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**YOUTH PROGRAM QUALITY ASSESSMENT (YPQA)  
BASICS, SELF-ASSESSMENT TRAINING  
9:00-4:00 PM, VARIOUS LOCATIONS**

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**Background:**

The Youth Program Quality Assessment (Youth PQA), developed by the High/Scope Educational Research Foundation and supported nationally by the David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality and the Forum for Youth Investment, offers an opportunity to build capacity and bring new rigor to our ability to measure the quality of youth programs. Based on its cross-application in before and afterschool settings, prevention, intervention, and sanction-based programs, a series of one-day trainings on program self-assessment using the Youth PQA will be offered (see attached registration form). Currently, the Youth PQA is used in a variety of settings across Iowa and is supported, recommended, and/or used by several state agencies and/or state-wide projects supported with state funds, United Way of Central, Northern, and East Central Iowa, various Decategorization boards, and the Chrysalis Foundation. It has been piloted in multiple state funding streams and has been viewed by the Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development to have wide applicability in Iowa as a measure of program quality and as a tool to inform professional development efforts. The Youth PQA is used nationally in over twenty-six states, primarily with 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center programs, and four national systems including Camp Fire USA, CYFAR, American Camping Association, and 4-H.

**The tool:**

The Youth PQA is a research validated and field tested tool consisting of four sections or subscales, each being a dimension of program quality critical for positive youth development (safe environment, supportive environment, youth interaction, and youth engagement). The School-Aged tool can be used with youth in grades K-6 while the Youth PQA is used with youth in grades 4-12. Administration of the Youth PQA involves direct observation of youth program activities and a structured interview with a program director. The instrument can be used by outside observers to produce the most precise data or as a program self-assessment that generates conversations among staff about quality issues. This tool can be used as a self-assessment or external assessment instrument. More information on the Youth PQA, the research behind it, and the results of its use in specific locations, visit [www.cypq.org](http://www.cypq.org).

**Training Information:**

The training will be provided by Amy Croll from Community!Youth Concepts (CYC) in Des Moines. Amy has also served as a national field consultant for the David P. Weikert Center for Youth Program Quality since 2008, providing Youth PQA trainings across the United States.

Attached is registration material for the Youth PQA Basics training. **The Registration Deadline is September 19, 2011. Community!Youth Concepts reserves the right to cancel the training if less than fifteen people are registered in a particular location.**

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If you have questions, please feel free to contact Community!Youth Concepts (Amy or Julie) at 515.243.4292 or [info@cyconcepts.org](mailto:info@cyconcepts.org)



**YOUTH PROGRAM QUALITY ASSESSMENT  
BASICS, SELF ASSESSMENT TRAINING  
REGISTRATION AT 8:30 AM  
TRAINING FROM 9:00-4:00 PM**

**Please print or type. Copies may be made for additional registrations.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I primarily work with youth grades K-6 \_\_\_\_\_ youth grades 4-12 \_\_\_\_\_ Both \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Algona, Tuesday, Tuesday, September 27, 2011

Location: Kossuth Connections, 116 S Thorington St, Algona

\_\_\_\_\_ Council Bluffs, Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Location: Micah House, 1415 Ave. J, Council Bluffs

\_\_\_\_\_ Cedar Rapids, Tuesday, October 25, 2011

Location: United Way of East Central Iowa, 317 7th Ave SE, Cedar Rapids

\_\_\_\_\_ Des Moines, Tuesday, November 1, 2011;

Location: Polk County River Place, 2309 Euclid Ave, Des Moines

**\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to request a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center scholarship to cover registration costs (available only to 21CCLC sites). Please complete the following information and send no money:**

**Site name and location:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Program Director:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration is \$100 and includes materials and lunch. You are not officially registered until you have paid the registration fee. Please check how you would like to pay your registration fee:**

\_\_\_ Check enclosed

\_\_\_ 21CCLC Scholarship (DOE approval required prior to your registration being confirmed)

\_\_\_ CYC Paypal Account ([www.cyconcepts.org](http://www.cyconcepts.org) and follow the link)

**Mail or scan/e-mail this registration form by September 19, 2011 to:**

Amy Croll  
Community Youth Concepts  
3826 1/2 Douglas Ave.  
Des Moines, Iowa 50310  
Phone: 515.243.4292  
Email: [amy@cyconcepts.org](mailto:amy@cyconcepts.org)

Please complete page 2 and submit with registration. Thank-you.

## Youth PQA Training Demographic & Background Information of Participants

Please complete the following form and return with your application. Responses will be used to track diversity and to tailor the training to meet the learning needs of participants. Individual responses will be kept confidential.

**GENDER**      \_\_\_\_\_ Male      \_\_\_\_\_ Female

**ETHNICITY**

African-American \_\_\_\_\_ Asian \_\_\_\_\_ Caucasian \_\_\_\_\_ Latino \_\_\_\_\_ Other (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**AGE**      18-25 \_\_\_\_\_      26-40 \_\_\_\_\_      41-60 \_\_\_\_\_      Over 60 \_\_\_\_\_

**ACADEMIC BACKGROUND**

Some high school \_\_\_\_\_ High school diploma \_\_\_\_\_ GED \_\_\_\_\_ Some college \_\_\_\_\_

Undergraduate Degree (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Graduate Degree (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Certification(s) (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you worked in the youth service field?

- Not at all \_\_\_\_\_
- Less than 2 years \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 to 5 years \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 to 10 years \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 years or more \_\_\_\_\_

How long do you plan to continue working in the youth service field?

- Not at all \_\_\_\_\_
- 1 to 5 years \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 or more years \_\_\_\_\_
- Not sure \_\_\_\_\_

How would you rate your current knowledge and understanding of positive youth development concepts?

- Limited knowledge \_\_\_\_\_
- Some general knowledge \_\_\_\_\_
- A great deal of knowledge \_\_\_\_\_

What best describes your assessment, monitoring, and/or evaluation experience and skills?

- Limited experience in this area \_\_\_\_\_
- Average/Some experience in this area \_\_\_\_\_
- Well-versed in this area \_\_\_\_\_

What other quality assessment tools have you used in the past?

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**Thank you! We appreciate your taking the time to provide us with this information.**