

FACTSHEET

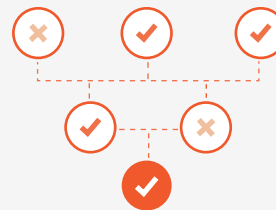
MODEL FOR A YOUTH-CENTERED APPROACH TO DECISION-MAKING

The Model for Practical Application of the Youth-Centered Approach* understands youth work as a **string of decisions a youth worker makes that shape real-life situations.**

The model comprises **four actions** that enable youth workers to reflect on decisions, minimize biases, and ensure that their work centres young people, ultimately fostering better youth outcomes.

01. Map decisions.

Carefully making *weighted decisions* involves considering the pros and cons while keeping the components of a youth-centered approach in mind.



02. Analyze the noise.

Noise includes the unwanted inconsistencies that can emerge from repeated decisions – and that can lead to errors in decision-making. Understanding and reducing *noise* is essential for making better, more balanced decisions that centre youth.

03. Analyze the youth-centeredness of decisions.

This analysis can support refining approaches to better support young people.



04. Identify shortcomings and make changes.

Maintaining a “menu of choice” – a list of simple, ready-to-use approaches to address issues, identify shortcomings, and re-centre youth – enables the implementation of quick, straightforward solutions when there isn’t time for planning or decision-making.

*Rämmer, A., Kivimäe, A., Kötsi, K., & Žuravljova, M. (2023). Youth-centred research-based model— An innovative tool in youth work. *Youth*, 3(3), 1004–1012.