



BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES
WITH TODAY'S YOUTH LEADERS

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An Introduction to PYD and How to Measure It

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Learning Objectives:

After viewing this presentation, participants will be able to...

- **distinguish** the current **PYD perspective** on youth development from the earlier **deficit perspective**.
- identify the leading PYD **frameworks**.
- identify the corresponding PYD **measurement tools** that can be used in evaluation and CQI efforts.

PYD and FYSB

- In March 2023 (as they mentioned at the APP conference last year in Atlanta) FYSB renamed the Division for Optimal Adolescent Development to the **Division of Positive Youth Development**.¹

¹ Federal Register / Vol. 88, No. 55 / Wednesday, March 22, 2023 / Notices, <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2023-03-22/pdf/2023-05824.pdf> (p. 17229).

PYD and SRAE

- Since the SRAE program began in 2016, there has been a continued and expanding emphasis on PYD.

	2020	2021	2023	2024
“positive youth development”	4	6	7	9

- PYD approach and youth engagement were worth 4 points this year!

PYD and SRAE

- However, PYD is largely undefined in the NOFO (it does not appear in the glossary) and broadly defined elsewhere (such as youth.gov).
- For a federal definition see <https://youth.gov/youth-topics/positive-youth-development>.

Deficit Perspective: 1904–1990s

- “In the adolescent development literature ... prior to the 1990s ... a youth who was seen as manifesting behavior indicative of positive development was depicted as someone who was not taking drugs or using alcohol, not engaging in unsafe sex, and not participating in crime or violence.
- **“In short, for about the first 85 years of the scientific study of adolescent development, the field was framed almost exclusively by a deficit perspective about this period.”**

PYD Perspective: 1990s–Present

- “During the [1990s], a **new approach** to youth development has introduced a more affirmative and welcome vision of young people. This new approach envisions **young people as resources rather than as problems** for society. The positive youth development perspective emphasizes the manifest **potentialities** rather than the supposed incapacities of young people—including young people from the most disadvantaged backgrounds and those with the most troubled histories.¹

PYD Perspective: 1990s–Present

- (cont.) “While the positive youth development approach recognizes the existence of adversities and developmental challenges that may affect children in various ways ... it begins with a vision of a fully able child eager to explore the world, gain competence, and acquire the capacity to contribute importantly to the world. **The positive youth development approach aims at understanding, educating, and engaging children in productive activities rather than at correcting, curing, or treating them....**”¹

Deficit vs. PYD

- “Problem free is not fully prepared.”¹
- “The best way to prevent problem behaviors [is] to focus on adolescent **strengths, not deficits**”²
- “Whereas this deficit model viewed youth as ‘**problems to be managed,**’ the strengths-based PYD perspective instead views adolescents as ‘**resources to be developed.**’”³

1. Karen Pittman, founder of Ready by 21, as quoted in Jutta Dotterweich, “Positive Youth Development 101: A Curriculum for Youth work Professionals” (2015), ACT for Youth Center of Excellence, Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research, College of Human Ecology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/docs/PYD%20101.pdf>.

2. Lerner, “Promoting Positive Youth Development: Theoretical and Empirical Bases,” p. 12.

3. Brian M. Burkhard, Kathleen M. Robinson, Elise D. Murray, and Richard M. Lerner, “Positive Youth Development: Theory and Perspective” (2020), in Stephen Hupp and Jeremy D. Jewell (editors-in-chief) and Alana I. James and Patrick Leman (volume editors), *Encyclopedia of Child and Adolescent Development*, Wiley-Blackwell, London, pp 1–12, <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1002/9781119171492.wecad310#citedby-section>.

How do we get more specific?

- How do we move from a broad perspective to specific constructs we can target?
- How do we measure impacts?

How do we get more specific?

Framework

- Catalano's 15 PYD Constructs
- Benson's 40 Developmental Assets
- Lerner's 5 C's

Measurement

CPYDS

DAP

PYD-VSF

Catalano's 15 PYD Constructs

- Catalano et al. reviewed 77 PYD programs.
- They identified 25 that were successful.
- In the successful programs, 15 constructs were addressed:

Catalano's 15 PYD Constructs

1. Promotion of **bonding**
2. Promotion of **social competence**
3. Promotion of **emotional competence**
4. Promotion of **cognitive competence**
5. Promotion of **behavioral competence**
6. Promotion of **moral competence**
7. Development of **self-efficacy**
8. Fostering **prosocial norms**
9. Cultivation of **resilience**
10. Cultivation of **self-determination**
11. Cultivation of **spirituality**
12. Promotion of **beliefs in the future**
13. Development of **clear and positive identity**
14. **Opportunity for prosocial involvement**
15. **Recognition for positive behavior**

Catalano's 15 PYD Constructs: Measurement

- There is a survey called the CPYDS that measures all of Catalano's 15 constructs but, unfortunately, it's 90 items.

Benson's 40 Developmental Assets

- “The Developmental Assets Framework identifies 40 research-based, **positive experiences and qualities** that influence young people’s development, helping them become caring, responsible, and productive adults.”

Benson's 40 Developmental Assets

- The “assets” are grouped into 5 contexts...
 - Personal
 - Social
 - Family
 - School
 - Community

Benson's 40 Developmental Assets

- The “assets” are grouped into 5 contexts or 8 categories.

External

Support

Empowerment

Boundaries & Expectations

Constructive Use of Time

Internal

Commitment to Learning

Positive Values

Social Competencies

Positive Identity

Benson's 40 Developmental Assets: Measurement

- “Assets” are assessed using a 58-item survey called the Developmental Assets Profile (DAP). It's \$2/survey.

See next two slides.

Developmental Assets Profile

Self-Report for Ages 11-18

Name / ID: _____ Today's Date: Mo: _____ Day: _____ Yr: _____

Sex: Male Female Age: _____ Grade: _____ Birth Date: Mo: _____ Day: _____ Yr: _____

Race/Ethnicity (Check all that apply):
 Black or African American American Indian or Alaska Native Asian
 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Hispanic or Latino/Latina White
 Other (please specify): _____

Instructions: Below is a list of positive things that you might have in yourself, your family, friends, neighborhood, school, and community. For each item that describes you **now or within the past 3 months**, check if the item is true: **Not At All or Rarely, Somewhat or Sometimes, Very or Often, Extremely or Almost Always**. If you do not want to answer an item, leave it blank. But please try to answer all items as best you can.

		Not At All or Rarely	Somewhat or Sometimes	Very or Often	Extremely or Almost Always
I...					
1.	Stand up for what I believe in.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	Feel in control of my life and future.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	Feel good about myself.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.	Avoid things that are dangerous or unhealthy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.	Enjoy reading or being read to.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.	Build friendships with other people.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.	Care about school.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8.	Do my homework.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9.	Stay away from tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10.	Enjoy learning.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11.	Express my feelings in proper ways.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12.	Feel good about my future.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13.	Seek advice from my parents.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14.	Deal with frustration in positive ways.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15.	Overcome challenges in positive ways.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.	Think it is important to help other people.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17.	Feel safe and secure at home.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18.	Plan ahead and make good choices.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19.	Resist bad influences.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20.	Resolve conflicts without anyone getting hurt.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21.	Feel valued and appreciated by others.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22.	Take responsibility for what I do.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
23.	Tell the truth even when it is not easy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24.	Accept people who are different from me.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25.	Feel safe at school.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please continue to page two of the survey.

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Note: The term "Parent(s)" means 1 or more adults who are responsible for raising you.

	Not At All or Rarely	Somewhat or Sometimes	Very or Often	Extremely or Almost Always
I am...				
26. Actively engaged in learning new things.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
27. Developing a sense of purpose in my life.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28. Encouraged to try things that might be good for me.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
29. Included in family tasks and decisions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
30. Helping to make my community a better place.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
31. Involved in a religious group or activity.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
32. Developing good health habits.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
33. Encouraged to help others.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
34. Involved in a sport, club, or other group.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
35. Trying to help solve social problems.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
36. Given useful roles and responsibilities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
37. Developing respect for other people.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
38. Eager to do well in school and other activities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
39. Sensitive to the needs and feelings of others.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
40. Involved in creative things such as music, theater, or art.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
41. Serving others in my community.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
42. Spending quality time at home with my parent(s).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I have...				
43. Friends who set good examples for me.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
44. A school that gives students clear rules.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
45. Adults who are good role models for me.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
46. A safe neighborhood.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
47. Parent(s) who try to help me succeed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
48. Good neighbors who care about me.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
49. A school that cares about kids and encourages them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
50. Teachers who urge me to develop and achieve.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
51. Support from adults other than my parents.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
52. A family that provides me with clear rules.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
53. Parent(s) who urge me to do well in school.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
54. A family that gives me love and support.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
55. Neighbors who help watch out for me.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
56. Parent(s) who are good at talking with me about things.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
57. A school that enforces rules fairly.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
58. A family that knows where I am and what I am doing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Thank you for completing this survey.

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Lerner's 5 Cs

- Competence
- Confidence
- Connection
- Character
- Caring¹

1. Richard M. Lerner, Jason B. Almerigi, Christina Theokas, and Jacqueline V. Lerner, "Positive Youth Development: A View of the Issues" (2005), *The Journal of Early Adolescence* 25(1):10–16.

Lerner's 5 Cs

- Competence
- Confidence
- Connection
- Character
- Caring¹

ACF's 7 Cs

Competence
Confidence
Connection
Character
Caring
Contribution
Creativity²

1. Richard M. Lerner, Jason B. Almerigi, Christina Theokas, and Jacqueline V. Lerner, "Positive Youth Development: A View of the Issues" (2005), *The Journal of Early Adolescence* 25(1):10–16.

2. M. Dorsainvil and D. Dickinson, "Building on strengths: The role of positive youth development in Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention programming" (2023), Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Family and Youth Services Bureau, <https://teenpregnancy.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/resource-files/building-on-strengths.pdf>.

Lerner's 5 Cs: Measurement

- Unfortunately, the original survey was 80 items and used a mix of different response categories, making it long and complex.
- Fortunately, Lerner and colleagues later developed a 34-item “short form” (PYD-SF) and **17-item “very short form” (PYD-VSF)** version, but those also used multiple response categories.

Five Cs of Positive Youth Development—Very Short Form (PYD-VSF)

Category	Item
Competence (3)	I do very well at my class work.
	I have a lot of friends.
	I am better at sports than others my age.
Confidence (3)	I am happy with myself most of the time.
	All in all, I am glad I am me.
	I am happy with the way I look most of the time.
Character (4)	It is important to me that I help make the world a better place to live in.
	I enjoy being with people who are different than I am.*
	I hardly ever do things I know I shouldn't do.
	It is important to me that I accept responsibility for my actions when I make a mistake or do something wrong.
Caring (3)	When I see someone being bullied, I want to help them.**
	When I see someone being picked on, I feel sorry for them.
	When I see another person who is hurt or upset, I feel sorry for them.
Connection (4)	In my family I feel useful and important.
	Adults in my community make me feel important.
	I get a lot of encouragement at my school.
	My friends are good friends.

Total: 17 items

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Results

PROJECT A: 2023-2024

PYD Impacts as Measured by the PYD-VSF				
Category	<i>n</i>	Scores		
		Entry	Exit	Change
Competence (3)	841	3.57	3.60	.03
Confidence (3)	842	3.73	3.75	.02
Character (4)	841	3.94	3.92	-.02
Caring (3)	823	4.06	4.00	-.06
Connection (4)	826	3.83	3.84	.00
Overall:		3.83	3.82	.00

Results

Project B: 2023–2024

PYD Impacts as Measured by the PYD-VSF				
Category	<i>n</i>	Scores		
		Entry	Exit	Change
Competence (3)	132	3.34	3.32	-.02
Confidence (3)	132	3.82	3.85	.03
Character (4)	133	3.73	3.71	-.02
Caring (3)	133	3.89	3.68	-.21
Connection (4)	133	3.63	3.51	-.12

Overall: 3.68 3.61 -.07

Questions?



References:

- Burkhard, Brian M., Kathleen M. Robinson, Elise D. Murray, and Richard M. Lerner, “Positive Youth Development: Theory and Perspective” (2020), in Stephen Hupp and Jeremy D. Jewell (editors-in-chief) and Alana I. James and Patrick Leman (volume editors), *Encyclopedia of Child and Adolescent Development*, Wiley-Blackwell, London, pp 1–12, <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1002/9781119171492.wecad310#citedby-section>.
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- Federal Register / Vol. 88, No. 55 / Wednesday, March 22, 2023 / Notices, <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2023-03-22/pdf/2023-05824.pdf>.
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- Lerner, Richard M., “Promoting Positive Youth Development: Theoretical and Empirical Bases,” White paper prepared for Workshop on the Science of Adolescent Health and Development, National Research Council, Washington, DC. September 9, 2005. National Research Council/Institute of Medicine. Washington, D.C.: National Academy of Sciences, <https://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/document?repid=rep1&type=pdf&doi=0531337b6e019338092ac921004e6625b3b63386>.
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- Search Institute, “Developmental Assets Framework,” retrieved 4/11/24 from <https://searchinstitute.org/resources-hub/developmental-assets-framework>.
- , “Sample Report Pages,” retrieved 4/11/24 from <https://www.search-institute.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/DAP-Sample-Report.pdf>.
- Shek, Daniel, Andrew MH Siu, and Ty Lee, “The Chinese Positive Youth Development Scale: A Validation Study” (May 2007), *Research on Social Work Practice* 17(3):380–391, https://www.researchgate.net/publication/249681469_The_Chinese_Positive_Youth_Development_Scale_A_Validation_Study.

Resources:

- “Building on Strengths: The Role of Positive Youth Development in Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Programming”:
<https://teenpregnancy.acf.hhs.gov/resources/building-strengths-role-positive-youth-development-adolescent-pregnancy-prevention>
- “Positive Youth Development Approach - Webinar:”
<https://teenpregnancy.acf.hhs.gov/resources/positive-youth-development-approach-webinar>
- “Integrating Positive Youth Development into PREP Programming”:
<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/opre/report/integrating-positive-youth-development-prep-programming>

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Session Evaluation

Please complete a brief evaluation form for all workshop, forum and networking sessions by scanning the following QR code or visiting the following link:

<https://bit.ly/2024Evaluations>

