

POWER OF YOUTH CHARTER

[Your organisation] believes that all children and young people should be empowered to make a positive difference on the issues that affect their lives, their communities and broader society. We therefore adopt this Charter, committing to growing the power of youth in the following areas:

WE WILL...



PRIORITISE SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE TO TAKE SOCIAL ACTION

We will create opportunities that empower more young people, particularly from low-income and ethnic minority backgrounds, to be positive changemakers

EXAMPLES:

- Incorporate youth social action into your organisational strategy
- Focus on creating more youth social action opportunities through your funding programmes
- Incorporate youth social action into our training or curriculum programmes

WHAT WILL YOUR ORGANISATION DO?

Youth social action is built into one of our core Network goals. We will continue to ensure young people have opportunities to be empowered, active citizens, not only in their local communities but on a national level. Within our Network we will provide opportunities and training for young people to become young leaders in Youth Zones and be positive changemakers within OnSide.



OPEN UP OUR DECISION-MAKING STRUCTURES

We will offer opportunities for young people, particularly from low-income and ethnic minority backgrounds, to participate in decision-making, leading and shaping both the activities they are involved in and wider organisational decisions

- Recruit young trustees under 25
- Set-up a youth advisory group or shadow youth board
- Involve young people in grant-making or recruitment panels

We will provide opportunities for young people to input and shape the development of new Youth Zones through Young People's Development Groups. We will involve young people in the recruitment process for young people facing roles. We will continue to work to ensure young people have meaningful roles in decision-making and governance across our Network.

ORK COLLABORATIVELY WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

We will work collaboratively with other organisations to create more high-quality opportunities, reach young people from low-income and ethnic minority backgrounds to take part, share learning and achieve shared goals

- Work with schools, colleges and youth groups to reach more young people
- Work with funding organisations to create more opportunities
- Create resources that support others to empower young people

We will work with a wide range of community partners to maximise our reach and ensure all those who would benefit most in our catchment areas have access to high quality opportunities. Furthermore we will seek opportunities for young people to collaborate with their peers across the OnSide Network on local or national social action projects.

VIDENCE THE BENEFITS OF YOUTH SOCIAL ACTION

We will capture and share insights, stories and data on how we are working with young people, and the positive impact this has on them, their communities and our organisation

- Report your progress annually through the Power of Youth Index
- Incorporate evidence into your annual reviews and evaluation reports
- Focus gathering evidence on community impact

We will share impact stories about social action activities in our evaluation reports and through the impact section on our website.

ECOGNISE AND CELEBRATE YOUNG PEOPLE'S IMPACT

We will use our communication channels to advocate for and celebrate young people as positive and powerful changemakers.

- Create opportunities for young people to takeover your communication channels
- Give young people a platform at your meetings and events
- Give young people awards, eg. 'Young Volunteer of the Year'

We will use our communications channels to actively share stories of young people and their impact, ensuring that young people have ownership of their narrative and are equipped to tell their stories in their own words. We will ensure that young people's involvement in events and activities is always meaningful, and that it provides them with positive opportunities to learn and grow.