Envisioning and Planning the Community Challenge

Step Four: Implement the Challenge

After setting goals and planning the community challenge, the planning team, led by youth, is ready to move into the steps of implementation. It is valuable to ask again, "Who is not at the table?" to ensure you are inclusive and welcoming to all, especially seeking participation from diverse members of the community.

Communication Is Key:

Develop a communications plan to promote the community challenge and get full participation across sectors, populations, regions, and representations. Consider how best to leverage all of the community partners' resources and networks to build wide awareness in advance of the challenge. Lean on partners and organizations to help you build excitement and momentum during the challenge, and capture the key moments and learnings to share after the challenge. Plan to use technology to promote activity and awareness with youth peers and connections, as well as through groups that represent the diversity of the community. Community partners, media, and families are very receptive to youth requests for help and support.

Plan Implementation:

Follow through on the timeline and delegation of responsibilities. The planning committee should meet regularly to hold one another accountable to the timeline and share successes and monitor progress.

Throughout implementation, the planning team should stay connected to the process and activity to make any necessary adjustments (i.e., additional communication efforts to a region not as actively involved as others, clarification on the rules of the challenge to be added to the activity website).

It can inspire community participation to continually monitor and publicize efforts and progress toward goals.

Evaluation:

During the initial steps of the planning, the team identified a set of shared goals. Evaluation is a critical component in any major activity or event to capture whether the goals were met, and to what extent. It is an opportunity to document lessons learned to inform future collaboration, and potentially a future repeat of the challenge if it were held again.

Celebration:

Communicate progress and celebrate milestones continually. At the end of the challenge communicate all of the data and celebrate the service accomplishments, the community connections, and the good work of the youth involved.