

CHAPTERS

Chapters describe a group of committed young people and at least one adult ally working together. Chapters provide Skill Development, Opportunities, and Outreach through ongoing partnerships at local sites.

Chapter Sites

Chapters provide FNL programs with interactive opportunities to promote youth-led ideas and youth decision-making. Within a chapter, groups can take part in real community change that extends beyond the “chapter walls,” beyond the school or site, and into the community at large. In a chapter, youth experience a sense of belonging to something larger than themselves and establish meaningful connections with their peers and adults. Local chapter sites can be housed at a variety of place, such as:

- Schools
- Community Centers
- Churches
- Juvenile Facilities
- Recreation Centers
- Youth Councils
- Mentoring Programs
- Youth Action Groups
- Foster/Group Homes

How are **CHAPTERS** linked to **CFNLP’s Standards of Practice?**

Within each chapter, youth and their adult allies strive to:

SOP Connection	OUTCOME	PRACTICE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an emotionally, culturally and physically safe environment... 	...by recognizing the diversity of members, establishing group agreements for operations, and engaging groups members in developing group norms, agreements and structures that ensure safety and respect for <i>all</i> types of youth.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make it possible for youth to contribute to their communities and to know about resources and services that are available and accessible to them... 	...by promoting other organizations’ services and events and by helping youth seek out information that they need or that they are interested in.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather input from young people about chapter events, action plans, and policies... 	...by preparing youth to be chapter leaders and planners, and by implementing formal and informal “feedback” gathering activities (focus groups, interviews, suggestion cards, etc.).
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide opportunities for youth to gain new skills that are designed and based on what they are interested in... 	...by involving youth in identifying individual and group skill development goals and by giving youth chances to <i>LEARN BY DOING</i> skills that they are interested in.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish meaningful and caring relationships among youth and with adults... 	...by being a place where relationships are given time to grow and where adults and youth know each other well, understand what motivates each other, and honor what each person contributes to the chapter.

Youth, Advisor, and Coordinator Roles

FNL programs are composed of **partnerships** between young people, adult advisors and county coordinators. Every project is a team effort between these three players and every success is a shared one. The relationships between the three team “members” is **dynamic** and **interactive**, with support and benefit flowing from each and to each; each role supports the others and contributes to the team’s overall success. The figures below seek to provide *examples* of the roles played by youth, advisors and coordinators in **CHAPTER** operations.

