



youth affairs network qld

Youth Work – Community of Practice 2024



Following from the success of hosting pilot projects in the past two years, we are excited to announce that the Department of Child Safety, Seniors and Disability Services has funded YANQ to continue hosting the Youth Work Community of Practice in 2024.

This is a unique opportunity for youth workers to join a state-wide online Community of Practice (CoP) to explore practice frameworks that help improve ethical and effective youth work provision.

A CoP is a group of people who share a common concern, a set of problems, or an interest in a topic, who come together to fulfill both individual and group goals. CoPs facilitate the sharing of best practice and creation of new knowledge to advance a domain of professional practice. This Youth Work CoP will operate as a group of peers who share a concern or passion for their work with young people, and a thirst for learning. All participants will be committed to working and learning about youth work within a context of equity, respect, anti-racist and anti-oppressive practices.

“Sharing knowledge, learning new skills and perspectives. Getting a deeper understanding of systemic impacts to practice. Reconnecting with like-minded peers that is supportive and developmental”. 2023 CoP participant

We are calling for expressions of interest for youth workers to join the CoP. Please follow this [CoP Registration Form link](#) to register your interest. Following your registration, we will send you a brief survey to find out your priority learning areas and topics of interest. After collating and analysing this information, we will invite critical thinkers with expertise from both theory and practice to be our guest speakers during the CoP sessions.

"I'm a baby youth worker, and have learned so much from these conversations with you more experienced ones." 2023 CoP participant

Our expert guest speakers will be supported by a highly experienced support team drawing on practice-based, theoretically informed knowledge, and experienced youth workers who are currently in positions which bring them into contact with vulnerable young people.

After presentations by expert guest speakers there will be a Q&A session followed by small and large group discussion which will focus on practical ways to integrate your new learning in the workplace.

The CoP will:

- facilitate practical and hands-on learning to support youth workers with knowledge and tools to critically analyse key issues, and to explore creative and transformative practices to use in their daily work that support and strengthen young people's wellbeing.
- act as a support structure for the members of the group so they can ask questions, share practice wisdom, and turn their newly acquired knowledge and experience into concrete learning and actions.
- operate flexibly and employ a range of learning platforms including Zoom, Padlet, a private Facebook Group, Google Docs and Podcasts will ensure the participants find the best medium that suits their learning needs.
- Operate via 9 x 2 hour online sessions during 2024.

If you are interested in joining the CoP in 2024, follow this CoP Registration form link and answer a few simple questions: <https://forms.gle/VEWZNRAdMtkAiGMn7>

The sessions for the first half of the year will be held on Zoom from 10am till 12pm on the second Tuesday of the month starting in April:

- April 9th
- May 14th
- June 11th

The dates and times for the second half of the year sessions will be announced in June.



Community of Practice is an initiative of Youth Affairs Network of Queensland (YANQ) and has received funding support from the Department of Child Safety, Seniors and Disability Services.