

Our Mission

The Center for Youth & Community Development (CFYCD) is committed to supporting the connections and activities that support Adams County Youth. It is the home of Collaborating for Youth (CFY). Collaborating for Youth is Adams County's community-based, data-driven coalition that works to support positive youth development and substance free positive futures.

The History of Collaborating for Youth

Collaborating for Youth (CFY) was born out of a desire on the part of community residents and leaders to make community wide changes which would improve the lives and futures of youth in Adams County. A coalition was formed which included 20 to 30 members from schools, churches, government, nonprofits, health care, parents, and concerned citizens. The group was interested in doing something big that would have an impact for years to come, and that would set a foundation for creating a caring community that supported healthy youth development.

Defining Principles

In all of its work, Collaborating For Youth keeps these principles central in its operations:

- Data-driven decision-making, with outcomes and priorities derived from analysis of multiple data sources.
- Focus on children, youth and their families.
- Work is accomplished through partnership-based, collaborative activity.
- Priorities are informed by the Collaborative's capacity to fulfill them, taking into account realistic expectations in regards to cost, budget, staff time, and other resources.

Prevention Science

All CFY work is built on Prevention Science. Just as we know the predictors of heart disease and the effective prevention strategies to combat it, we now know the predictors of health and delinquency among young people – and effective ways to influence kids' development. Prevention science is a theory of social development that aims to identify and reduce antisocial behaviors among young people such as substance abuse, violence, school dropout, and other risky behaviors while simultaneously promoting healthy, positive attitudes, and behaviors that lead to productive, fulfilling lives. CFY accomplishes its work through the development and implementation of proven programs and strategies based on each community's specific needs. **CFY uses strategies using the critical and on-going component of cultural competence and our ability to recognize community members as the experts of their own culture and heritage.**

Visit us at www.cfygettysburg.com or call 717-338-0300 for more information!

