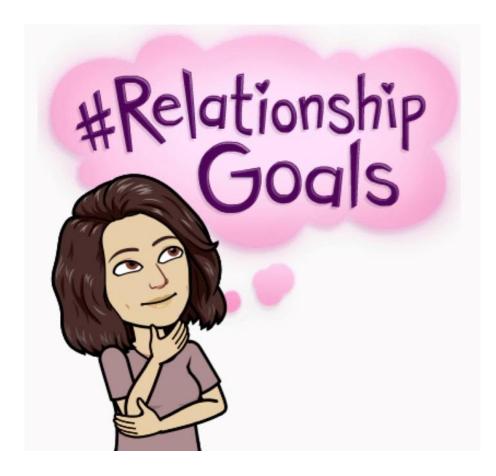
# Strategies for Navigating Youth-Adult Partnerships





#### Your Facilitators for the day...



Rachael Hamilton

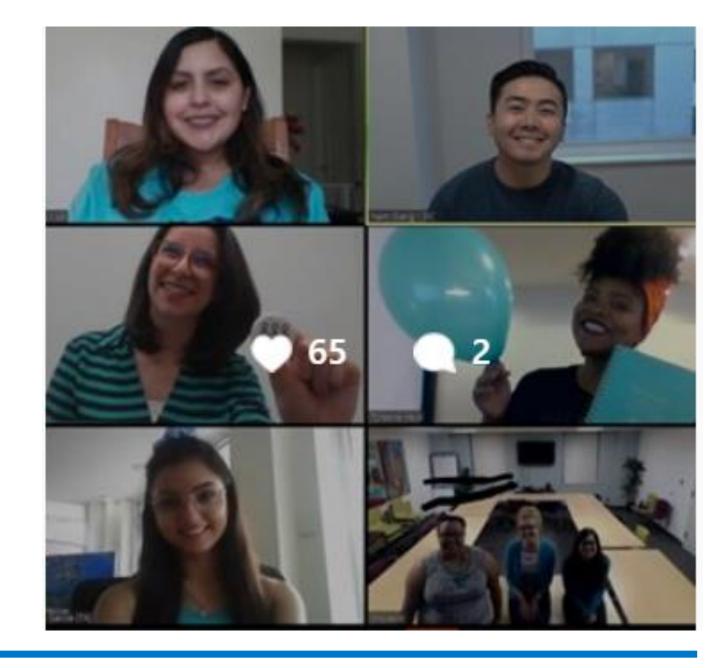
UC Denver Grad Student



Jessica Moreno, LCSW
Community Initiatives Manager

#### Who We Are

Break the Cycle inspires and supports young people to build healthy relationships and create a culture without abuse.





#### Our Work



Youth Organizing
Online & In Person



Legal Services
Free for youth in
DC



Advocacy
Changes in laws &
systems



Training/TA
Help communities
build capacity



#### LET'S BE REAL

#### IS A NATIONAL MOVEMENT

BY YOUNG PEOPLE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



#### **ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS**



### **Learning Objectives**

Understand the role power plays in creating youth-adult partnerships

Reflect on our facilitation and practices with youth

Consider strategies adults can employ to share power when collaborating with youth

Have Fun!

# Building the world we envision by living it now...





### How do we nurture that dynamic?



Regrouping Method:

"Hey Everybody!"

**Step Up/Step Back** 

Oops/Ouch

Lean into the discomfort/unknown

Check yo'self

**Manage Judgements** 

Check yo'self

**Encourage & Celebrate** 

Communicate & respect boundaries

**Feelings are Welcome** 

**Wellness & Participation** 

Confidentiality

Starting with the personal...



#### What first inspired me in this work is...





# The last cool thing I learned from a young(er) person was...





# An adult who supported/mentored me was...









#### Voices All Around





## Meet the Characters





#### The voices around young people...

What are some of the messages they hear about teens and how they are expected to act/interact with the world?

#### The voices around adults...

What are some of the general messages adults hear about adults & how they are expected to act/interact with the world?

# Orchestra



# Are they hearing the same voices?





#### Internalizing the Voices

What do young people begin to believe about themselves and their role as teens?

What do they begin to believe about how they should act/interact in relation to adults in their lives?



### Internalizing the Voices

What do adults begin to believe about themselves and their role as adults?

What do adults hear about how they should act/interact in relation to young people?

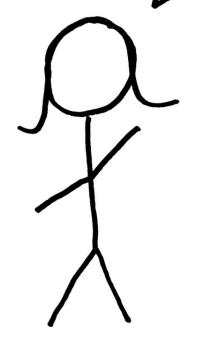


# Orchestra



How do we counter the voices?

I rock! Time to Conquer the world in order to benefit all of humanity.



# Orchestra



#### Debrief 1-4-all

What did it feel like to participate in this exercise?

How do the voices in our heads impact our ability to connect and work with each other (adults with youth)?

How might young people resist? How might adults respond to this resistance?

# Strategies for sharing Power

Self- Awareness

Flexibility

Connect Authentically

Transparency

Co-creating Process

Varied Approaches



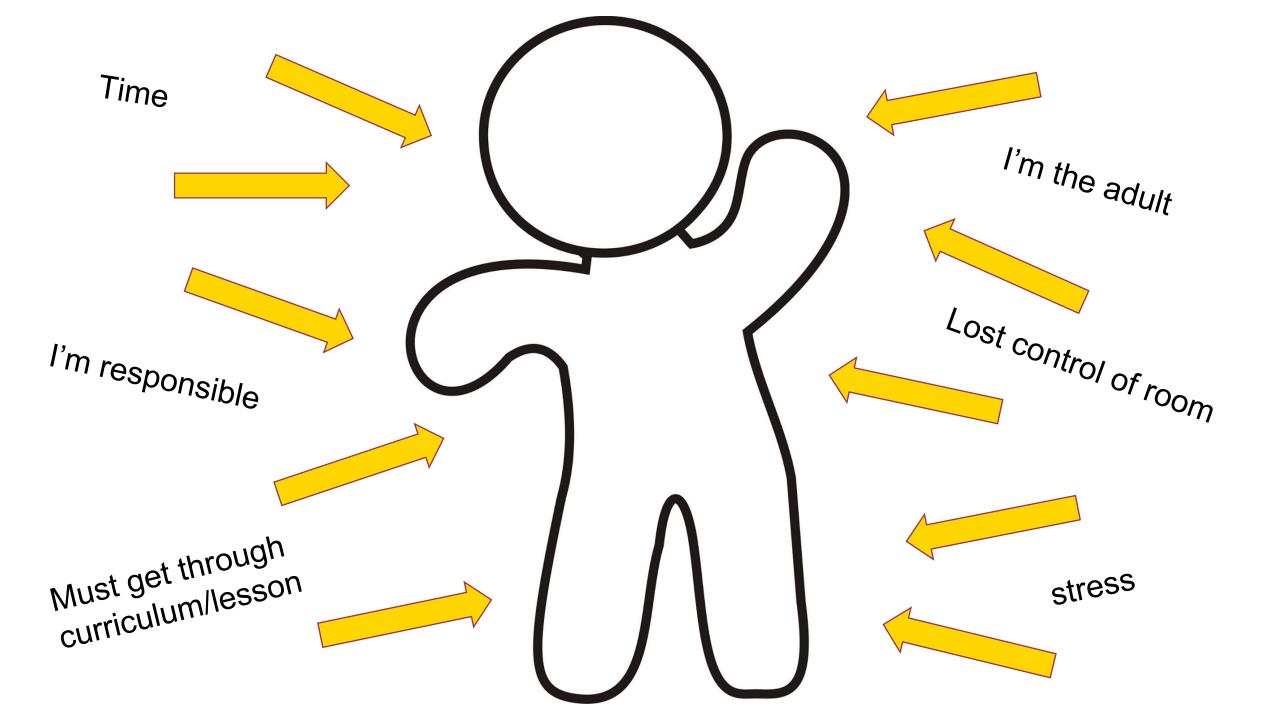
## Self-Awareness

Consider the **physical**, **virtual**, **emotional**, and **facilitator** space beforehand.

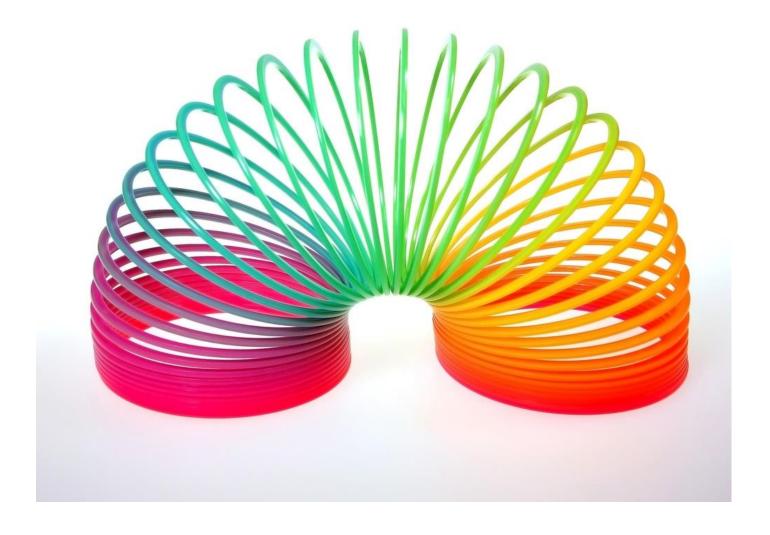
We are our best tool







# Flexibility: are we Adult-Driven or Adult-Supportive?





#### Adult-Driven

#### **Benefits**

- Opportunities to introduce new ideas
- Results are neat and understandable
- Structured and focused

#### **Setbacks**

- Loses creativity & imagination
- Forced results
- Learning is objective





#### Adult-Supportive



#### **Benefits**

- Opportunities for creativity
- Learning is subjective investment
- Creates safety & emotional connections

#### **Setbacks**

- Time consuming
- Unfocused
- Risky



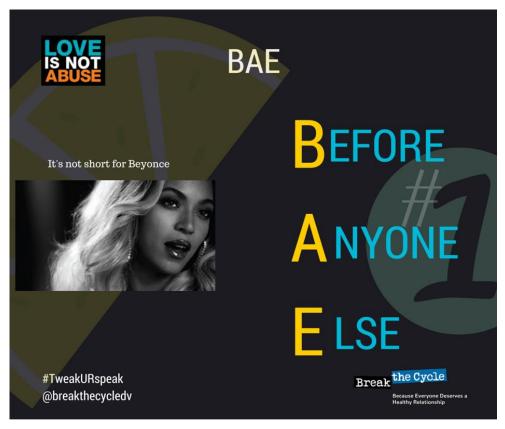
OPEN, HONEST CONVERSATIONS
THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND
HOW WE CAN CREATE A CULTURE WHERE
EVERYONE HAS HEALTHY
RELATIONSHIPS.







### **Connect Authentically**









# ADULTS SHOULD REALIZE THAT THEY DON'T HAVE TO RELATE TO SOMETHING TO UNDERSTAND AND ACCEPT IT.

#BTCRealTalk





#### "Tweak Your Speak"

Situationship

DM

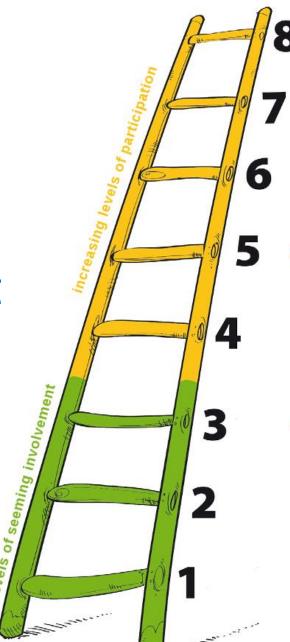
Roster

Ghosting

# Transparency



Hart's Ladder of Youth Engagement



ORGANIZING AND GOVERNING

YOUTH-INITIATED LEADERSHIP

YOUTH-INITIATED PARTNERSHIPS

ADULT-INITIATED, SHARED DECISION-MAKING

**INFORMED DIALOGUE** 

**ASSIGNED BUT INFORMED** 

**TOKENISM** 

**DECORATION** 



Why does our group exist?

What do you expect from youth?

**Co-create Process** 

What do youth expect from you?

How will we distribute control?

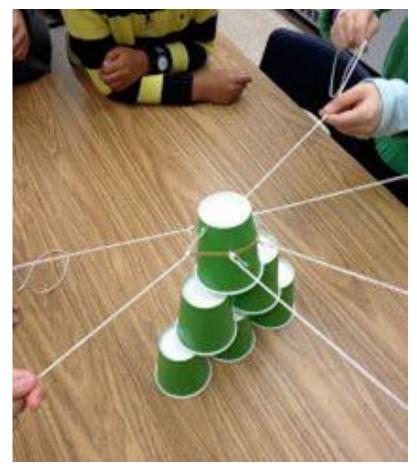
What's the group culture?

How will you support youth?



Because Everyone Deserves a Healthy Relationship

## Varied Approaches

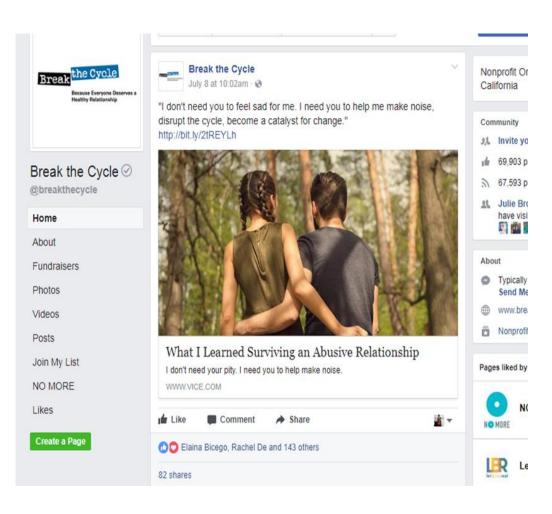






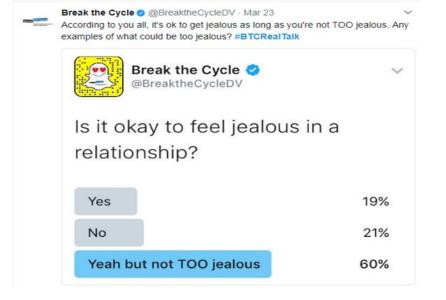
Because Everyone Deserves a Healthy Relationship

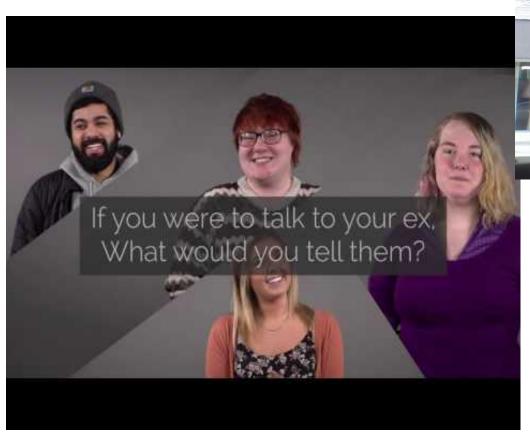
### Using Social Media













# Social Listening



Because Everyone Deserves a Healthy Relationship

# Benefits of Social Listening

- Informs our work
- Authentic connection
- Exciting and engaging
- Culturally responsive

#### Suggested Searches:

#baegoals #relationshipgoals #love #WCW (or any of the trending hashtags of that moment) and suggestions from youth



#### Here's what we found:

<

#### **Tweet**



When yall done arguing and you ft bae and it says "connecting"

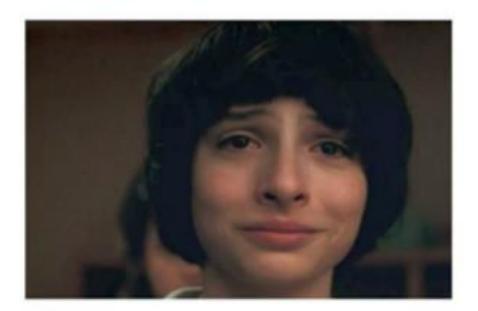


#### lil\_momma\_williams\_ #relationshipgoalsaf #lovemylife

NOVEMBER 16, 2017



Find someone that looks at you the way Mike looks at Eleven







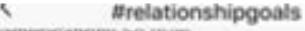




9 likes

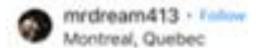
mandalittlerain1 #RelationshipGoalsAF

NOVEMBER 16, 2017



jamencanonii 50 true:

TEHOURS ADD



\*\*\*

When you click on your girlfriend's page and see her cheating on you with her boyfriend





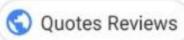


317 likes

mrdream413 The level of disrespect ... I thought we had something here ... shelittttttt looking all happy and what not ... can't... more

# When Bae get a phone call after 10 pm #PlayIfYouWantTo















Because Everyone Deserves a Healthy Relationship LOVELY INDEED

# The Journey is the work!

"People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." - Maya Angelou



# Positive Gossip

What did you appreciate about the training?





# Positive Gossip



What did you appreciate about someone else today?



# Positive Gossip



What did you appreciate about yourself and your contributions?



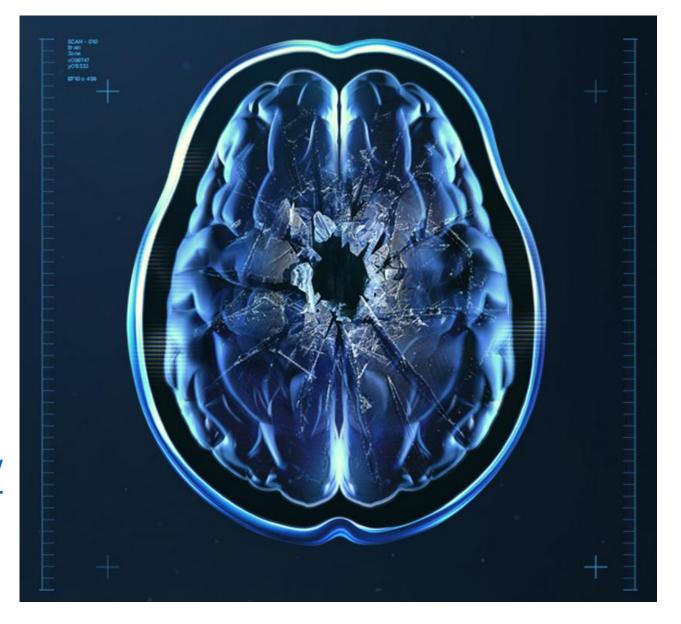
#### Resources

 Youth Engagement Toolkit: <u>http://tnoys.org/youth-engagement-toolkit/</u>

 Youth Thrive: <a href="https://www.selpractices.org/">https://www.selpractices.org/</a>

 Changing Minds: <a href="https://changingmindsnow.org/">https://changingmindsnow.org/</a>

www.loveisrespect.org







Because Everyone Deserves a Healthy Relationship



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