



## *YCi SELF-ASSESSMENT: FUNCTIONS OF A YOUTH COUNCIL IN BUILDING THE SYSTEM*

---

**The California Youth Council Institute (YCi)** was established July 2001 by the California Workforce Investment Board (CalWIB) to provide technical assistance to California's 50 Youth Councils. YCi was launched in response to needs identified by leadership, staff and practitioners at the state and local level seeking to implement the broad vision set forth in the Workforce Investment Act – to serve as architects of and catalysts for broad-based, local youth-serving systems. The primary customers of YCi are the staff and members of Local Youth Councils, along with local youth practitioners. YCi is managed and delivered by New Ways to Work and is supported by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation.

This self-assessment is part of an integrated set of tools designed to help your Youth Council determine progress, document success, prioritize activities, and plan for improvements as you implement your vision of All Youth-One System. Team leaders or facilitators using this tool should review the *YCi Guidebook* prior to completing the self-assessment. The *YCi Guidebook* (available for downloading at [www.newwaystowork.org/mastertools/guidebooks%20and%20toolkits/yCi\\_guidebook\\_%20intro.pdf](http://www.newwaystowork.org/mastertools/guidebooks%20and%20toolkits/yCi_guidebook_%20intro.pdf)) provides detailed instructions on how to use this tool as well as other frameworks, assessments, and workplans.

Your Youth Council or planning team should also review the *Elements of a Comprehensive Local Youth-Serving System* framework prior to conducting this assessment. The left hand column in this assessment lists indicators (or goals) that are drawn from the *Elements* framework. Your team will indicate progress in meeting these goals, and then you will prioritize areas of focus for inclusion in the *Elements* Workplan.



*YCI FUNCTIONS SELF-ASSESSMENT*

Indicators / Goals	Progress	Priority
<b>Function: Convene Local Leadership to Take Action</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Youth Council has recruited and supports appropriate members.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Staff engages Council in decision-making &amp; action.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Youth Council has established an effective governance and committee structure.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Youth Council leverages youth-serving resources.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Staff and Council members educate leadership on the system and lessons learned.</li> </ul>		

**Self-Assessment Legend**

**Progress:** ○ = Not on our radar screen   ◐ = Just started   ◑ = Pretty far along in implementation or practice   ● = Fully integrated into system

**Priority:** ▬ = Low priority (force at least 2 lows)   ▮ = Medium priority   ■ = High priority (limit 1 high priority per category)



*YCI FUNCTIONS SELF-ASSESSMENT*

Indicators / Goals	Progress	Priority
<b>Function: Coordinate Youth Services</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Youth Council ensures effective implementation of WIA's 10 elements.</li> </ul>	○ ◐ ● ●	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Youth Council has mapped all services available to youth in the community.</li> </ul>	○ ◐ ● ●	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Youth Council has developed a framework for youth services.</li> </ul>	○ ◐ ● ●	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Youth Council has defined a single year-round, comprehensive, coherent system.</li> </ul>	○ ◐ ● ●	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Youth Council seeks to intentionally link youth-serving organizations (including schools).</li> </ul>	○ ◐ ● ●	

**Self-Assessment Legend**

**Progress:** ○ = Not on our radar screen ◐ = Just started ● = Pretty far along in implementation or practice ● = Fully integrated into system

**Priority:** = Low priority (force at least 2 lows) = Medium priority = High priority (limit 1 high priority per category)



*YCI FUNCTIONS SELF-ASSESSMENT*

Indicators / Goals	Progress	Priority
<b>Function: Measure Quality &amp; Impact of Local Efforts</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Youth Council assesses, recommends, evaluates, and holds providers accountable.</li> </ul>	○ ◐ ◑ ●	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Youth Council encourages youth involvement in decision-making.</li> </ul>	○ ◐ ◑ ●	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Youth Council regularly benchmarks against best practices.</li> </ul>	○ ◐ ◑ ●	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Youth Council sets quality standards based on best practices.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Youth Council seeks to motivate individuals, agencies, &amp; communities to improve quality of youth services.</li> </ul>	○ ◐ ◑ ●	

**Self-Assessment Legend**

**Progress:** ○ = Not on our radar screen   ◐ = Just started   ◑ = Pretty far along in implementation or practice   ● = Fully integrated into system

**Priority:** = Low priority (force at least 2 lows)   = Medium priority   = High priority (limit 1 high priority per category)



**YCI FUNCTIONS SELF-ASSESSMENT**

Indicators / Goals	Progress	Priority
<b>Function: Promote Policies to Sustain Effective Practices</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Youth Council makes formal recommendations to the local WIB.</li> </ul>	○ ◐ ● ●	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: black;"></div> <div style="width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: black;"></div> <div style="width: 20px; height: 20px; background-color: black;"></div> </div>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Youth Council guides &amp; develops broad youth policy.</li> </ul>	○ ◐ ● ●	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: black;"></div> <div style="width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: black;"></div> <div style="width: 20px; height: 20px; background-color: black;"></div> </div>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Youth Council advocates for and with youth.</li> </ul>	○ ◐ ● ●	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: black;"></div> <div style="width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: black;"></div> <div style="width: 20px; height: 20px; background-color: black;"></div> </div>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Youth Council educates leadership &amp; generates public awareness.</li> </ul>	○ ◐ ● ●	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: black;"></div> <div style="width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: black;"></div> <div style="width: 20px; height: 20px; background-color: black;"></div> </div>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Youth Council seeks to catalyze the shift from programs to one system.</li> </ul>	○ ◐ ● ●	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: black;"></div> <div style="width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: black;"></div> <div style="width: 20px; height: 20px; background-color: black;"></div> </div>

**Self-Assessment Legend**

**Progress:** ○ = Not on our radar screen   ◐ = Just started   ● (half) = Pretty far along in implementation or practice   ● (full) = Fully integrated into system

**Priority:**  = Low priority (force at least 2 lows)    = Medium priority    = High priority (limit 1 high priority per category)