



ACTIVATE

THE CENTER TO BRING ADOLESCENT
SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RESEARCH
TO YOUTH-SUPPORTING PROFESSIONALS

Let's Activate!

**Taking steps to translate research into practice for
youth-supporting professionals**

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Reunite, Reignite, Re-energize: Innovating for the Future

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF), Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program Grantee Conference

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Hello!

- Asari Offiong, PhD
 - Research Scientist II at Child Trends
- Mindy Scott, PhD
 - Senior Research Scholar at Child Trends
- Sam Beckwith
 - Research Analyst at Child Trends

Session Objectives

By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Learn Activate's key steps to translating research into practice
- Discuss three innovative strategies for developing resources on topics with limited research
- Apply Activate's research to practice translation process to inform future resources



Activate: The Center to Bring Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Research to Youth-Supporting Professionals aims to bridge the gap between research and practice in support of the Office of Population Affairs' mission to promote health across the reproductive lifespan.

Activate translates research into practice by creating research-based resources for use by professionals who support young people who experience the child welfare and/or justice systems, homelessness, and/or disconnection from school and work (i.e., opportunity youth).

Getting to Know You

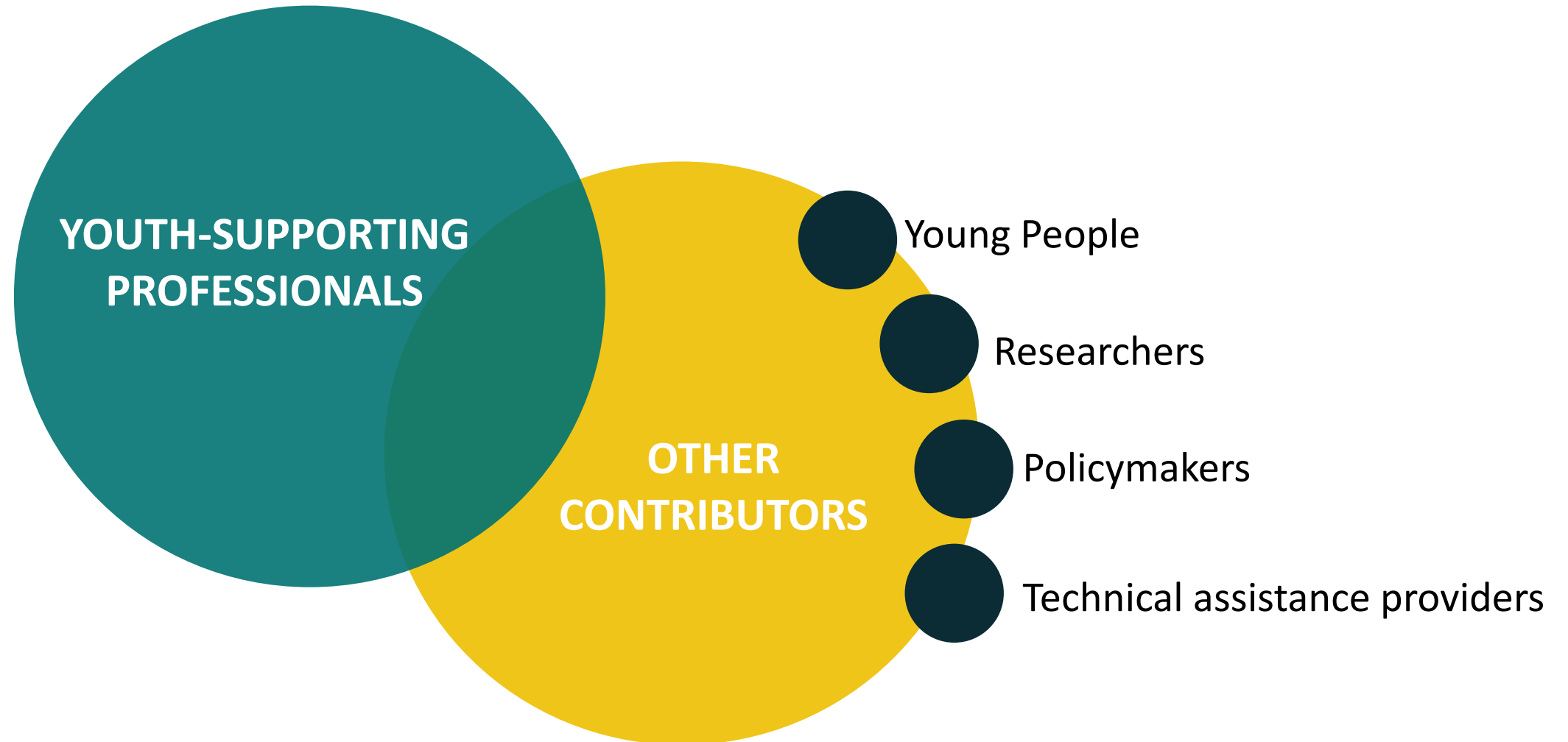
Which of the following populations do you encounter in your work?

1. Expectant or parenting youth
2. Black, Indigenous, and Youth of Color
3. LGBTQ+ youth
4. Youth with disabilities
5. Youth experiencing the child welfare system
6. Youth experiencing the justice system
7. Youth experiencing homelessness
8. Youth disconnected from school and work (i.e., opportunity youth)

Activate Team and Partners

- Office of Population Affairs
 - Child Trends
 - Chapin Hall
 - Research Alliance
 - Youth-supporting professionals
 - Youth
 - Researchers
 - Other Contributors

Activate Audiences



Centering Equity

Address A broad set of sexual and reproductive health topics beyond teen pregnancy and STI prevention

Include Information relevant to professionals who support youth with diverse experiences and characteristics across systems

Provide Guidance on communicating with youth about their sexual and reproductive health

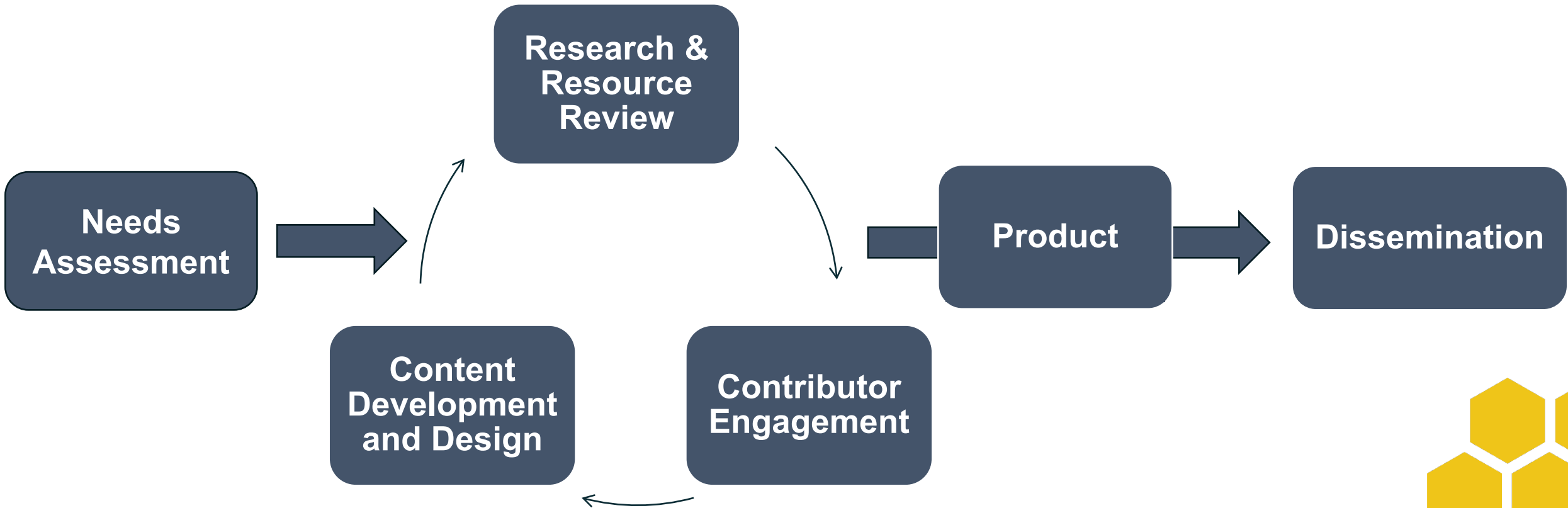
Consider Young people's diverse identities – including sexual and gender identity, and address the sexual and reproductive health of LGBTQ+ youth and young men

Create Resources that are trauma-informed, culturally relevant, medically accurate, and research-based

Acknowledge The effects of structural racism and systems of oppression

Develop Resources with input from youth-supporting professionals and young people to contextualize the content

Activate Research Translation Process



Research & Resource Review

- Research is not only found in peer reviewed literature, but includes grey literature as well
 - Technical reports
 - Briefs
 - Blogs, Newsletters
 - Government documents
- Research and/or resources may be limited
 - Scan the field for both direct and related content on a topic or population

Contributor Engagement

- Contributor engagement is iterative
- Youth-supporting professionals are meaningfully engaged in idea formation, content revisions, and design
- Youth have a voice in the process, informing Activate about:
 - The accuracy of research translation
 - The relevance of subject matter
 - How to represent youth experiences

Content Development and Design

Design Research Projects



Curate Resources



Synthesize Research into **Brief**



Develop Tailored and Inclusive **Technical Assistance Resources**

Range of Sexual and Reproductive Health-Related Topics

Communication

Contraception/Birth Control Methods

Teen Dating Violence

Sex Trafficking

Social Determinants of Health

Gender affirming care

Sexual Transmitted Infections (STIs)

Sex-based Harassment





Case Studies



Sex-Based Harassment in the Workplace: A Training for Professionals who Support Opportunity Youth

- **Purpose:** Build awareness of how professionals can support opportunity youth in addressing sex-based harassment in the workplace
- **Format:** Narrated PowerPoint
- **Audience:** Youth-Supporting Professionals working with Opportunity Youth
- **Summary of resource:** 3 module training:
 1. Introduction and background
 2. Understanding sex-based harassment in the workplace
 3. Addressing sex-based harassment in the workplace

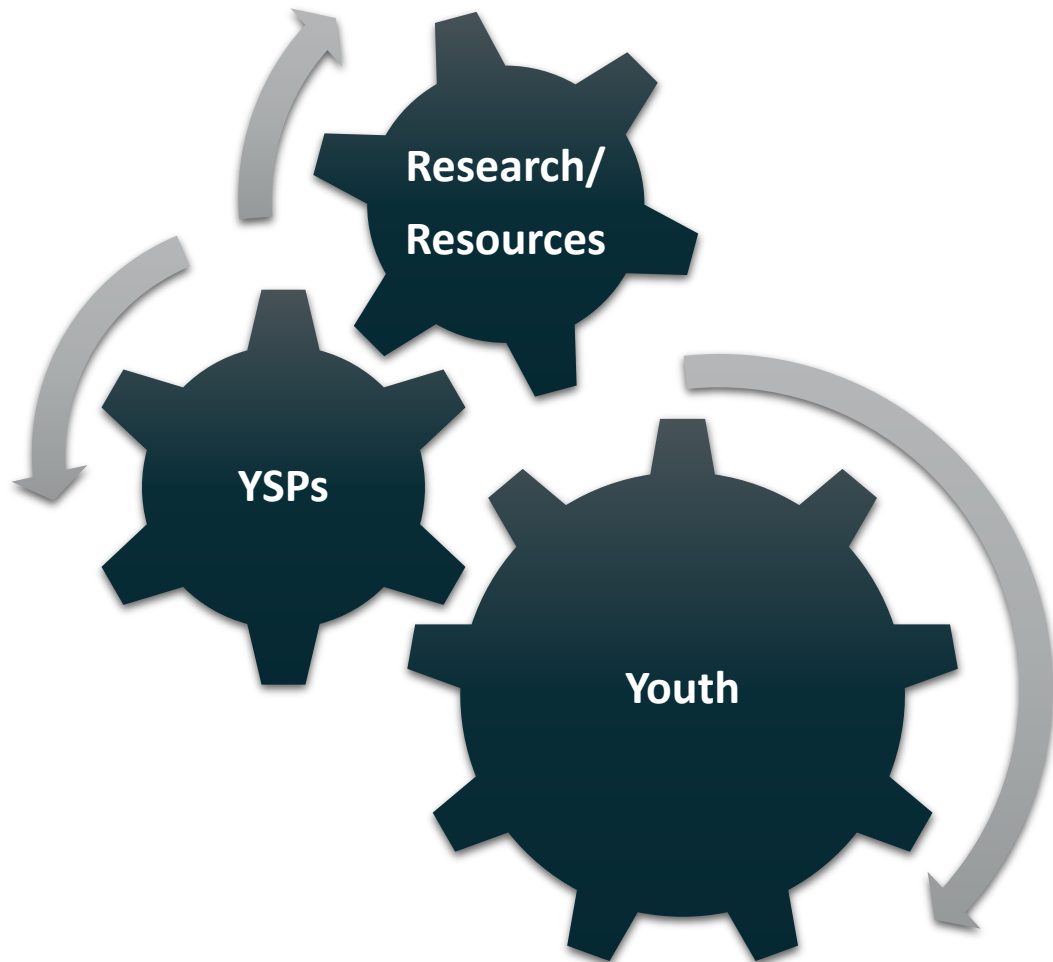
Process in Practice

- Limited research/resources focused on how youth experience sex-based harassment in the workplace
- Experts including youth-supporting professionals, youth, and researchers were key to understanding:
 - Resource gaps and needs
 - Content important for youth-supporting professionals working with opportunity youth

Using Trauma-responsive, LGBTQ+ Affirming Care to Connect Young People to Sexual and Reproductive Health Services

- **Purpose:** Demonstrate practical examples of applying trauma-responsive, LGBTQ+ affirming care as an approach to sexual and reproductive health care
- **Format:** Web-based tool & downloadable PDF with printable scenario cards
- **Audience:** Case Managers
- **Summary of resource:**
 - Overview of trauma-responsive, LGBTQ+ affirming care approach
 - 4 scenarios illustrating the sexual and reproductive health needs of LGBTQ+ identifying youth
 - Best practice responses for professionals

Process in Practice



- ◆ Lessons learned:
 - Importance of providing foundational knowledge
 - Be realistic of the capacity of professionals
 - Present not only what to do, but how to do it, and examples of it being done
 - Make time for the iterative approach



Practice



Research Translation Topics for Practice

Healthy relationships

Incorporating content around healthy relationships into existing youth programming, including sexual and reproductive health programs

Expectant or parenting youth

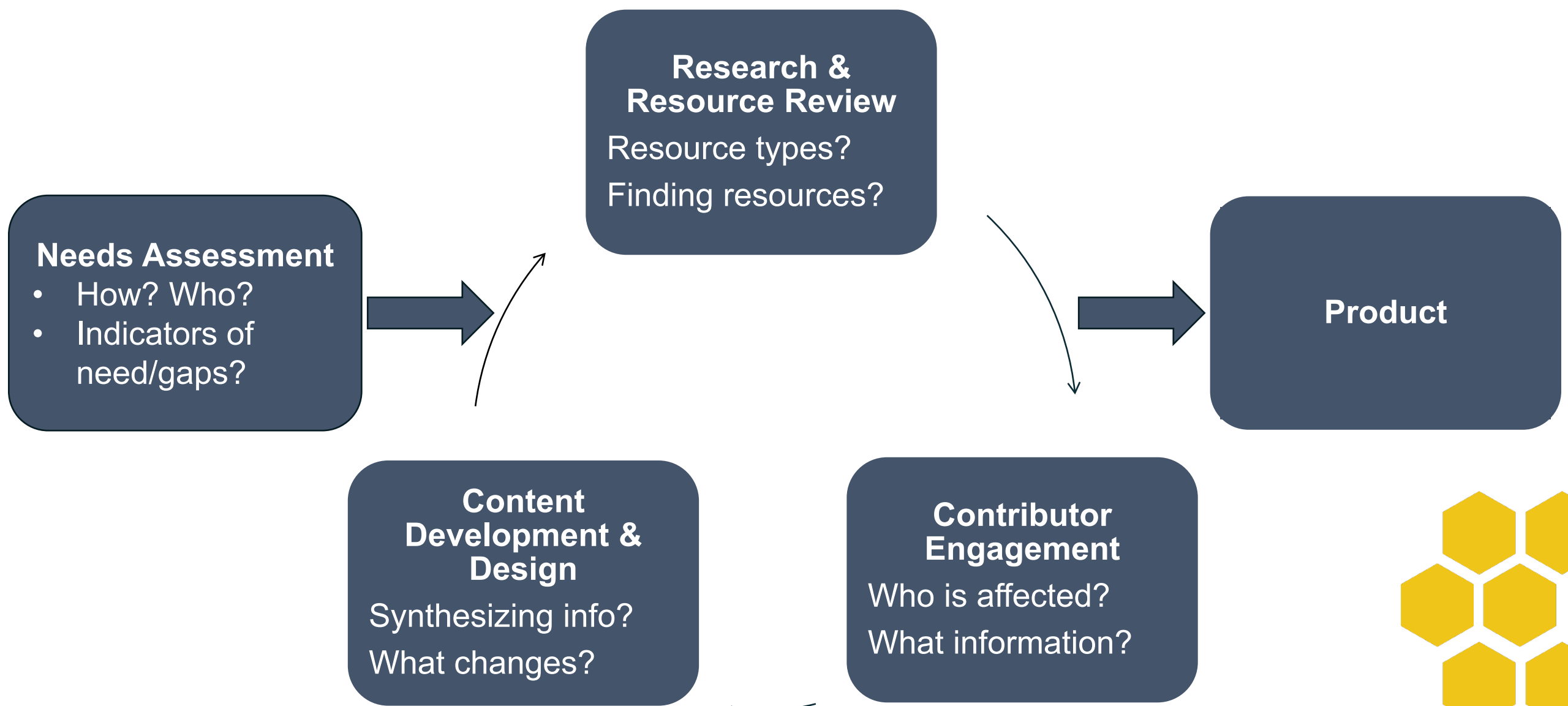
Making program modifications to improve fit for youth who are pregnant, parenting, or expecting

Programmatic approaches

Thoughtfully applying needed approaches to programming such as trauma-informed, healing-centered, or health equity

Special populations

Adapting programming for special populations of youth such as those engaged in the justice system, child welfare system, experiencing homelessness, or disabled youth





Step 1	Questions
Needs assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is your approach to the needs assessment?• Who are your priority respondents?• What data or information are your primary indicators of your practice needs or gaps in services?



Step 2	Questions
Research & resource review	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What types of research will you include?• What types of resources are most valuable?• How do you find the right resources?• How do you synthesize all the new information gathered?



Step 3	Questions
Contributor engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who are your primary contributors, partners, or collaborators?• Who is most affected by potential changes?• What information do you ask about?



Step 4	Questions
Content development & design	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do you transfer the information you have into actionable practices?• What practices, structures, or other elements may change?

Round-robin Sharing

Needs assessment

- Approach to the needs assessment
- Priority respondents
- Most useful indicators of needs

Research & resource review

- Types of research and resources to review
- Approach to finding and selecting resources
- Approach to synthesizing information

Contributor engagement

- Primary contributors
- Questions to ask

Content development & design

- Putting what you learned into practice
- Considering practices, structures, and other elements that may change

Challenges

- Share, discuss, and learn from each other!



Wrap-Up

*What is your main
takeaway from
today's workshop?*

Resources

- Activate Resources
 - Sex-Based Harassment in the Workplace: A Training for Professionals who Support Opportunity Youth
 - Using trauma-responsive, LGBTQ+ affirming care to connect young people to sexual and reproductive health services
- Activate's Sexual and Reproductive Health Resource Explorer



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Thank you!

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For more about Activate, subscribe to our newsletter at www.activatecollective.org



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Session Evaluation

Please complete a brief evaluation form for all workshops and panels on Tuesday, May 23 and Wednesday, May 24 by scanning the QR code below or visiting the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/SessEval232323>

