

Roles

| Facilitator | Notetaker |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask the questions and lead the group in discussion. • Ask follow-up questions or use suggested prompts to dig deeper <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Tell me more about that.” ○ “I see a lot of heads nodding, do others feel the same way?” ○ “Is there anyone who might feel a little differently?” • Read the room, and encourage participation so that everyone has a chance to speak | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write notes on what you are hearing from the discussion • (If virtual) Manage the chat and paste the questions into the chat. |

Welcome and Introduction

- If the participants are not known to you, introduce yourself. Welcome all to the session and thank them for taking the time to join the discussion. If not everyone knows each other, do a round of introductions.
- Explain that your organization has agreed to partner with a group of local hospitals on their community health needs assessment to help gather youth perspectives on their health needs. Share that hospitals want to hear from young people about what they need to be healthy, issues that get in the way of being healthy, and ideas for solutions to improve health in communities.
- Also share the following: Today’s discussion is one of several being held with youth throughout southeastern PA. The team writing the community health needs assessment report will summarize all the input from these discussions and include it in the final report, which will be posted on hospital websites in June 2022. No youth names or other identifying information will be shared in the report. The report will help hospitals develop plans and design programs to support the communities they serve.

Expectations for the Discussion

- *We expect this discussion to last about 60 minutes. I will be leading the discussion and _____ will be taking notes.*
- *Your participation is completely voluntary. Nothing you say will be connected to your name and we will keep your identity private. Please respect each others’ confidentiality and not share specific comments made outside of this group.*
- *This discussion is an informal conversation about your experiences and perspectives. We have a list of guiding questions or topics, but there may be other, related ideas that come up.*

- *Everyone’s opinions and comments are valued in this discussion. Thank you for helping us create an atmosphere of openness and respect where everyone feels comfortable to freely share their thoughts.*
- *Please do not feel like you need to raise hands to speak, but also be aware that there are many here who may want a chance to talk. We would like to hear from everyone who took the time to be here today.*
- *[If virtual] If you can, we would appreciate your having your video on and speaking responses, but please feel free to use the chat.*
- *[If recording] We would like to audio record the discussion to help us accurately collect what you all say. We may include quotes (without names) in the final report. Only the people assisting with the discussion today and the people writing the report will have access to the recording.*
- *After the discussion, you will each receive a \$25 Visa gift card as a thank you for your participation.*
- *What questions do you have for me?*

Discussion Questions

1. Let’s start by unpacking the word “community.” What communities do you belong to?

Prompt: Think of activities and places you spend time in and people and groups you feel connected to (examples: neighborhood, school, sports team, church)

We just heard a lot of great examples of communities. For the rest of the questions, we want you to focus on communities you spend the most time in – where you live, work or go to school. Also, note that when we talk about “health”, we not only mean physical health, but mental, emotional, and spiritual too.

- 2. Next we’re going to talk about things in your community that help you and others to be healthy.** In other words, what are the things that make your community a healthier place to live? What are the biggest strengths of your communities?
- 3. Let’s talk next about what you’re most concerned about when you think about health in your community.** What are the challenges or barriers that prevent you and others in your community from being healthy? What would you change about your communities?
- 4. Now I’d like you to focus particularly on young people in your community. When I say that, I mean people younger than 25 years of age.** What are the most important issues for you and other youth when it comes to health? What kinds of support would help you and other youth in your community be healthy?

Prompt: Now I want to focus in on health care, specifically how easy or hard it is for you to get the health care you need when you need it. What types of health issues do you need help with the most? What would make it easier for you to see a doctor or nurse for that issue?

Prompt: Consider different age groups of youth. What about youth that are younger than you and your peers?

- 5. What have been the impacts of COVID-19 and events of the past two years on the health of young people in your community?**
- 6. Now that we've had a chance to talk about the different issues that affect health in your community, let's talk about solutions.** What are some examples of things you would like to see get started or expanded in your community that could have a positive impact on health? What is already working well? If you could design your own community, what would make it a positive, healthy place to live?

Prompt: What would you need in order for this community to grow and thrive?

Thank you so much for your time and thoughts. We've learned a lot from what you all had to say. Before we wrap up, please let us know if there's something important you wanted to say that you didn't have a chance to say earlier, or that may have just come to mind. We appreciate your sharing your feedback to help improve the health of our communities.