

Closing the Gap: Effective Use of Teen Leadership

Terms to Know:

1. **Leadership** (n) - the ability to guide, direct or influence people
2. **Adolescence** (n) - the intermediate stage of development; stage before a subject reaches maturity
3. **Peer Education** (n) - education given or knowledge passed between two people of equal standing i.e. age, social class.
4. **Amygdala** (n) - an almond shape mass of gray matter, one in each hemisphere of the brain, associated with feelings tied to memory and instinctive judgment
5. **Pre-frontal Cortex** (n) - part of the frontal lobe associated with the regulation of complex cognitive, emotional, and behavioral functioning.

Points to Consider:

- Youth involvement is beneficial to your staff because

- Peer Education is beneficial to the young people involved because

- Youth Leadership benefits our communities by

Questions to ask:

1. How can I encourage young people to volunteer with my program?

2. How would I utilize them in my program?

3. Are the adults on staff willing to value our youth volunteers as leaders?
