



MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

SOLANO SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL - 2020

OVERVIEW

In 2017, Solano Safe Routes to School (SR2S) launched a Youth Engagement Program with 7 youth teams countywide to support middle and high school aged youth in Solano County. The goal of the program is to:

- 1) Increase youth leadership and involvement in Safe Routes to School activities countywide;
- 2) Engage in projects that can lead to sustainable solutions in transportation and increase walking, biking and overall physical activity.

The Solano SR2S Program invites interested parties to apply and will select youth teams (preferably existing youth groups) consisting of 4-6 middle and high school youth and at least 1 adult leader.

The teams will be asked to engage in a YPAR (Youth-Led Participatory Action Research) or Photovoice Project following an easy-to-follow curriculum provided to them by SR2S. The SR2S team will work with participants to build capacity and skills for young people and their adult counterparts that will potentially increase youth-led activities and promotion of the Safe Routes to School program countywide.

PILOT SITE REQUIREMENTS

To apply to be a pilot site this year, participants must meet these minimum requirements:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Be a school, afterschool program, community organization or youth leadership program or group serving youth between the ages of 13-21; This project will require engaging a group of at least 4 and up to 6 dedicated youth within this age range during the time period with support of at least 1 adult;
<input type="checkbox"/>	Have at least 1 dedicated adult leader (who will be directly engaging with the youth during the time period and also serve as the contact perso) to attend and participate in check-in calls, weekly updates, potential trainings with staff;
<input type="checkbox"/>	Choose a Safe Routes to School related activity/issue (i.e. increasing walking/biking to school or physical activity, carpooling, improving infrastructure, etc.) and implement a YPAR (Youth Participatory Action Research) or Photovoice Project through an easy-to-follow curricula to determine youth-led solutions for the chosen issue;
<input type="checkbox"/>	As a Final Project, each youth group will create a presentation and present to the appropriate audience (i.e. school officials, organization staff, city council, etc.) SR2S staff will provide support to help sites choose their issues, research methods and audience for their presentations;



<input type="checkbox"/>	Attend and participate in weekly and/or monthly check-in calls or meetings
<input type="checkbox"/>	Have all participants (youth and adults) sign release forms to verify participation and allow for use of media and photos highlighting the group's efforts through success stories during the time period.

IF SELECTED, EACH PILOT SITE WILL RECEIVE:

1. Tailored technical assistance, training and any guidance needed during the process providing our experience and expertise in strategic youth-led practices to build agency capacity. Our SR2S team will specifically assist each pilot site in:
 - a. Supporting their final project presentation and helping to gather the appropriate audience to present to;
 - b. Developing a success story to highlight their youth engagement efforts within the project especially in connection with other partners.
2. Resources, supplies and evaluation tools necessary for pilot implementation and monitoring of the project;
3. A \$1000 stipend with payment made upon final completion of all the requirements as stated.

SAMPLE TIMELINE OF ACTIVITIES (Subject to Change)

**Not including once/month calls which will be scheduled when the pilot sites are selected*

2020

- Jan-Feb (TBD) Pilot Project Kickoff Meeting/Training
Ongoing TA provided during the entire time period
- January 15 Pilot Site Implementation Period Begins
- February SR2S Advisory Committee Meeting at STA
- February Phone Call/Meeting #2
- March 28 YES Conference 2020 – in San Francisco (optional)
- March Follow-up Call/Meeting #3
- April-June (TBD) Youth Presentations scheduled (SR2S Team will assist)
- May SR2S Advisory Committee Meeting
- June (TBD) Final Meeting #4/Evaluation at STA