

YCI SELF-ASSESSMENT: ELEMENTS OF A COMPREHENSIVE LOCAL YOUTH-SERVING 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. The primary customers of YCi are the staff and members of Local Youth Councils, along with the youth practitioners of a community. 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. YCi is managed and delivered by New Ways to Work and the California Workforce Association.

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 <http://www.nww.org/yci>) provides detailed instructions on how to use this tool as well as other frameworks, assessments and workplans.

Your Youth Council or planning team should 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 identify their progress in meeting these goals. Then they will prioritize areas of focus for inclusion in the *Elements* workplan.

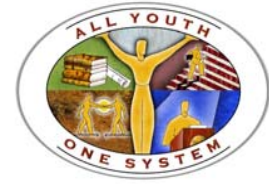
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Indicators / Goals	Progress	Priority
Academic Excellence <i>All youth are engaged in their learning in the classroom.</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High academic achievement is expected for all youth. 	○ ● ● ●	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workplace experiences support academic learning. 	○ ● ● ●	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative Education options address multiple learning styles. 	○ ● ● ●	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality educational opportunities exist for older and out-of-school youth. 	○ ● ● ●	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple post-secondary experiences are available. 	○ ● ● ●	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All youth are prepared for and understand educational options. 	○ ● ● ●	

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)



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Indicators / Goals	Progress	Priority
Career Preparation <i>All youth are engaged in their learning in the workplace and community.</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Career exposure, awareness and preparation activities are provided. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom learning supports career preparation. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sequenced work-based learning is linked to academic learning. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work experiences are tailored to meet individual needs. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All youth are prepared for and understand career options. 		

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Indicators / Goals	Progress	Priority
Youth Leadership <i>Youth are visible and active in leadership roles.</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth actively participate in shaping the system. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth are engaged as decision makers. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth are encouraged and supported in leadership roles. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth leadership opportunities are leveraged and connected. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth voice drives policy and decision making. 		

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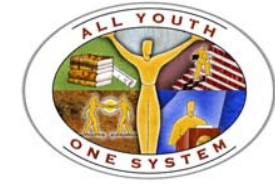
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Indicators / Goals	Progress	Priority
Youth Development and Support <i>All youth are connected to caring adults and safe environments.</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A broad range of support services and activities address individual needs. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All activities are intentionally connected. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All activities focus on promoting the assets of the individual. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All activities foster a sense of personal identity and community responsibility. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All youth and parents are aware of and access appropriate options. 		

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<p>Comprehensive Approach <i>A formal network provides the foundation for a coordinated system.</i></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community leadership is engaged and supports collaboration. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An operational infrastructure is in place. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The system is focused on quality and is responsive to emerging needs. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All components of the system are connected. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All partners have clear roles and responsibilities. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate resources are available and leveraged. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The community is aware of and publicly supports a focus on youth issues. 		

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