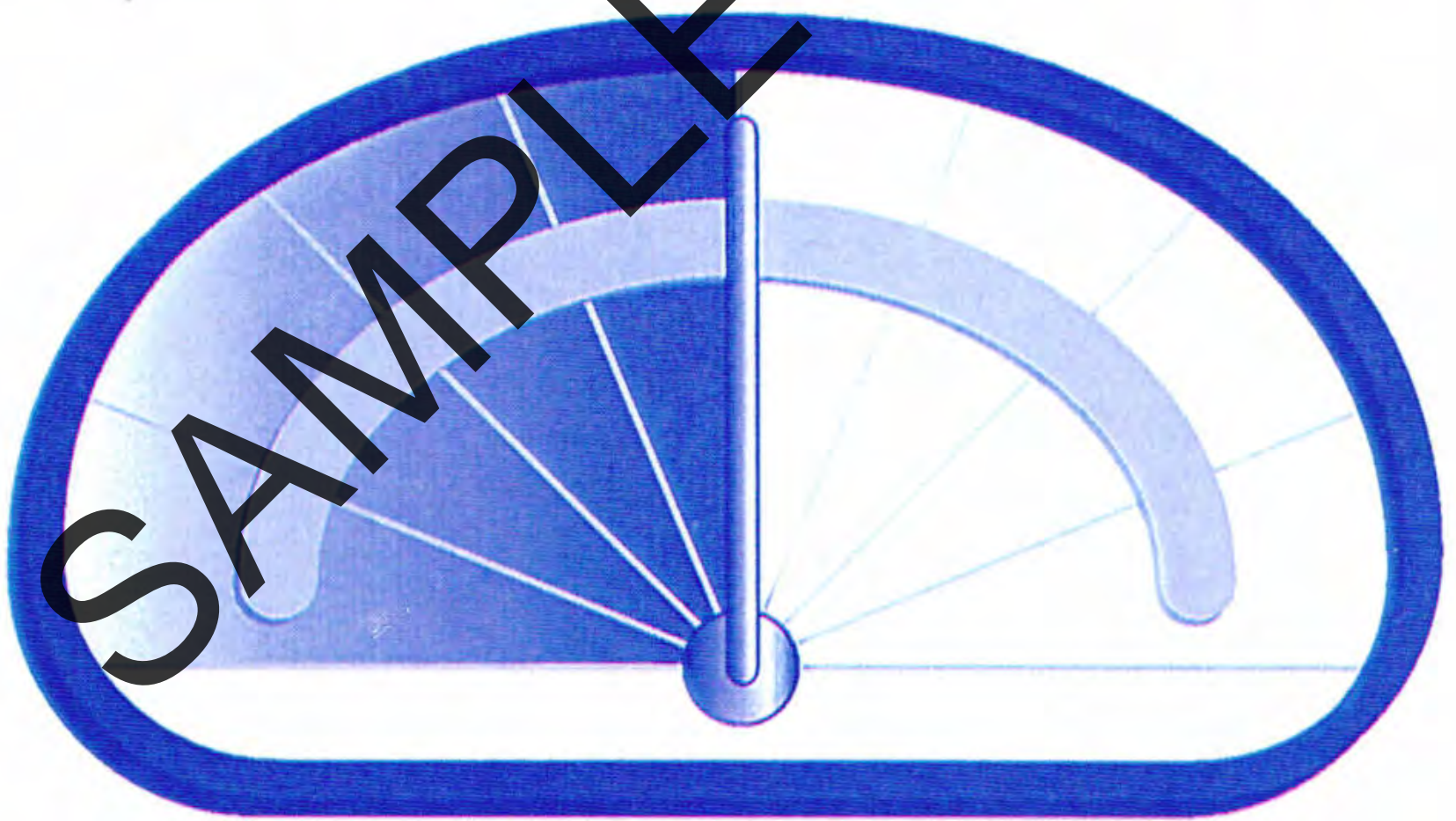


A  
Guided Tour  
of Youth  
Development



*Second Edition*

# Dear Friend:

1998

Please join us on an exciting tour. On this tour, you will see some new sights and some familiar ones. You will experience fresh ideas and invigorating concepts. You will make that great leap between theory and practice. And you will end up in a beautiful place – a place where youth grow into healthy, caring and responsible adults.

This is a tour of youth development. We will guide you through a youth development program, pointing out the hidden treasures – caring and trusting relationships, engaging activities, and many others. This is no ordinary tour. You will see things that are supported by years of research and have been developed through a formal and in-depth process called Networks for Youth Development.

Since the original publication of this booklet, we have field tested the best practices named here through peer assessments. We analyzed the results of these assessments and revised this Tour Guide.

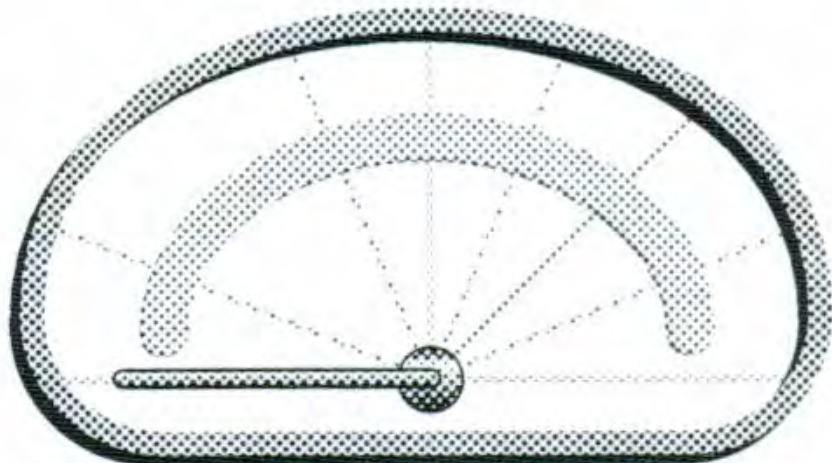
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Organizational  
Structure

that is Supportive  
of Youth

Development

**SAMPLE PAGES**



## 1 Supportive mission and leadership

- Mission statement of organization (and/or the appropriate unit of the organization) supports youth development
- Staff is knowledgeable about mission statement
- Board of Directors includes at least one member with knowledge of or experience in youth development
- Board of Directors has a presence at agency functions/events of youth programs
- The organization's budget, and/or appropriate unit of organization's budget, is reflective of youth development mission:
  - ✓ mix of funding sources,
  - ✓ continuity of funding streams.

## 2 Open Communication

- Information about changes (in program, funding, etc.) and about why those changes occur flows throughout the agency
- There is opportunity for staff dialogue built into the organization

### ③ Emphasis on staff development

- The organization supports training at all levels and is committed to implementing what is learned at the trainings
- Physical environment and facility is supportive of staff development
- Staffing patterns support and reflect the mission of the organization, i.e., status of full-time/part-time workers, caseload sizes, etc.

### ④ Appropriate linkages to community and field

- The organization does advocacy work in policy, funding and practice in youth development and related issues
- The organization reaches and serves the number of youth targeted