

Draft Questions for Kids (Ages 10-15)

Revised March 24, 2011

Focus Group Leader: Explain what a focus group is, why it is being conducted; how information is being collected; confidentiality and what the information will be used for. Introduce recorder(s).

Background: Currently the city, non-profit organizations and community members develop and operate programs for young people. Sometimes you are asked what you need; what works for you. Most often people analyze data and decide what to do. This is an opportunity for you to say what you need in your neighborhood and in your school. It is an opportunity to say what is working for you and why.

We plan to share this information with community leaders and non-profit organizations. We hope they will use this information in their planning and help them offer things to you that are useful. Whatever you say here will be kept confidential. We won't identify anyone. We will look at all the information we receive and summarize what you say. Please fill out the short form being passed out. You do not need to put your name. For the time you spend here today, you will receive (insert).

Form: Demographics Information (Need to develop form)

1. Age, grade in school, school, not in school, relationship to person they live with
2. Do you go to a community center, church or participate in program? If yes, what program, and how often?
3. If no, would you participate in a project or program if it were available? What kind?
4. Do you have access to a computer? Cell phone?
5. How often do you use My Space, Face book, twitter, texting , email, blogging?

General Questions

1. Can you name any youth programs or activities that you enjoy or help you or other young people?
2. Where is this program or activity?
Note: Probe for details including specifics about the name of the program, where it is offered, and why they think it is great.
3. What is your biggest problem (do not include school problems)?
Note: Probe why it is a problem.
4. What would it take to solve this problem?
Note: Probe for details including specific who can help and how.

School

5. What causes you the most difficulty at school?

Note: Probe why it is a problem.

6. What would it take to solve this problem?

Note: Probe for details including specific who can help and how.

7. Do you receive information in school that is useful to you?

Note: If yes, probe for details, subject of the information

Neighborhood

8. What is the best thing about your neighborhood?

Note: Probe for details, what, why it is good and who is involved.

9. If you could change one thing in your neighborhood, what would it be?

Note: Probe on details and how they would change it, who would be involved.

Communications

10. What is the best way to get information to you?

Note: Probe for details and who they would listen to.