3. Identifying Your Issue

Our Group Focus

Now that the information is in, it is time for the youth
to select an issue they would like to focus on and do something about!

Time required: 45-60 minutes
Supplies needed: lists created from walkabout exercise, community leader interview, and community strengths and concerns

Instructions

• Post all notes and lists from previous meetings for everyone to see.
• Review the information on the lists, combining them into one list of Community Issues and Concerns.
• Divide youth into small groups of 3-4. Ask each small group to discuss and rate each identified issue on a scale of 1-5.

1-NO!!! -------- 3-Maybe -------- 5-YES!!!

  o Is this a serious issue in our community?
  o Is this an issue you have a desire or passion to change?
  o Will community leaders/adults support us or work with us in trying to address this issue?
  o Will other young people in the community support/work with us?

• Ask each small group to report out why they scored each issue as they did. Add up the total score for each issue and highlight those with the highest scores.
• Ask each small group to discuss the highlighted issues, and choose the one issue they are most concerned about.
• Record the one issue identified per small group and then use a voting method to choose one issue (not a project!) to focus on.

Reflection Questions

Q: What was this meeting like for you?
Q: How do you feel about the way we made decisions together?
Q: What is another way, besides voting, we could make decisions together?