

**Ready By 21: Quality Counts**  
***The Indianapolis Compact with Youth:***  
***Better Opportunities and Higher Outcomes***

When adults are meaningfully engaged in the lives of young people, good things happen – in the moment and in the future. And when businesses, schools, congregations, and human services consider the way their (work, approach, programs?) can impact the well-being of all youth, communities transform into places where young people develop, learn, and thrive.

One of the main challenges to improving the odds for young people’s success is thinking differently, thinking creatively, about the systems that impact youth. It’s not about simply adding programs or increasing funding. It’s about changing the way we prioritize our work – being better partners, setting bolder goals, and making decisions that help more young people enter adulthood ready for work and life.

How do you start? By signing *The Indianapolis Compact with Youth*, you’re taking an important step towards creating momentum for real change in Central Indiana. Your commitment can:

- Support community priorities and use a common language for youth-centered information
- Improve the way community resources reach youth and families
- Increase demand for high quality programs and opportunities for youth
- Engage the larger community in making healthy youth development a priority

As a public entity who is committed to improving outcomes and opportunities for all youth in Central Indiana,

Supporter  
Level 1

- We will support coordinated decision making on issues and policies that affect youth throughout the community.
- We will support increasing the reach and impact of opportunities for young people, and educate colleagues and staff about the value of high-quality youth programs.
- We will support positive youth outcomes by educating public departments about the impact and characteristics of highly competent youth workers.

Adopter  
Level 2

- We will partner with community organizations and youth and families to adopt governmental policies that reflect a shared vision for young people’s well-being, with a focus on better opportunities for youth.
- We will encourage efforts that improve opportunities for young people and their families and engage young people in meaningful ways.
- We will adopt public initiatives and internal policies that increase accountability in youth programs and encourage staff engagement in their children’s lives.
- We will adopt policies that place an emphasis on developing highly-competent youth worker staff, both within our organization and in the greater community.

Advocate  
Level 3

- We will advocate to community stakeholders for policies that reflect a coordinated, shared vision for the well-being of youth in our community and that actively engage youth and families.
- We will advocate for increasing the reach, quality and impact of youth programs, with a focus on improving outcomes for youth, their families and their communities.
- We will advocate to community stakeholders about the importance of nurturing a highly competent youth development workforce.

Signed,

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