After its first two years of piloting and discovery, the 2015 CO9to25 Youth Summit will seek to deepen its relevance to youth systems work and youth serving organizations in Colorado. In 2014 the summit found its niche by redirecting from an informational conference to an interactive day of skill building using the arts and creative techniques. Moving forward, we will guide the summit and the skill it promotes to be more relevant and utilized by the audience stated above. Below, find an overview of goals and strategies for the next 2 years as well as a proposal for the structure of organizational and individual involvement in the planning process.

**2015-2016 Goals**

- Increase the foundational skills of youth in the state of Colorado to be contributors and self-advocates.
- Arm adults working with youth in the state of Colorado with tools to develop and practice these skills with youth they serve.
- Increase the number of organizations engaging youth in their practice of business in accordance with Positive Youth Development standards.

**Overview (Proposal)**

Now that the Co9to25 summit has discovered its relevance in the building of foundational skills for youth, the Summit Action Team creating it will expand its purview. The focus of the action team will be to identify 4 key master foundational skills and break each master skill into 3 specific practices. For example, last year, the skill of confidence was broken down into confidence in one’s self, in working with others and in speaking out. The Summit Action Team will plan for the 2015 summit and for an additional engagement of the skill focused on at the summit. These engagements may include micro trainings for individual organizations, social media, toolkits and member-created media. In addition, the planning team will increase to a year-round youth team dedicated to the task of delivering, promoting and assessing the use and increase of the skill among member organizations. It may be the case that the summit becomes an opportunity for participants to not only learn the skill identified for that year, but practice facilitating that skill so that they can take it into their areas of influence for continuation.

This evolved design increases the relevance and resource of the Colorado 9to25 network while supporting the individual areas of excellence that all network members contribute in serving youth.
Summit Planning Leadership Action Team

This is a core group of 6-8 high school age youth accepted by application and paid a stipend for their work. They are recruited in the spring and facilitated/coordinated by Kaiser Permanente’s Arts Integrated Resources. They begin their intensive one-year commitment to the project by participating in summer internship sessions and meeting monthly September-June. This groups is tasked with designing and implementing the summit and the year’s engagement of the foundational skill. They operate under the decisions and guidance of the Convening Partner Advisory Team, but are the group primarily accountable to carry out the work. SPLAT attends the Convening Partner Advisory Team meetings in order to create seamless planning and implementation and promote youth and adult partnership.

Logistics and Partnership Team

This is a team of adults organized by CO9to25 GPS who have secured dedicated FTE from their organizations to implement the summit. This team also includes the contracted event planner for the summit. This team has the ability to dedicate multiple work-week hours to the logistics and partnership building required to implement the summit and the promotion of the skills throughout the year. This team will engage and secure agreements from new and existing partners and sponsors for the project and execute logistical tasks such as venue and vendor procurement.

Convening Partner Advisory Team

The Convening Partner Advisory Team is made up of youth and adults. Adult members represent state agencies, non-profits and business sector organizations who commit to the summit and the year of skill building. Participation is open and does not require an application, but does require a commitment. Adult Convening Partners agree to leverage their networks to promote input, interface, attendance and feedback at the summit and throughout the year in the engagement of the foundational skills. Convening partners engage in eight monthly advisory meetings during the year contributing ideas, guidance and decision making to SPLAT. When possible, Convening Partners may make a contribution to the summit’s annual budget. Convening Partner Advisory Team members are welcome to work with SPLAT on action items, but are not required to do so to be involved. Adult members are encouraged to recruit a youth from their organization to join them on this team and attend meetings. Youth attending CPAT meetings will be given a gift card for their time. This team will make high-level decisions about the design of the skill building strategy for the year and for the day of the summit. SPLAT is always a part of Convening Partner Advisory meetings.
2015-2016 Strategies and Tactics

In order to promote Positive Youth Development and build momentum for the implementation of the foundational skills in member organizations, the Summit Action Team will adopt the following objectives for 2015-2016:

- Increase attendance at the CO9to25 Youth Summit by 20%, and increase attendance of out-of-metro participants by 20% over 2014
- Survey CO9to25 member organizations and community stakeholders to identify 4-5 foundational master skills
- Add the following partners to the Convening Partner Advisory Team
  - 1 state agency
  - 1 for-profit/local business organization
  - 1 out-of-metro convening partner
- Increase Convening Partner and sponsor funding to make up 50% of the 2015 operating budget
- Reach 50 youth and/or adults with a secondary engagement of the year’s chosen foundational skill
- Increase summit attendance cost to $20 per person and secure sponsorships to provide full scholarships to 50% of attendees
- Increase the number of youth engaged by organizations in their practice of business in accordance with Positive Youth Development standards by 5 people age 9-25 (this could include internships, advisory enrollment or the creation of a new group).

2015 Timeline of Tactics

March/April

Convene existing partners and youth to adopt or edit this proposal and develop a timeline for 2015 with agreements of accountability. (Summit Action team)

Determine proposed skill for 2015 through formal and informal surveying of network members (CPAT)

May

Release promotional teasers about the skill focus for the 2015 event

Create and distribute recruitment materials for 2015-2016 SPLAT (SPLAT)

Gather input from CPAT and other CO9to25 network members about best ways to engage skill beyond the summit (SPLAT)

June/July

Secure sponsors in preparation for marketing in August (LPT)

Design the summit day and gather necessary presenters, facilitators etc. (SPLAT/LPT)

Interview and onboard new SPLAT members

Implement marketing for the summit (SAT)

Develop a scholarship and travel stipend request process and distribute (LPT+SPLAT)
September
Market Registration
Award Scholarships and Travel
Design secondary skill engagement

October
Final summit preparations
SUMMIT!

November
Summit analysis
Plan and gather information for the complete list (4-5) of foundational skills
Plan deployment of secondary skill engagement

December
Plan timeline for 2016

January
Market the total concept for the CO9to25 Skill Building Resource (including the summit) and the foundational skills
Develop a PYD promotional campaign, presentation or toolkit for potential new partners and businesses to promote including youth in business practices