Youth - Adult Partnerships: Building Trust among Young People and Adults

Turn on any TV show and you'll see lots more tension than trust between teens and adults. The real world, of course, is different. There are several steps adults can take to earn and build trust with young people.

At the Innovation Center, we've learned that building trust is essential to sustain youth adult partnerships, but it is hard work. It requires crossing many boundaries such as age, culture, and learning styles. In our work with the Kellogg Leadership for Community Change (KLCC) initiative, we have helped young people and adults learn to trust and rely on one another in order to work as partners to make a real difference in their communities.

The five community sites selected to participate in KLCC have used tools pioneered by the Innovation Center that facilitate trust building. Some of these activities include:

"Bringing Definition to Youth and Adult" - The word "youth" and "adult" mean many different things to different people. This exercise will help overcome the difficulty of not
These activities are from the Innovation Center tool kit *Youth Adult Partnerships: A Training Manual*. If you are looking for capacity building activities like these, now is the perfect time to order Innovation Center tool kits. Through July 2007 we are offering a **25% discount** on all of our curriculum sets: *Building Community*, *Creating Youth Adult Partnerships*, *Youth Adult Partnerships: A Training Manual*, *Reflect and Improve*, and *Learning and Leading*.

To order and learn more about our tool kits, click on one of the icons to the left, or go to our website's [resources and tools](#) page.

Finally, you probably have many more activities that you use to build trust between youth and adults. We would love your ideas and the results they are achieving. Get in touch with us at ideas@theinnovationcenter.org.

From all of us here at the Innovation Center, take care and best of luck in all of your endeavors!

Wendy Wheeler  
President and CEO