Parenting Project & ACT for Youth Joint In-Service 2023

Amanda Purington Drake
Heather Wynkoop Beach
Advancing Positive Youth Development and Adolescent Well-Being

ACT for Youth connects research to practice on behalf of young people. We offer guidance to the positive youth development approach to adults who care about the well-being of young people.
Translational Research Cycle

Basic Discoveries

Applications to Humans (real world)

Development of Intervention

Diffusion into Practice

Individual Impact / Public Impact

Intervention Science

Implementation Science

Evaluation / Epidemiology

Policy / Public Health

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Capacity-building, evaluation, &amp; information clearinghouse for adolescent health initiatives</td>
<td>New York State Department of Health Department of Health and Human Services</td>
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<td>Positive Youth Development (PYD) curriculum development, training, &amp; resources</td>
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<td>Youth Engagement: Curriculum development, consultancy &amp; resources</td>
<td>Office of Population Affairs</td>
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<td>Research synthesis</td>
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<td>Youth program evaluation</td>
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Our team!
# ACT Structure & Staff

**Director:** Amanda Purington Drake  
**Administration:** Paula Aiken

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training &amp; Capacity-Building</th>
<th>Evaluation &amp; Research</th>
<th>Information Clearinghouse</th>
<th>Research Synthesis &amp; Translation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director: Heather Wynkoop Beach</td>
<td>Director: Amanda Purington Drake</td>
<td>Director: Karen Schantz</td>
<td>Director: Mary Maley</td>
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<td>Marisol DeLeon</td>
<td>Vicki Baum</td>
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<td>Michele Luc</td>
<td>Brian Maley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Maley</td>
<td>Jenny Parise</td>
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**Medical Expertise**

Richard E. Kreipe, MD, FAAP, FSAHM, FAED  
Taylor B. Starr, DO, MPH
We support

- Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Providers: 48 CAPP 7 PREP
- SRAE: 12 Partners
- HIV/STD/HPC Prevention Providers: 21 YMSM 7 YHA

through
- Technical assistance (TA)
- Training
- Evaluation and research
- Dissemination of information on current research and best practices
Training and Capacity Building

- In Person Trainings
  - Facilitation Fundamentals
  - Positive Youth Development
  - Curriculum (with Teach Backs)
- Online webinars
  - Answering Tough Questions
  - Puberty and Adolescence
  - Mindfulness
- Online Learning Communities
  - Supervisors
  - New Educators
  - Individualized support
  - Observations and feedback
- Contracted Trainings with
  - Reality Check
  - Buffalo Charter School
  - Boys and Girls Club of Harlem
Process & Outcome Evaluation:
• Develop systems for collecting, reviewing & synthesizing data
• Summaries and facilitation of continuous quality improvement
• Evaluation summaries for reporting
• Participant survey data collection, analysis & synthesis
Research: Answering Questions

From existing research

From youth

From programs
### Research Methods

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<th>Method</th>
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<tr>
<td>Systematic reviews &amp; research synthesis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Experimental design</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surveys</td>
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<td>Focus groups</td>
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<td>Interviews (including dyads)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concept mapping</td>
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<td>Participatory action research</td>
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<td>PhotoVoice</td>
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Clearinghouse

- Website: [www.actforyouth.net](http://www.actforyouth.net)
  - DOH program-specific resources, tools, & online trainings
- Nationally recognized Positive Youth Development expertise
  - Information, training manuals, online training, “toolkits” to support PYD at program/organization/community levels
- Publications & Presentations
- Newsletters
  - ACT for Youth Update
  - ACT for Adolescent Health
Research Synthesis and Translation

• Brief systematic reviews summarizing current research
• Answers practice and policy questions with the best available evidence
• Uses a participatory process including expertise from both practitioners and researchers
• Assesses research quality and relevance
Special Projects

- Statewide Provider Meetings
- Adolescent Sexual Health Symposium
- Statewide Youth Development Team Representation
- Research Synthesis: Health equity/disparities
- Community social network analyses
- Focus Group Projects - examples:
  - Family planning
  - Preconception health
  - Sugar-sweetened beverages
- Adolescent Health Research Project (multi-component)
- RCT Study – collaboration with DOH (Brothers as Allies, additional Rural/Tribal project)
- Rigorous Evaluation of Educational Support Programming with foster care-involved youth
- Peer-reviewed Journal Articles
  - Special issue of the Journal of Public Health Management and Practice
Website Highlights:

www.actforyouth.net

Positive Youth Development: https://www.actforyouth.net/pyd/

Adolescent Development:
https://www.actforyouth.net/adolescence/

Youth Development Program Toolkit:
https://www.actforyouth.net/program-toolkit/

Activity Toolkits:
https://www.actforyouth.net/program-toolkit/yd-activities/
https://www.actforyouth.net/program-toolkit/yd-activities/sel/
https://www.actforyouth.net/program-toolkit/yd-activities/adulthood/
https://www.actforyouth.net/program-toolkit/yd-activities/media.cfm

Other Resources: https://www.actforyouth.net/pro-resources/
Connecting With

• Access information and resources on our website: https://www.actforyouth.net
• Join the ACT for Youth Update: https://www.actforyouth.net/pro-resources/update.cfm
• Participate in an upcoming training: Facilitating Programs with Youth https://cornell.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0lKV0WCfnEGpZC6
• Contact us with your research questions or training needs! act4youth@cornell.edu
Thank you!

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