

# Action for Youth Development: Intergenerational Issues

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Dr. Elizabeth Larkin

University of South Florida

# Barriers to civic engagement

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- Youth may resist participating in programs or initiatives where older adults are perceived as constraining their autonomy.
  - Age-segregated services and media images are not presenting older adults as allies for youth to achieve successful independence.
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# Principles of Intergenerational Programming

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- ❑ Benefits must be mutual for youth and older adults
  - ❑ Leadership must offer a clear vision and achievable goals
  - ❑ Partnerships must include participants in planning
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# Elements of success

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- Resources are used to connect generations through interagency collaborations.
  - Infrastructure supports interdisciplinary professionalism.
  - The outcome is satisfying interdependent relationships.
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# Objective 1

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- Change the perception of “intergenerational” programs as one age group being “in service” to another (dependency model).
  - Promote programs that support the maintenance of autonomy for all ages through meaningful roles.
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# Objective 2

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- Blur institutional boundaries so that services, funding and professional preparation are no longer targeting segregated age groups.
  
  - Support inter-agency collaboration.
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# Objective 3

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- Shape more positive perceptions of youth and aging through various media.
  - Disseminate successful intergenerational program models.
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