Teen Programming With Purpose: Transforming Teen Services National Initiative

Presented by

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Today’s Agenda

1. Why Teen Services?
2. T3: Transforming Teen Services Initiative
3. Resources
This will be a series of three surveys and will help us get a sense of where teen services are today at your library.

- Do you provide teen programs Y/N
- Do you have dedicated teen services staff?
- Do you feel teen services are important to provide in your community?
Review the webinar objectives.

**Training Goals**

*Participants will:*

1. Review why teen services are important
2. Learn about the T3 initiative
3. Be introduced to connected learning
4. Be introduced to computational thinking
5. Discover additional resources
- There are over 40 million youth, aged 12-17 living in the US.
- The Opportunity for All Study showed youth and young adults (ages 14-24) make up 25% of all public library users.
Challenges Facing Teens

- Teens are not engaged in school
- Digital divide still exists
- Opportunity gap is widening
- Critical STEM and soft skills are lacking

- From *The Future of Library Services for and with Teens: A Call to Action* report.
Teen Services Mission Statement

The mission of young adult library services is to foster learning, personal development, and civic engagement among teens in a culturally responsive, information-rich, and technologically advanced environment that spans physical and virtual library spaces to prepare teens for productive and fulfilling adult lives.

- The Future of Library Services for and with Teens: A Call to Action
What Teens Need from Libraries

- Bridge the growing digital and knowledge divide
- Embrace the library’s role as both formal and informal learning space
- Connector between teens and community agencies
Educational Equity
T3: Transforming Teen Services Initiative
The Transforming Teen Services: Train the Trainer initiative (T3) is a coordinated, efficient, and effective process for transforming teen services throughout the country. The result being that library teen services enhance civic and cultural engagement, facilitate lifelong learning, promote digital inclusion, and support economic vitality. It is based on 10 years of research, including *The Future of Library Services for and with Teens: A Call to Action* and *Transforming Library Services for and with Teens through Continuing Education*. 
In January 2014, YALSA released a report titled *The Future of Library Services for and with Teens: A Call to Action* (frequently referred to as the Futures report). The report is the culmination of a project funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and spearheaded by YALSA’s National Forum on Libraries and Teens, which focused on the needs of teens and how libraries can support those needs.

- 22% of all children live below the poverty level
- Students from low-income households are disproportionately represented in failing schools (federal definition of $23,550 a year for a family of four).
- High school dropouts are not eligible for 90% of US jobs and commit 75% of the crimes in the US
- 20% of children are immigrants or children of immigrants
- Teens face a HUGE array of social issues that put them at physical and psychological risk (cyberbullying, depression, violence and eating disorders are on the rise)
  - More than 1.3M children and teens experience homelessness each year.
- Library services and resources for teens are in jeopardy, at a time when they should be increasing to better address teen needs.

- Annie E. Casey Foundation data

**LIBRARIANS CAN AND SHOULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE**
Provide questions to guide local assessment and planning.
The Teens First approach is a paradigm shift in library services FOR teens designed by adults to library services FOR and WITH teens where youth engagement, youth voice and youth leadership are embedded throughout teen services. Library staff focus their work on the needs and interests of teens in the local community. The Teen Services Competencies for Library Staff was updated.
To me, the number one takeaway from Transforming Teen Services is the need to be intentional and authentic in your planning. To make sure you have a purpose behind the programs you offer…but don’t let it feel like school!
Connected Learning
Connected Learning is that sweet spot where personal interests connect with meaningful relationships and real-world opportunities.
To be more specific about what this looks like….
Provide a practical application example....
In the Materials section of the control panel, you will see a Connected Learning Self-Assessment. Please look at that, think about your programs, and rate your library’s teen programs in relation to Interests, Relationships, Opportunity, Production, Shared Purpose Sponsorship and Multiple Pathways.

We will be talking about Connected Learning more next week!

Now, for Computational Thinking.
Computational Thinking
Computational Thinking

is a process that helps us create possible solutions for complex problems. The solution is presented in a way that humans and computers can understand.

- **Decomposition**: What is the big problem you are trying to solve? Can you break it down into smaller, more manageable parts?
- **Pattern Recognition**: What similarities do you see within the bigger problem and its parts?
- **Abstraction**: What information is relevant to the problem and solution? What can be set aside?
- **Algorithms**: What step-by-step solution or set of rules can you design to solve the problem?

Kids learn computational thinking when they:
- tinker
- create
- design
- build
- code
- make

For more info, visit: www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library
Computer Science in Missouri

**Code.org Missouri Fact Sheet**

- Missouri currently has **10,973** open computing jobs, which is 3.3 X the average demand rate in the state.

- MO’s average computing job pays **$81,564** annually compared to the average annual salary in MO of **$46,460**.

- MO had only **1,521** STEM bachelor’s degree graduates in 2018. Only **16% of those graduates were female**.
CT & Teens at Your Library

▷ There are high & low tech programming ideas that promote CT skills.

▷ Libraries are already hosting programs that build CT skills, but should be more intentional about providing more.

▷ We can and must step in to support teen education to get them ready for the 21st century workplace!
Reflections

▷ What is your library already doing now to promote these concepts?

▷ How does your library system’s mission statement and/or strategic plan support teens?

▷ What do you think is the value of integrating these concepts into teen programming at your library?
Resources
Resources


A few resources you may find helpful regarding the T3 initiative..
TEEN
Summer Reading Programs

How are programs being adapted this year?
How are you reaching teens?
Thank you for participating in today’s webinar. Please complete the survey as you leave today’s session.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf298gdfMINCHbPZhcarcyX6_LeEndMkXuk3cPfTqXiUYPp8g/viewform