

Governments Engaging Youth Community of Practice

Purpose:

To create a peer learning network of passionate and committed practitioners dedicated to building more robust pipelines to public service through strong school/college - municipal partnerships that result in civically engaged youth and provide integrated work-based learning (WBL) opportunities to interest youth in public sector careers.

Functions:

The members of the COP will facilitate the following:

- A supportive peer network for learning and sharing;
- Peer coaching processes and protocols to problem solve on challenges and test innovative practices or solutions;
- Access to external experts to learn about broader systems issues, research and innovations;
- Agreement on evaluation metrics including: collective student and agency outcomes and cross site data collection;
- Developing and documenting strategies and tools to support collective impact on sustaining and growing local school municipal pipelines to public service around California;
- Professional development on areas of interest (via webinars, in-person trainings, etc.); and
- Promotion of the COP and site work to increase visibility and education.

Participants:

- Representatives from current and new GEY sites (spokes and non-spokes)
- Program 'teams' including municipal and education staff
- Level of staff: those doing the work directly (i.e. teachers, program coordinators, district level staff and / or city manager level staff)
- Public sector employers
- Youth

2017-2018 Structure:

- Two in-person meetings a year and two virtual meetings.
- The GEY Advisory Committee will serve as a resource and provide expertise to the COP. We will keep them apprised of the COP's progress, learning and needs.
- The Institute for Local Government will serve as facilitators, conveners and 'vision keepers' of the COP.

Potential areas of mutual interest for learning and sharing:

- 21st century work ready skills training and certification
- Authentic youth voice
- Curriculum for action civics and youth advocacy
- Data collection and assessment tools
- Different program models (in school, after school, summer)

- Digital badging
- Disconnected youth
- Quality WBL and how to fund it
- Strengthening school-municipal partnerships
- Sustainable funding
- Sustaining the work (champions, policies)