

San Diego Youth Homelessness Consortium - Authentic Youth Engagement Recommendations

Type of data collection	Types of information collected	How To + Considerations	Level of involvement required from participant	Compensation
Surveys & Questionnaires	Learn characteristics, attitudes, or beliefs among a sample of a group of people. Inferences only.	Structured response categories with open ended options (short). Administration via online platform, ipad, mobile phone, in-person, or by telephone.	Minor, 10-15 minutes	\$10 VISA gift card
In-depth Interviews	“Conversation with a purpose.” One-on-one. Will gain insight into subjective perspective of single participant regarding topics or activities.	Typically, informal but requires a few general topical questions to help uncover participant views- otherwise respects the participants’ insight and follows the participant’s lead. Will require transcription and assessment of general themes when compared to other interviews. Avoid personal history details to protect participant. Some participants may have reason to not be completely truthful depending on topic (i.e. current housing participant)	Intensive, one hour at least, plus travel time, pay attention to needs after interview if sensitive information was shared.	Stipend or \$50+ VISA gift card
Focus Groups	Similar to interviews but with 4-12 participants. Social nature can evoke differing views and help others form new opinions on the spot. Use to gather a lot of information at once.	4-12 participants, transcription and analysis of themes required. Same considerations as interviews- confidentiality and sensitivity	Intensive, one hour at least, plus travel time. Pay attention to processing needs after focus group.	Stipend or \$50+ VISA gift card
Youth Action Board	Should assist with all other areas of data collection (qualitative types). Can/should review documents, policies, procedures, assist with program development and participate in all levels of decision making. Should receive facilitation/guidance in providing feedback.	Groups of 3+ participants meet monthly at a minimum. Should be involved with other levels of youth engagement/feedback collection in each region. Should attend all collaborative meetings in addition to YAB meeting. May need support with transportation, technology access, organization, and feedback loop.	Extremely intense, requires commitment and ability to travel, maintain time management and commit to meetings.	On payroll hourly rate or \$16 per hour plus travel reimbursement
Youth Partners	Youth working alongside agency staff to develop and provide services. Considered same as staff and treated accordingly.	Create job description, post, interview, hire. Support agency team members to embrace cultural shift that values and utilizes youth perspective and provides development opportunities that benefit youth career mobility in social work settings. Considerations to training, requirements for applicants, distance from service consumption, and organizational readiness required.	Intensive, career choice	Paid staff, rate above minimum wage and appropriate to education and experience level
Special Projects	Events or initiatives that involve youth but are not ongoing or repeated. YPITC, consulting, event organizing, tabling, facilitation, etc.	Provide a detailed agenda and plan of execution for youth. Ensure that youth has adequate supplies/tools before the engagement begins.	Intensive, career choice	hourly rate or \$16-\$20 per hour plus travel reimbursement
<p>The SDYHC recommends that the RTFH pay unaffiliated youth since the YAB is an ad-hoc committee of the RTFH board. If a gift card must be used, the SDYHC recommends a Visa/Mastercard be used.</p>				