

EVALUATION

“Connecting Youth to the Outdoors” – Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Please provide feedback on today’s networking event. Your input will be used to measure whether we have achieved our goals and to help us in designing more effective gatherings in the future.

<i>Directions: Please place an “X” in the box that most appropriately matches your response.</i>	Very Useful	Useful	Somewhat Useful	Not Useful
1. Please rate the overall usefulness of today’s event:	26	11	5	
2. Please rate the following content areas:				
Icebreaker/Opening Activity	19	20	4	
“Naming the Network”	18	17	8	
Panel Presentation	31	12	2	
Breakout*: On the Wild Side/Youth Leadership	25	3	2	
Breakout*: Project WILD/Community Service	24	3	5	
Breakout*: GEO & CLBL/School Programs	26	8	2	
*only comment on the breakout sessions that you were able to attend				

3. Please list at least one thing you learned today that you can apply to your work with youth.

- Fundraising ideas (3)
- Need to publicize outdoor community services as a learning activity (as well as “doing” activity) – a purpose
- YSP connect
- Benefit of youth development
- Learned about outdoor programs and what others are doing (2)
- Taking activities to new level to make it more fun for returning youth
- On the Wild Side
- Think beyond what is in front of you and make goals that seem impossible – like trip to Alaska
- Anne Marie Kennedy of GEO said it’s really hard to interest kids in nature studies-I thought it as a slam dunk to get kids outdoors.
- Keep the purpose in mind and in front of youth so we all know why we are participating.
- Understanding the youth’s perspective and voice (2)
- Icebreakers are a must, we are capable of great things (2)
- Network system has a huge potential for achieving goals (2)
- Hands-on is very important
- Learned good activities
- More youth centered development
- Partnering with other organizations (2)
- Schools that currently have strong programs/partnerships
- Give everyone a voice
- Youth are so capable given tools and opportunity to lead
- Connecting with each other and experiences
- I learned adults had lots of things that were in common with us.
- Remember the kids really do want to be leaders (3)
- Leadership and communication with others
- There are tons of people who are great at having youth-led programs – contact them!
- YDP websites
- The depth and breadth of school papers
- Listen to youth

4. What, in your opinion, was the most useful part of today's event?

- Wild Side Program (2)
- Youth presentations (5)
- Breakout sessions (8)
- Networking (10)
- Learning about other programs out there (2)
- The panel explaining successful programs to let us know in short what each program is doing (6)
- Getting more outdoor to enjoy
- Man who did icebreaker was world class!
- Community building
- Talking individually with youth participants to see how they feel about programs (3)
- The opportunity to share my involvement and experience
- The way the community is being helpful
- Hearing different stories and experiences
- Interacting with other people
- I saw how seamless a program can transition its youth to become leaders in 10 years
- I need to understand nature because it is helped me.
- Learning all the different programs for us youth
- How many programs to join and have fun and learn at the same time

<p>5. Why was this useful to you?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good to talk to everyone • Provided a greater sense of what students are learning & some of the events they were involved in (3) • Opportunity to share in-depth • New resources for our programs • New to the area so helpful to learn about projects • Gaining knowledge of how others use youth development • Learned a lot and had fun! • To see other programs reaching out to youth and encouraging outdoors. • Work together • Gained a lot of info about different projects that all of us are doing toward similar goals (4) • Learned about many cool programs I didn't know existed • I'm starting to work with teens on a garden & ask myself why are we doing this – I know, do they? Good to hear they can later appreciate their experiences • I have home office and don't work face-to-face with people • It allow me to be a resource for others (2) • Reconnects the passion and supports the opportunities • Generate ideas for later use (2) • We can collaborate, introduce ourselves (3) • It is difficult finding organizations interested in this theme • Useful understanding what motivates their interests in the outdoors • I finally got time to talk with other YSPs and got ideas flowing for me • Important b/c it helps prepare us for the future • Getting to know each other • Shows how the environment is very helpful • Because voice of youth should be heard • Allowed us to experience the outdoors • Really got a grasp of the groups • Lots of perspectives and approaches • Meeting volunteers of other organizations • Potential collaborations • Seeing is believing • Keeping an open mind
--	--

6. What would you change about today's event?

- Better facilitation, focus & purpose of breakout sessions
- Some way of establishing ongoing contact between providers and schools
- A lot of wasted time at beginning
- More time to learn of the different groups
- Nothing! (2)
- More focused discussion groups
- Probably the timing. More time for breakout groups (9)
- Get more outdoor
- Longer networking opportunities
- Time was scarce but well spent
- More icebreakers (2)
- More discussion groups (2)
- Breakout needed to be streamlined with a specific point of conversation
- Intro could be shortened
- Beginning was kind of slow and not enough time to speak
- Explain more of the big and large words to us students so we can understand
- More games but overall great
- That the youth were more involved
- Business agenda, address change
- More youth interaction
- The long speeches
- I like the group name: Connecting Youth to Outdoors
- More time for networking
- Smaller breakouts, more informal time
- Loved dinner

<p>7. What suggestions do you have for future events? Topics, speakers, format...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Partner “givers” and “students” with each other to create an action plan for youth to get outdoors ● Other types of youth programs ● Grant providers – target community service grants or ?? ● More time for breakout sessions ● Maybe divide people in groups as providers vs. groups looking for places/activities then “speed date.” ● More youth (3) ● None, a great day! (#) ● Extend the time for the event. I believe this program is very helpful ● Have attendees bring laptops so we can surf with out table groups & show off our programs ● Can meeting be held at youth club meetings i.e. Private Gardens Elementary ● Spreading the word ● More programs shared and explored, maybe a field trip ● Good food ● Ice cream should not have melted ● Collaboration – have breakout to let organizations plan next steps ● Have everyone in room briefly introduce themselves ● Breakout rooms with specific topics ● Let all the groups go to the breakout. (2) ● Loved the evening schedule ● Life on the Wild Side has prepared us for the future youth programs ● To always b e comfortable and learn about other things besides other natural topics ● More fun activities ● A few more group presentations couldn’t hurt (2) ● Really enjoyed the panel
<p>12. How did you hear about this event? (Check all that apply) <u> 12 </u> YDN Email newsletter <u> 5 </u> Flyer <u> 14 </u> Co-worker/colleague <u> 12 </u> Other (teachers, emails)</p>	
<p>13. Other comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nice group ● Very important ● Great to have a dinner/evening meeting (2) ● Great experience! (3) ● Thank you! (8) ● Very informative ● Keep hope alive! ● CLBL invited me to be here and I enjoyed it ● SHF building is one I would come to any day ● These are great networking sessions – keep them up! (3) 	

- Keep up the work to get youth outdoors