
Contents

Editors' Notes 1
Sam Piba, Georgia Hall

Executive Summary 7

1. The passage to adulthood: Challenges of late adolescence 13
Nicole Zarrett, Jacquelynne Eccles

This chapter examines the major developmental changes and challenges associated with late adolescence, as youth seek to acquire and consolidate the competencies, attitudes, values, and social capital necessary to make a successful transition into adulthood.

2. Designing for diversity: Incorporating cultural competence in prevention programs for urban youth 29
Marion J. Goldstein, Pedro A. Noguera

This chapter affirms the importance of prevention programs in helping urban youth of color avoid the risks of substance abuse, but states that many such programs are ineffective. The authors offer an alternative program strategy that places diversity with respect to culture, class, and environment at the center of prevention efforts.

3. Teens and technology: Preparing for the future 41
Georgia Hall

This chapter looks at the integration of technology skill building into youth development experiences with consideration of gender and race differences in technology access and utilization along with challenges that at-risk teens face.

4. First Things First: A framework for successful secondary school reform 53
James P. Connell, Adena M. Klem

The chapter introduces First Things First, a school reform framework grounded in research about how young people develop and how schools promote students' engagement and learning in the process.

5. Three high school after-school initiatives: Lessons learned 67
Sarah Barr, Jennifer Birmingham, Jennifer Fornal, Rachel Klein, Sam Piba

This chapter reviews the insights and lessons learned from three after-school initiatives focused on the needs of high school youth.

6. Young people and social action: Youth participation in the United Kingdom and United States 81
Joan Arches, Jennie Fleming

Two youth projects in the United Kingdom and United States demonstrate the use of social action as a program approach to encourage youth participation and civic engagement.

7. Workforce development for older youth 91
David E. Brown, Mala B. Thakur

Experts in the workforce development field share insights into effective strategies to facilitate older youth's transitions to the workforce and highlight the supports youth need for successful adulthood, citizenship, and career pursuits.

8. Going the distance: Serving the needs of older youth at scale 105
Mark Ouellette

This chapter explores the rationale for creating and implementing communitywide approaches for supporting older youth in their transitions to adulthood and offers recommendations for planning and action.

9. Supporting older youth: What's policy got to do with it? 117
Nicole Yohalem, Alicia Wilson-Ahlstrom, Thaddeus Ferber, Elizabeth Gaines

This chapter highlights policy innovations related to teens' out-of-school-time activities and then focuses on three principles that support the full range of older youth's unique developmental, social, and economic needs.