



Community Youth Development Initiative (CYDI)



"every community needs – no less now than in the past – some kind of stabilizing network of influential, responsible, mutually-acquainted members... To function as an effective network for the community they must find one another, listen to one another, explore shared goals and values, and develop the mutual trust that makes common action possible."

– John W. Gardner

Former Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, teacher, author and founder of Common Cause

ABOUT CYDI

Launched in the spring of 2008 by Redwood City 2020 (RWC 2020) in partnership with the John W. Gardner Center for Youth and Their Communities (JGC) at Stanford University, CYDI brings together over 35 organizations serving the Redwood City and North Fair Oaks community to accomplish more *for* and *with* youth than they can do alone. Through collaboration, we work to promote shared responsibility across different sectors of our community for all our youth so that they grow up with the knowledge, skills, and social attributes they need for success in school, work and life. As a network of partners, we aim to achieve the following outcomes by 2020:

1. The Redwood City community works with youth as partners in improving the health and well-being of all people.
2. Youth have the knowledge, resources and self-confidence to pursue their passions and reach their goals.
3. Adults and youth develop trusting relationships and work together to improve their community.
4. Parents and caregivers have the knowledge, resources and self-confidence to participate in the community and improve their quality of life.
5. Community youth serving organizations continually improve their efforts to provide quality experiences for youth.
6. Mutually beneficial collaborations among organizations and institutions benefit all members of the community – from youth to seniors.

OUR APPROACH

Whether our partners work in the area of teen pregnancy or alcohol and other drug prevention, after school, intervention, treatment or aftercare, our efforts focus on working together to apply effective youth development practices across youth programs and throughout the community so that all youth experience positive and meaningful opportunities to learn, grow and contribute. Towards that end, we have adopted the following set of overarching strategies:

- Build relationships to work towards a shared vision and common outcomes.
- Create an inclusive learning community that fosters effective youth development practices.
- Cultivate youth and community involvement and leadership.
- Use youth data to identify needs and track progress.
- Foster collaboration among organizations to promote creative thinking and leverage resources.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVOLVEMENT

CYDI partners have many opportunities to be involved in a variety of activities through the year, including networking, professional growth and working in partnership with youth.

Action Teams

The majority of our collaborative work brings organizational and community leaders together to address issues of mutual concern. A core of dedicated community partners spearheads the following action teams:

- **Immigrant Youth Action Team (IYAT)** – this youth-adult partnership team works to increase the visibility, actions, and resources for immigrant youth in our community through a variety of events, presentations and advocacy.
- **Professional Development Action Team** – this team of youth service providers works to weave their collective resources to support adults working with youth in our community by identifying and sharing tools and resources.
- **Teens in Action Showcase** – In partnership with Redwood City 2020's Prevention Partnership, this annual spring event seeks to support and highlight the work, passions and contributions of youth across our community.
- **Pride and Education/Orgullo y Educación (OYE)** – This new ad-hoc team of youth and adults aims to promote the integration and educational, social and cultural success of youth from Redwood City and North Fair Oaks as a way of strengthening our community as a whole. This team hosts an annual fall conference for Latina/o youth.
- **Youth Agenda (in progress)** – we are working with the City of Redwood City's Library, Police and Parks, Recreation and Community Services departments to create collaborative strategies that support youth in our community.

Partner Convenings

Convenings of organizational partners are hosted by Redwood City 2020 one to two times per year. Each partner organization commits to participate in these gatherings to learn from each other, stay updated on progress, and provide mutual support.

Professional Development

CYDI provides opportunities in the community for partners to take part in a number of youth development professional development and learning experiences with other organizations throughout the year.

Communication and Information Sharing

With a network of over 150 individuals working with and for youth in our community, CYDI serves as a conduit for promoting the exchange of information about resources, opportunities and success stories among our partners. All partners are invited and encouraged to share news and resources through our newsletters and website updates.

ACCOUNTABILITY

All CYDI partners make annual commitments to advance our shared outcomes by implementing core services, supports and opportunities within their organizations. Every year, partners also participate in an annual survey administered by the JGC that tracks our progress through key indicators related to our outcomes. A Steering Committee composed of the action team conveners meets quarterly to coordinate key activities. Annual presentations to report on our progress are made to RWC 2020's Coordinating Council, which serve as opportunities for organizational and community leaders to discuss critical accomplishments and challenges with local elected and appointed policy makers.

JOIN US!

The scope of this initiative in promoting youth development as a key strategy across a variety of RWC 2020 initiatives is broad and ambitious, but our young people and our community members deserve nothing less. We need help to sustain momentum and focus over time. But the skills, resources and commitment of our CYDI partners and our broader community give us reason to be positive about our chances for success.

If you would like to become a partner or find out how you can support this effort, please contact María Fernández, Policy and Program Senior Manager at the John W. Gardner Center for Youth and Their Communities at (650) 218-3140 or mafernandez@stanford.edu.

For more information about Redwood City 2020, please contact Patricia Brown, Executive Director at (650) 423-2217 or pbrown@redwoodcity.org.

Learn more about CYDI at www.rwc2020.org

January 2012

Partner Organizations

- Acterra
- Aim High
- Bay Area Gardeners Foundation
- Boys and Girls Clubs of the Peninsula
- BUILD
- Cañada College – Upward Bound TRIO Program
- Casa de la Cultura Quetzalcoatl
- Center for Youth
- Chicana/Latina Foundation – Youth Adelante Program
- Citizen Schools
- City of Redwood City
 - City Manager's Office
 - Parks, Recreation and Community Services
 - Police Department
 - Public Library (including the following programs: Project READ, Traveling Storytime and the Teen Center)
- Cleo Eulau Center
- Community Network for Youth Development
- El Centro de Libertad/The Freedom Center
- Fresh Lifelines for Youth
- Friends for Youth
- Hidden Villa
- International Institute of the Bay Area
- JobTrain
- John W. Gardner Center for Youth and Their Communities – Stanford University
- Marine Science Institute
- Mid Peninsula Housing Services Corporation
- Peninsula College Fund
- Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center
- Peninsula Interfaith Action
- Redwood City Police Activities League
- Redwood City School District – School-Community Partnerships
- *San Mateo County* Health System
 - Health Policy and Planning
 - San Mateo Medical Center and the Sequoia Teen Wellness Center
- *San Mateo County* Human Services Agency
 - Jobs for Youth
 - Workforce Development
- *San Mateo County* Probation Department
- *San Mateo County* Sheriff's Office
 - Community Alliance to Revitalize Our Neighborhood (CARON)
 - Sheriff's Activities League
- Sequoia Union High School District
 - Migrant Education Program
 - Redwood High School REAL Program
 - Sequoia Afterschool for Enrichment Program (SAFE)
 - Sequoia High School Dream Club
 - Sequoia Teen Resource Center
- Sequoia YMCA
- Spark
- StarVista
- Teen Talk Sexuality Education
- The Summit Institute
- Youth Leadership Institute