

Where is your heart?

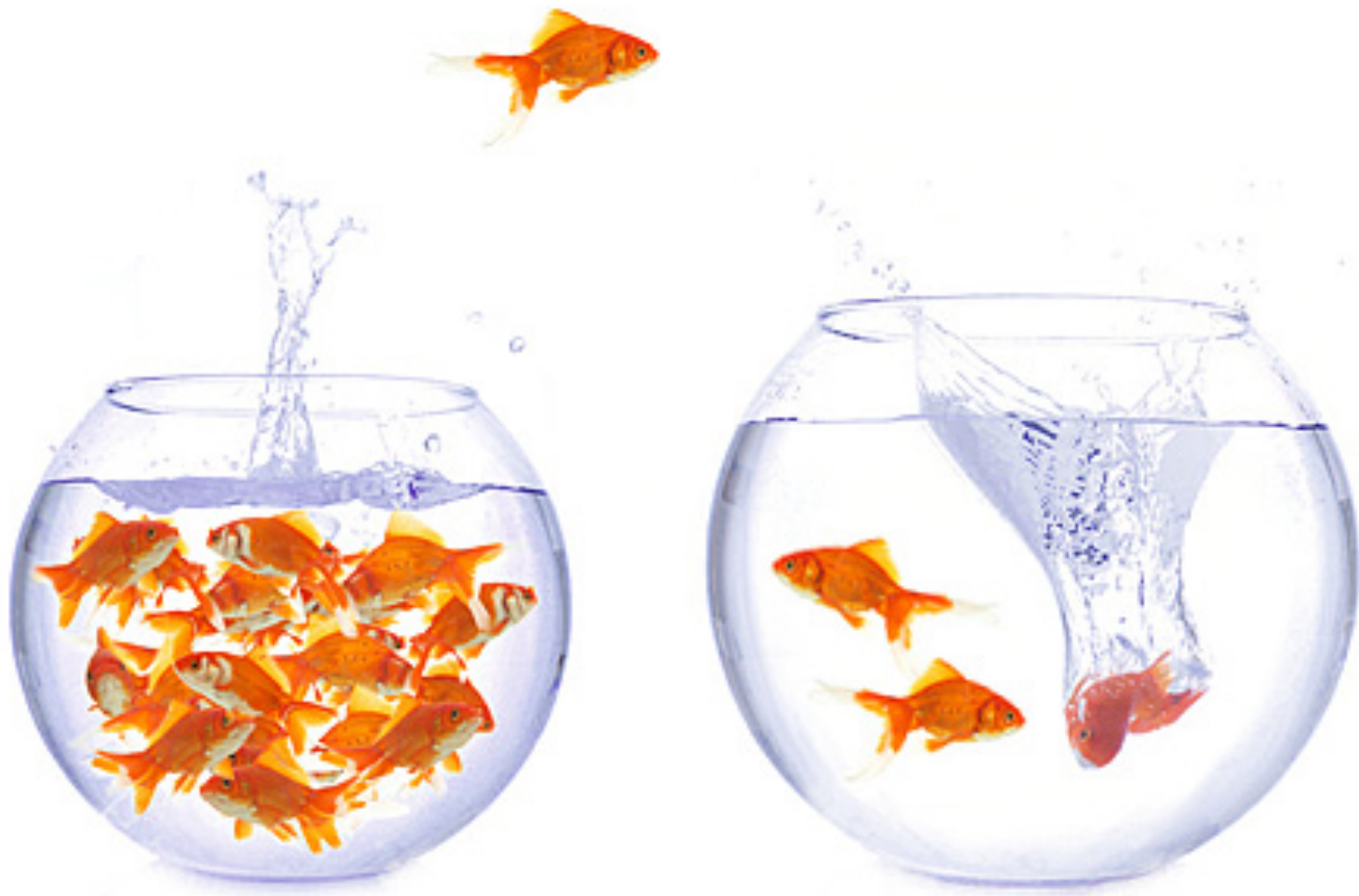
“At the heart of the youth-engagement strategies (more broadly Positive Youth Development) is the climate and culture of the learning environment and the values that shape it – the underlying beliefs, assumptions, and expectations about young people”

OUR APPROACH MATTERS

Citation found: <http://www.smarteducationsystems.org/sites/default/files/product/230/files/VUE8.pdf#page=14>



COLORADO
Department of Public
Health & Environment

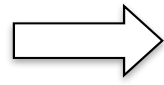


PYD APPROACH

5 PYD principles

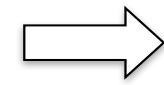
Development of:
Skills,
Opportunities,
Authentic
Relationships

Inform



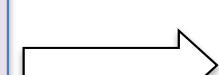
Programs,
Practices, and
Policies across the
Spheres of Influence

*Resulting
in*



The environment
(physical, climate, culture)
and the interactions
young people need to
most effectively be
engaged in learning are
created

*For this
outcome*



**Outcome: Youth
who are... Safe,
Healthy, Educated,
Connected and
Contributing**



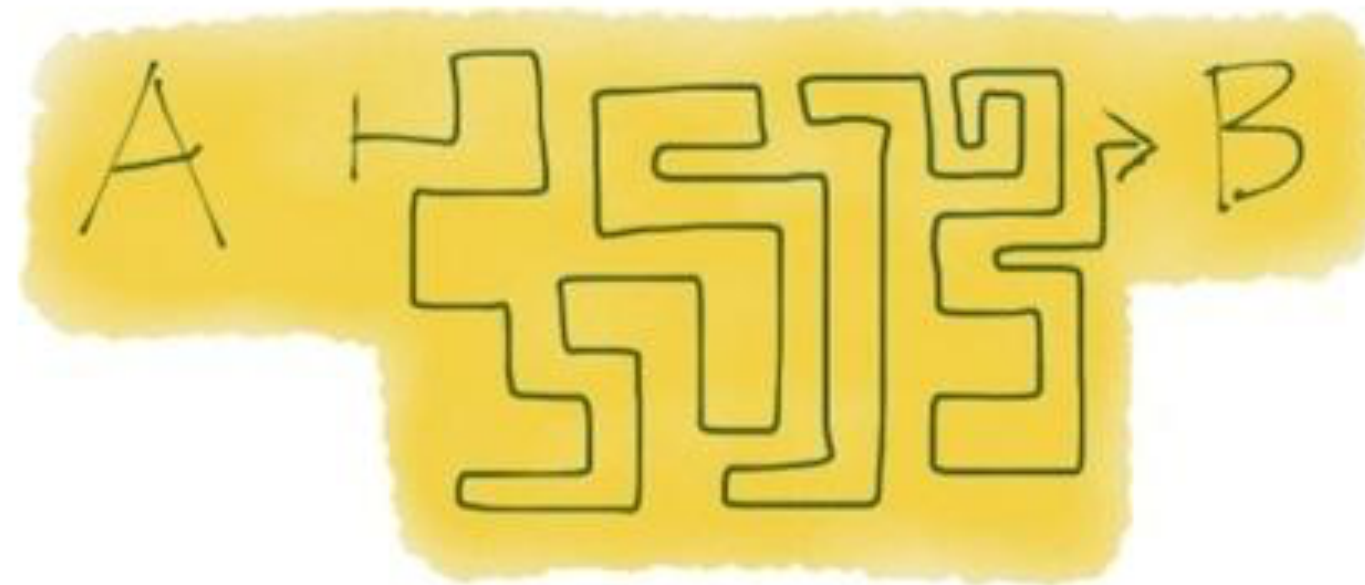
PYD in Theory (this is the *why* we do it)

Theory:



PYD in Practice (this is the *what we do*)

Practice:



#1 - Skills



#2 - Opportunities

to practice and be engaged in utilizing their skills



Authentic Relationships

with supportive, caring and engaged adults



5 Principles (this is the *how* we do what we do)

1. Strengths-based
2. Inclusive
3. Collaborative
4. Sustainable
5. Engages Youth as Partners



Strengths-based



Inclusive



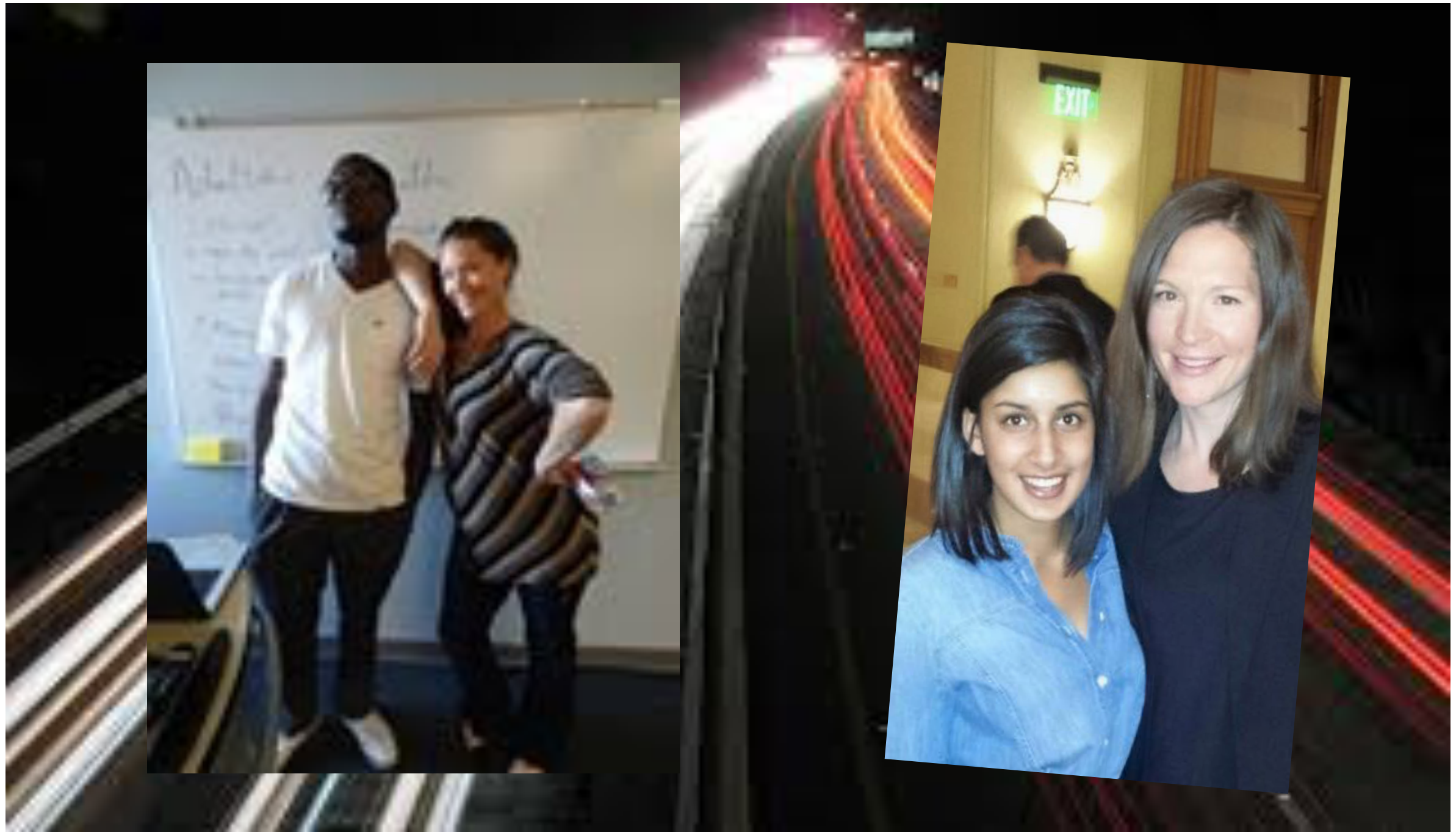
Collaborative



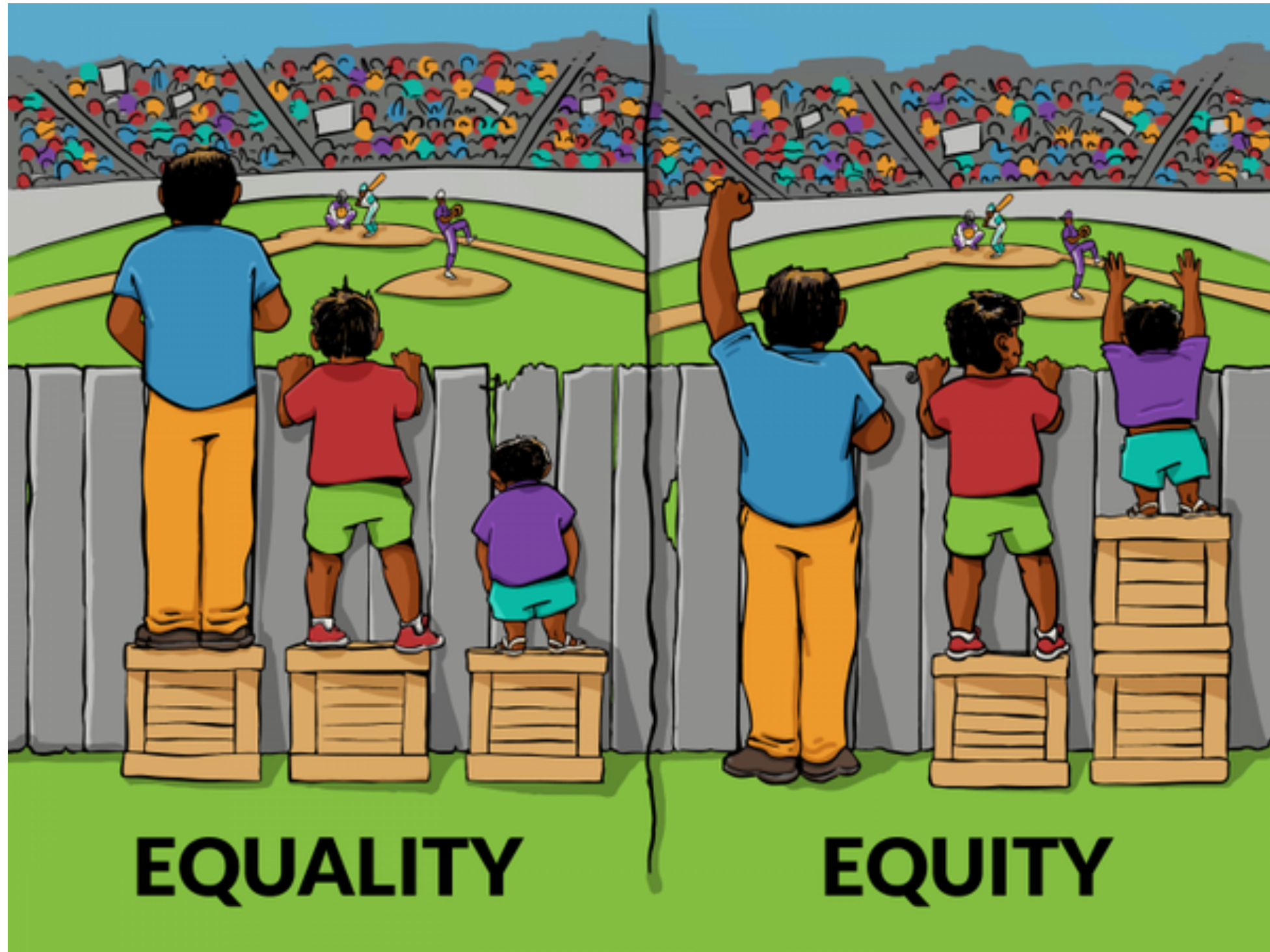
Sustainable



Engages Youth as Partners



Engagement is WORK – So Why Do It?



Getting Ready: A Few Things to Think About

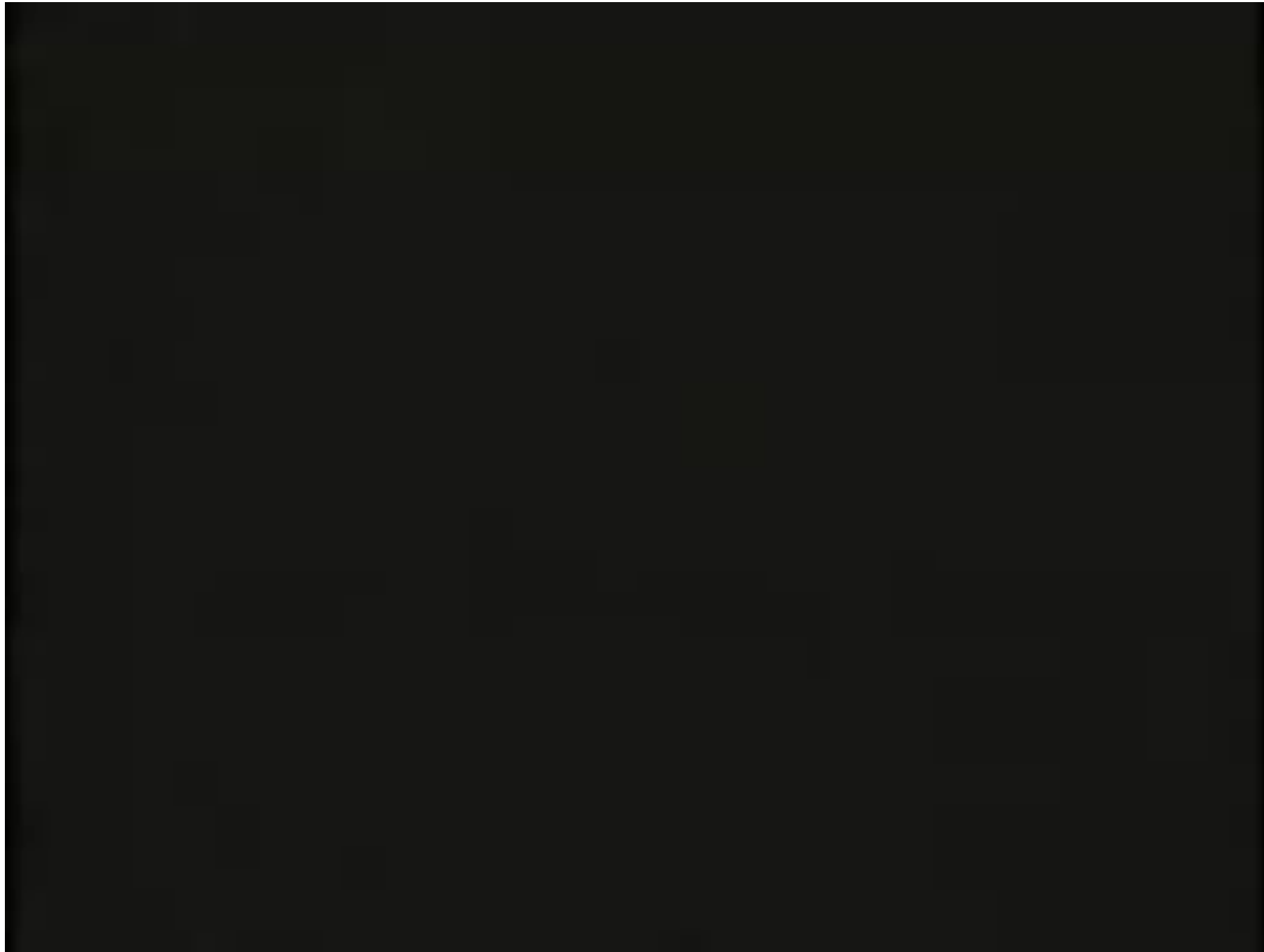
We need to ask ourselves:

- How do we prepare this environment to:
 - receive youth and young adults to ensure they are showing up as competent and confident leaders

- In a space that is:
 - engaging (of their minds/hearts/interests),
 - supportive (of their experiences/ideas)
 - and yet challenging to them (as to promote and develop their critical thinking skills, professional abilities and perception of themselves and their abilities)



One final thought



Questions? Reach out 😊

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RSVP²



**Researching Sexual Violence
Prevention
using Resiliency, Strengths,
Virality & Protective factors**



Sources of Strength

Focuses on protective factors

Uses peer leaders to change social norms around:

- Trusting adults
- School connectedness
- Positive coping skills



Research has shown:

- Increase in peer leader's connectedness to adults
- Increase in peer leader's school engagement
- Increase in peer leader's referral of a suicidal friend to an adult (4x more likely)
- Increase in positive perceptions of adult support for suicidal youth and the acceptability of seeking help
- Increase in positive perceptions of adult support among students with a history of suicidal ideation

Grant Opportunity

This research grant will determine how positive change in youth-adult connections and healthy coping norms contribute to reducing additional interpersonal and health problems

- Sexual harassment and violence
- Depression symptoms
- Suicidal ideation

Funding to offer implementation of Sources of Strength to 24 schools over five years

- Free implementation
- Anonymous school wide data collection
- Training of staff and peer leaders in best practice and evidence-based prevention model

Participation Requirements

- High School 9th-12th Grade
- Minimum of 300 students per school to participate in surveys
- 12 schools to start in Fall 2017



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