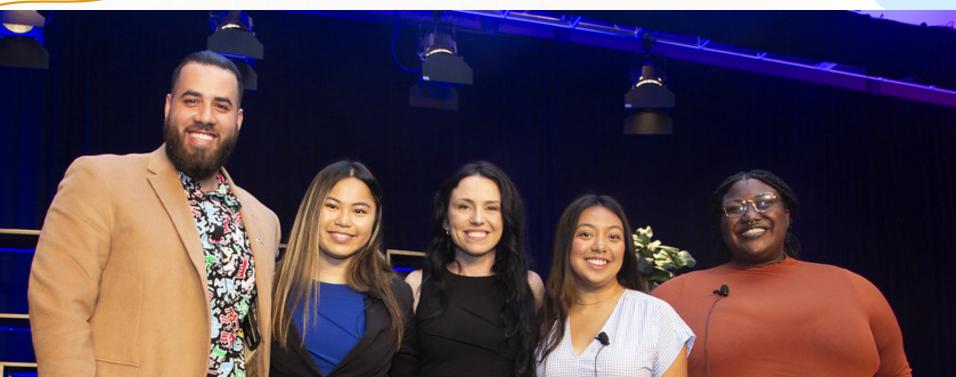




Young Mental Health Leaders Council



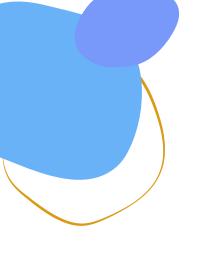


Building Power to Build a Mentally Healthy World:

Supporting and Advancing Youth Leadership





















Power With

Building Solidarity



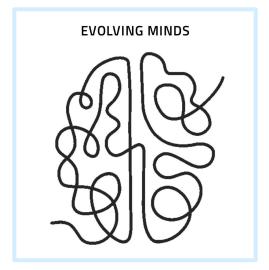






Provide **validation**, **encouragement**, and **stability**.

- Building **relationships** is key to well-being and feeling included/ connected.
- Demonstrate **consistency** and care.
- Emphasize the importance of **communication** and flexibility in your materials.
- Prioritize understanding and non-punitive responses to delays/ absences/ issues.











Understand that youth have a lot to add AND provide learning and growth opportunities.

- Prioritize bidirectional growth for youth leaders AND the organizations.
- Connect youth to evidence-based frameworks.
- Explain (current) solutions and explore strategies to address barriers.
- Humility, openness to new ideas, and creativity are essential to this process.







https://impactplayground.org https://headstreaminnovation.com https://hopelab.org





Provide **mentorship** and **sponsorship** to support youth in navigating **advocacy** spaces.

- **Reach out** to youth who feel uncomfortable asking for support.
- Acknowledge strengths and provide insight on how to respond to obstacles.
- Provide space for young people to solve problems and explore current/future options.
- Provide direct opportunities for young people to be in positions that are otherwise inaccessible.

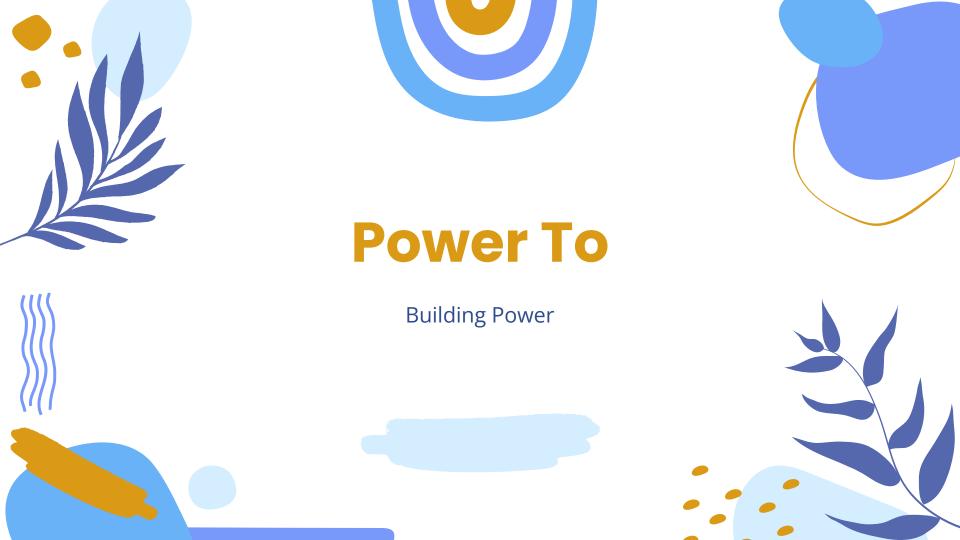








https://inseperable.us https://hopefulfutures.us https://idontmind.com/ourfutureinmind https://www.nationalacademies.org/our-work/forum-for-childrens-well-being-promoting-cognitive-affective-and-behavioral-health-for-children-and-youth





Prioritize intergenerational approaches that build community and avoid stereotypes about youth and adults.

- Youth are not just the "future". **Youth** cannot "save us" alone.
- **Breakdown stereotypes** of self and others.
- Cultivate humility and aind the meaningful role you play.









<u>Hidden Healers</u>









Integrate youth advocates into all leadership structures.



