

# Indy Youth Empowerment Challenge

**Inquire phase**  
*Toolkit*



*design better together*

## **Toolkit developed by Collabo Creative.**

Collabo Creative is an Indianapolis-based, Service Design consultancy that specializes in Design Thinking & Design Research. We're the experts in helping folks frame opportunities and create positive impact through refreshingly, collaborative innovation.

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community   
**INNOVATE**  
people-centered solutions

**Even the best games come with a set of rules... so please take the time to read through these instructions that way your voices are sure to be heard.**

## Challenge overview

*Inspired by a group of students at Warren High School who decided to take a stand against youth violence and start a movement called We LIVE Indy, the Indy Youth Empowerment Challenge brings together existing conversations across Indianapolis and a diverse set of voices to co-create solutions that empower youth.*

*Using a people-centered approach, the Indy Youth Empowerment Challenge will move through a four-month innovation process:*

- **INQUIRE (February):** Understanding the barriers and catalysts to youth empowerment
- **IDEATE (March):** Brainstorming ideas
- **INVESTIGATE (April):** Turning ideas into solutions
- **IMPACT (May):** Preparing for implementation

*Participation will take place online and through community and youth-led workshops. While a diversity of voices will be leveraged, the youth voice will be amplified throughout the challenge. For more information, visit: [communityINNOVATE.org](http://communityINNOVATE.org)*

## The Inquire Phase toolkit

The Inquire Phase toolkit is the first of 4 toolkits that will be released according to the challenge schedule. Each toolkit is set up in a game style to easily guide you through all the steps you'll need to complete in order to participate in each phase of the 2018 challenge.

### What you will need for this phase:

- Downloaded Inquire phase toolkit
- Access to a printer
- Printer paper or cardstock
- Access to the internet
- Post-its or index cards
- Color pens or Markers
- Some glue or clear tape
- Scissors

- A timer
- A camera
- Youth participants

## The Goal of the Inquire Phase toolkit

Prompt players to narrow in on key problem or opportunity areas surrounding the issue of youth empowerment.

## Getting Started

To get started using this toolkit, follow along and complete the tasks below:

1. Review the introduction video available online at [communityINNOVATE.org](http://communityINNOVATE.org) within the INQUIRE tab.
2. Print out this complete toolkit
3. Cut cards individually and separate those marked with the number 2 from the one marked with number 1
4. Assemble the cube on page 6

## Things to Remember

- \* We are in the INQUIRE phase, so we are looking to understand what issues are out there that might be worth solving together. In order to create actionable solutions we need to understand the obstacles/challenges first.
- \* You can play this game in a group or individually
- \* Write one statement per post-it/index card
- \* This game is divided into 3 stages, look for the following symbols below to identify the appropriate game pieces and instructions.



## How to play

Before playing this game, be sure to have all your elements ready to go (cards, post-its, dice, markers, prints, etc.). In order to begin, **first read aloud the ground rules** for all participants to hear. Also have this printed out so that everyone can see them. ***It is very important to make sure you create a safe space for everyone to contribute while they are participating.***

### Stage 1 – What is Empowerment (15 mins)

- 1 - Find the cards marked with the stage 1 symbol on it.
- 2 - Starting with the "To me, the word Empowerment..." card, place the card in the center and go around and let the group discuss.
- 3 - After everyone has a chance to share, place the second stage 1 card in the center and set a timer for 2 mins.
- 4 - Then tell everyone to respond to the prompt on the card by writing as many statements that they can, as they come to mind. Let participants read out their responses as they write them down to spur more thought from the whole group. There are no wrong answers!
- 5 - Remember, write clearly with one statement per post-it/index card.
- 6 - Once this activity is completed, layout all the responses, around the prompt card, take a photo and submit it to [communityinnovate.org](http://communityinnovate.org) under the "Empowerment" category.

### Stage 2 – What's Your Perspective? (20 to 30 mins)

- 1 - Grab the eight prompt cards marked with the stage 2 symbol.
- 2 - Shuffle the cards and place them facing down on the table.
- 3 - Open one card at a time and place it where everyone can see it.
- 4 - Then grab the "Perspective" die and roll it, use the category shown on the die as a perspective reference or lens to answer the prompt on the open card.
- 6 - Have participants write responses to each prompt using the post-it/index cards (one statement per post-it/index card).
- 7 - Place responses at the center of the table so everyone can be inspired.
- 8 - Allow a couple minutes for any volunteers to share about what they wrote anything interesting they noticed in the pool of responses.
- 9 - Repeat this, open card/roll dice/write responses/share process with as many prompt cards that your time frame allows for. You do not have to get through every card to complete this stage.

*\* Remember to write as many statements as possible for each prompt, there are NO WRONG ANSWERS*

*\* This stage has no time limit, just stay connected with your group members and move to the next card when everyone is done writing and sharing.*

### Stage 3 – Getting to the Root (10 to 20 mins)

- 1 - It's time to prioritize, so let's say yes to judgement!
- 2 - Using all the statements obtained from stage 2, arrange them on a table, or open space, in such a way that everyone is able to read each statement.
- 3 - If you notice any repeated or similar statements, create groupings to keep similar or like statements together.
- 4 - Voting time! Each participant will have 5 stars to vote with. You can place one or more stars to vote for any of the statements.
- 5 - Individually, let each participant go over the statements and draw a star with a pen or marker on any 'hot topics' or topics they feel are the most important to them, remember each person can have a total of 5 stars to use and can use 1 or more per topic.
- 6 - As a group, gather the top 6 hot topics (those with the most stars) and place them on the HOT TOPICS page (pg. 7).
- 7 - Then, photograph and submit this page online at [www.communityinnovate.org](http://www.communityinnovate.org) under the "Getting to the root of the challenge" category.
- 8 - After photographing the HOT TOPICS page, take the TOP 3 HOT TOPIC pages and rewrite each of your TOP 3 hot topics, 1 topic on each page.
- 9 - Now ask yourselves WHY? — ***why is this topic important to you?***
- 10 - Write down your answers on the page around the topic in the center. Write as many responses as you feel are important.
- 11 - Once you are done responding to each of the top 3 hot topics, take a picture of each page and submit them online to [www.communityinnovate.org](http://www.communityinnovate.org).

### Close up/Feedback (5 mins)

Before disbanding the participants, please use the prompts and online tool to give us some valuable feedback on how the toolkit game went.

- 1 - Place the Feedback sheet in the center of a table.
- 2 - Ask each participant to connect to the online feedback tool via their smart phone or some other device that they can access the internet from.
- 3 - Allow time for each person to respond to the feedback prompts through the online tool.
- 4 - Thank you to you and your participants for taking part in the CommunityINNOVATE 2018 challenge.

*\*Alternatively, you can also print off and hand out paper copies of this form for each participant to complete.*

## THE GROUND RULES

\*\*\*

This is a judgement free game. So, here are some things to keep in mind so that we can create a safe space for everyone to share and participate.

1. Let's practice cultural sensitivity.
2. Remember, we're all in this together.
3. Let's make sure diverse voices are being heard.
4. What's said here, stays here.
5. Your permission is required prior to anything being submitted online.
6. Try to have some fun!

### **Important note to non-youth participants:**

*We are shooting for youth-centered solutions, so if your 'youthful' days are in the past, try to think back to what those past times were like for you and respond to any questions as though you are a youth today.*

Place this card where everyone can see it during the entire game

**DISCUSS:**  
To me, the word  
Empowerment means...

**Empowerment** (noun)  
authority or power given to  
someone to do something

To get the conversation started, read the definition of "Empowerment" out loud then place this card in the center and let everyone have a chance to talk

1

**RESPOND:**  
I feel empowered when...

- Remember, one thought per post-it
- Write as many statements as possible within the time given

1

**In your perfect world, describe what your life would look like.**

- Remember, one idea per post-it
- Write as many statements as possible within the time given
- Use the dice as reference for your topic

2

**What type of impact are you currently having on your community? What inspires you?**

- Remember, one idea per post-it
- Write as many statements as possible within the time given
- Use the dice as reference for your topic

2

**You are a superhero for a day and you have the power to fix anything that's not working well. What would you fix?**

- Remember, one idea per post-it
- Write as many statements as possible within the time given
- Use the dice as reference for your topic

2

**Share a story about when a youth was resilient and able to get through a tough time. What contributed to this?**

- Remember, one idea per post-it
- Write as many statements as possible within the time given
- Use the dice as reference for your topic

2

**What makes you feel connected and valued as part of the greater community?**

- Remember, one idea per post-it
- Write as many statements as possible within the time given
- Use the dice as reference for your topic

2

**What do you worry about? Or what keeps you awake at night?**

- Remember, one idea per post-it
- Write as many statements as possible within the time given
- Use the dice as reference for your topic

2

**When do you feel supported or accomplished?**

- Remember, one idea per post-it
- Write as many statements as possible within the time given
- Use the dice as reference for your topic

2

**FREE SPACE: What's on your mind? What would you like to share?**

- Remember, one idea per post-it
- Write as many statements as possible within the time given
- Use the dice as reference for your topic

2

## 2 PERSPECTIVE DIE

Choose a category:

- Community
- Work
- School
- Home

Print & cut ↘

Cube Pattern  
Cut on solid lines - Fold on dashed lines

Home

School

Work

Community

Choose a category:  
- Community  
- Work  
- School  
- Home

# 3 HOT TOPICS

Once completed, photograph and submit this page online at [www.communityinnovate.org](http://www.communityinnovate.org) under the "Getting to the root of the challenge" category.



1



2



3



4



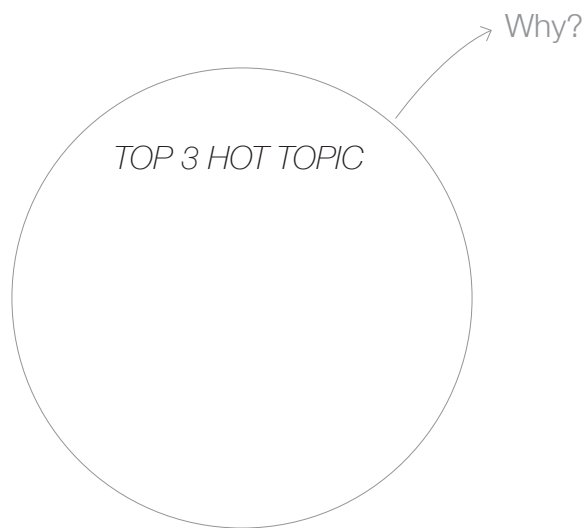
5



6

Once completed, photograph and submit this page online at [www.communityinnovate.org](http://www.communityinnovate.org) under the "Getting to the root of the challenge" category.

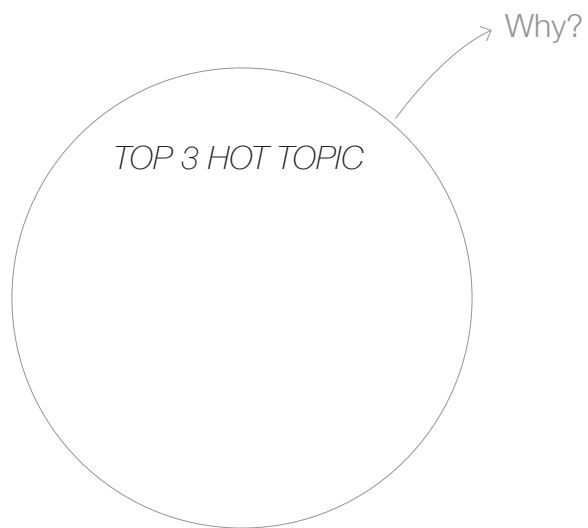
3





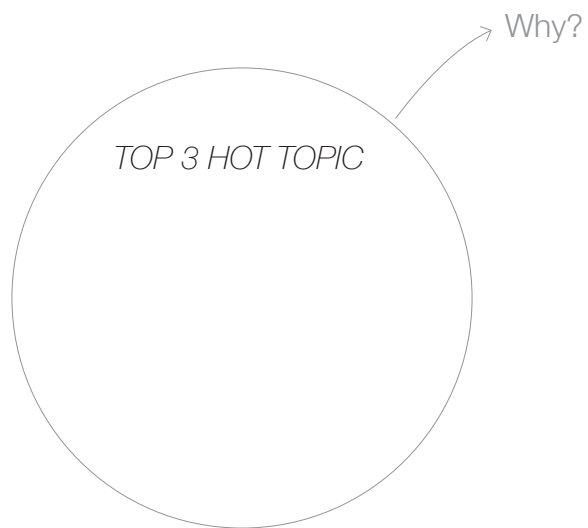
Once completed, photograph and submit this page online at [www.communityinnovate.org](http://www.communityinnovate.org) under the "Getting to the root of the challenge" category.

3



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3



# CLOSE UP/FEEDBACK

Scan the QR code or visit <https://goo.gl/forms/6ahPCkMNsf5jFIXF2> to access the online feedback tool on your internet enabled device. Respond to the following prompts online or on paper forms.



Please respond to the following questions on a scale of 1-5, with 1 being *disagree* and 5 being *agree*.

	disagree	somewhat disagree	neutral	somewhat agree	agree
I feel like I engaged in meaningful conversation on youth empowerment.	1	2	3	4	5
I feel like my voice was heard.	1	2	3	4	5
I feel an increase sense of community.	1	2	3	4	5

What is one word that you would use to describe the workshop?

Other comments/feedback

What voice(s) do you represent?

- Youth     
  Business     
  Government  
 Education     
  Community     
  Faith-based     
  Other: