

Partnering with Youth to Improve Adolescent Health Care Experiences



Erica Koepsel, MA - Director of Youth Engagement Allie Wipfli - PATCH Teen Educator

Adolescent Health

- Adolescence is a critical time when patients set the stage for future health care experiences, often deciding during this phase whether they will become smart and engaged consumers of health care, or not.
- Youth are also developing important skills for their life as adults.



• If we engage youth during this phase, they can build trust within the health care system so that it's there for them when they DO need it!

Managing our own health care – like driving a car – is an important part of becoming an adult. At the end of the day, it's just making sure we're physically and mentally well so that we can do so many amazing things in life!

- PATCH Teen Educator



PATCH Mission...

To improve adolescent health and wellbeing alongside and in true partnership with youth.



PATCH Vision...

A supportive environment in which all youth are healthy, connected, and thriving.



PATCH Teen Educator Programs





Coordinator Support Team Members

Coordinator Support Team members live and work within the community served and offer support and guidance to the PATCH Coordinator.



PATCH Coach

A PATCH Coach supports and mentors the PATCH Coordinator in all aspects of program planning, implementation, and evaluation.



The PATCH Coordinator is responsible for planning, implementing, and evaluating all PATCH programming efforts with the guidance of their support team and coach. They act as a direct supervisor to the Teen Educators.

Guest Speakers

Guest speakers are content experts who provide youth with new adolescent health perspectives, resources, connections, and information at training and enrichment.



PATCH Teen Educators

Teen Educators, ages 14-18, are hired by the PATCH Coordinator to share their authentic insight into adolescent health care experiences, concerns, and preferences. As a part of their job, they attend training and enrichment, facilitate PATCH for Providers and PATCH for Teens: Peer-to-Peer Workshops and advocate for change within the health care system and their community.



Professionals

Teen Educators, with support and supervision from the PATCH Coordinator. offer health professionals insights into the health care concerns, preferences, and realities of today's youth, offering better ways to connect with adolescent patients and ensure highquality, youth-friendly services.



Teen Educators, with support and supervision from the PATCH Coordinator, empower their peers to learn to manage their own health and health care and equip them with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate and advocate for youth-friendly services.



Adolescents

The impact that PATCH **Teen Educators** make through their workshops and advocacy helps to improve the health of young people throughout all corners of your community.



PATCH Workshops

PATCH for Providers

During this 90-minute teenfacilitated workshop, trained PATCH Teen Educators share their accurate and authentic insights into the concerns, preferences and realities that impact the health care experiences of today's youth.

PATCH for Teens

PATCH Teen Educators want to share what they've learned with their peers! They want their peers to feel empowered in health care settings and have the knowledge and skills to become responsible managers of their own health.









PATCH Youth Advocacy Fellowships



PATCH Coordinator

A PATCH Coach supports and mentors the Coordinator in all aspects of program planning, implementation, and evaluation.

PATCH Coach

The PATCH Coordinator is

responsible for planning, implementing, and evaluating all PATCH programming efforts with the guidance of their support team and coach. They act as a direct supervisor to the Youth Advocates.

Guest Speakers eakers are content ex

Guest speakers are content experts who provide youth with new adolescent health perspectives, resources, connections, and information at training and enrichment.

PATCH Youth Advocates

Youth Advocates, ages 13-19, are hired by the PATCH Coordinator to bring youth perspective to adolescent health improvement efforts. As a part of their job, they attend training and enrichment, gain advocacy skills through completion of the PATCH Youth Advocacy Learning Series, and act as Consultants on a variety of adolescent health initiatives.



Organizations & Community Partners

Youth Advocates, with support and supervision from the PATCH Coordinator, offer consulting to a variety of organizations and community partners seeking youth perspective on their adolescent health improvement efforts.



All AdoleScents

The impact that PATCH Youth Advocates make through their advocacy and consulting sessions helps to improve the health of young people throughout all corners of your community.



Consulting Sessions



- Sexual Education Curricula
- Barriers to Transition Care
- COVID Campaigns
- Suicide Prevention Curriculum
- Sexual Assault Prevention Billboards
- Grant Reviewing
- Body Positivity Lessons
- Wellness Policy Improvements
- PATCH Evaluations
- Youth Friendly Clinic Spaces



PATCH Model for Youth Engagement

INPUTS

PEOPLE

- PATCH Leadership
- PATCH Coaches
- PATCH Consultants
- Program Partners & Collaborators
- Stakeholders & Funders
- Youth Programming Coordinator
- Interns
- · Youth and Young People
- Enrichment & Content Experts

RESOURCES

- Time
- Facilities
- Technology
- Implementation Materials & Resources
- · Ongoing Evaluation & Quality Improvement

STRATEGIES

YOUTH-DRIVEN PROGRAMMING

- Adult-Initiated & Youth-Driven
- Commitment to a Common Purpose
- Extended Engagement
- Meaningful Activities & Work
- Active Participation
- · Collaborative, Diverse, & Welcoming Space
- Healthy Peer Relationships & **Bonding Opportunities**
- · Community Connectedness & Social Responsibility

YOUTH-ADULT PARTNERSHIPS

- · Clear Roles, Expectations, & Boundaries
- Mutual Respect, Trust, & Partnership
- · Supportive, Caring, & Respectful Relationships
- · Growth Mindset
- · Positive Mentorship & Role Models

ACTIVITIES

EMPLOYMENT

- Application & Interview
- Selection & Hiring
- · Training & Onboarding
- Compensation
- Work Experience
- Skill-Buildina
- Leadership Opportunities

EDUCATION

• Ongoing Enrichment in Adolescent Health Topics: Health Care Transition: Safety & Injury Prevention; Sexual & Reproductive Health; Social, Emotional, & Mental Health

EMPOWERMENT

- Personal Exploration, Development, & Self-Expression
- Diverse & Positive Relationships
- Advocacy & Consulting Opportunities
- PATCH Workshop Facilitation (TE)
- PATCH Modules (YA)

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

EXTERNAL FACTORS · Local, state, and national funding

· Community values and beliefs

· Individual challenges and competing priorities

ASSUMPTIONS

- · Individuals value the input of youth and youth voice
- · Validity of theoretical models, frameworks, and survey instruments

Youth who become **healthy**, **connected**, and **thriving** adults.

- · Healthy: Youth are able to reach optimal health, safety, & well-being.
- Connected: Youth have strong connections to, & communication with, peers & trusted
- Thriving: Youth have the knowledge, skills, and opportunities to flourish into adulthood.

OUTPUTS

BY THE NUMBERS

- · Applications Received · Invited Guest Speakers
- Interviews Conducted Compensated Work
- Youth Hired Hours
- Youth Trained
- Consulting Sessions
- Youth Engaged
- Workshops (TE)
- Youth Retained
- Modules (YA)
- · Enrichment Meetings



SHORT-TERM OUTCOMES

Youth who are

employed, educated, & empowered to improve the health & well-being of their generation.

Youth who:

- Develop a commitment to their team and to the PATCH Program
- Are employed and compensated for their work
- Have the knowledge, confidence, & skills to do their job well
- · Have the information & ability to make safe, healthy, lifelong habits
- Feel engaged & supported by supervisor & team members
- Have a space where they can think creatively, collaborate, & be vulnerable to engage & learn
- Feel empowered to be young leaders & advocates among their peers & in their community.
- · Have a positive PATCH experience.

PATCH Programs & Resources

- Youth Engagement Programs
 - Teen Educator Program
 - Youth Advocacy Fellowship
- Toolkits
 - PATCH for Parents
 - PATCH for Teens
- Resources
 - Posters
 - Brochures
 - Youth Engagement Coaching
 - So much more!





We'd love to work with you!

erica@patchprogram.org www.patchprogram.org www.wipatch.org







