



ACTION FOR HEALTHY  
COMMUNITIES

# Action for Healthy Communities

Identifying and addressing the needs of  
Syrian families

[www.a4hc.ca](http://www.a4hc.ca)

# Overview

- ❑ A brief introduction of Action for Healthy Communities
- ❑ Immigrant Youth program
- ❑ Syrian youth program
- ❑ Strategies and Models
- ❑ Youth Initiative Model

# Action for Healthy Communities

## Capacity Building of Individuals and Communities

- Community Capacities Program
- Settlement & Integration Supports
- Employment Supports
- Entrepreneurship Training and Mentorship
- Adult Literacy & Skills Training (English Language learning, Computer training, Numeracy and Essential/Life Skills)
- Healthy Children & Youth/Family Supports -New immigrant Youth Camp program

# New Immigrant & Refugee Youth Camp

**Since 2007**

- Summer Camp
- In-school program
- Spring Camp
- After school program
- Youth program in community

# Strategies & Program component of Immigrant Youth program at AHC

- Information & Resources
- Cultural competency
- Skills development
- Self awareness & Positive ethnic identity
- Active Citizenship
- Community Connection
- Holistic health
- Career planning

# Identified challenges of Syrian Immigrant Youth

- ❑ PTSD
- ❑ Illiteracy
- ❑ Work readiness and employment need
- ❑ Social engagement
- ❑ Financial needs
- ❑ Mental health needs
- ❑ Health care access
- ❑ Education needs

# Syrian Refugee Crisis

Edmonton Children and Youth sector  
identified the following areas as priority for  
support in 2016

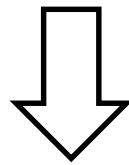
SWIS program

Summer programs

After school hour program

AHC Syrian youth support program  
started in 2016

- ▶ AHC Model : Capacity Building
- ▶ Strengths-based approach



**Youth Club activities**



## Strength based approach

AHC uses a strengths-based approach that recognizes participants' skills/contributions in effecting change in their lives. AHC's community development model strongly focuses on working with, versus for communities; engaging stakeholders in identifying, developing and enhancing community strengths to address needs/issues.

# Community Development

- ▶ Proactive Citizen – People work together – Clubs
- ▶ Leadership and skills development – Skill development of youth – Leadership building
- ▶ Community Action – Aware of need, plan and take action – Youth Talk
- ▶ Staying connected – Connection between youth

# Syrian Refugee Youth Program

- ❑ **Youth Club activities:** Talk club, Soccer club, Basketball, Film. Making, Theater club etc.
- ❑ **Ready to Work:** Employability readiness support
- ❑ **Leadership training:** Multicultural Leadership training with community participation
- ❑ **Learning Table:** Academic support, Homework help and learning skills

# Soccer



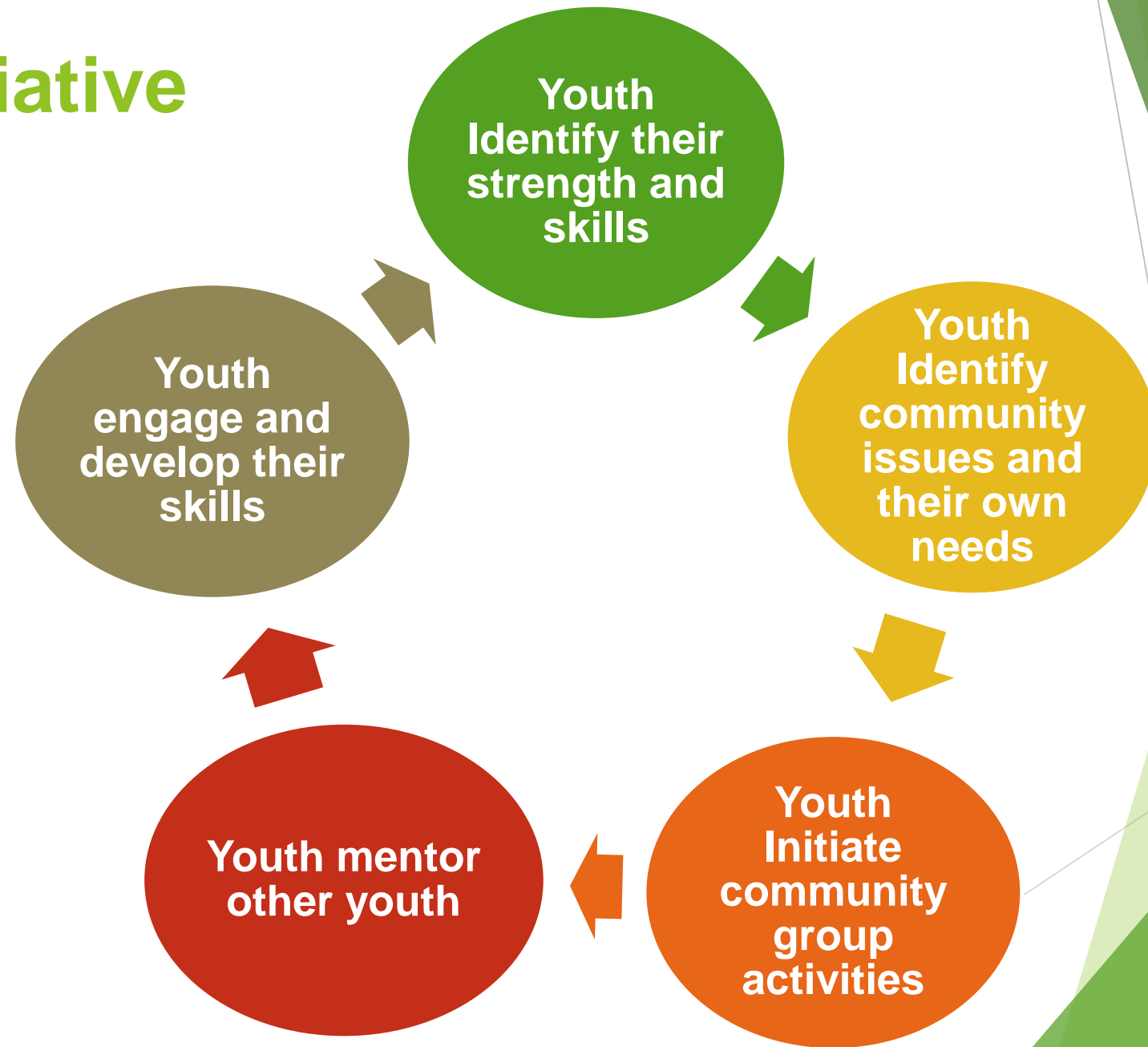
# Youth Talk club



# Ready to Work



# Youth Initiative Model





# ACTION FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

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