What is YPAR? Researcher vs. Research Subject
What is YPAR?

**Youth**

- is youth-led, youth-informed, and youth-driven
- understands youth have important information to share about their experiences
- looks at youth as *co-researchers* instead of research ‘subjects’

**Participatory**

- works *with* youth to answer research questions
- includes shared decision-making so youth’s experiences are considered
- focuses on youth and adults working collaboratively (both are experts)

**Action**

- focuses on using what is learned from research to ‘take action’ (make changes)
- includes recommendations to make sure everyone is treated fairly and justly
- tries to build solutions that will continue to work for a long time

**Research**

- is a process with multiple steps that are sometimes repeated
- is a type of research that focuses on everyone feeling heard, seen, and valued
- gives youth any training needed to feel ready and skilled to do research activities
- focuses on learning information that will make a real difference in youth’s lives
Who are youth research subjects?

- Youth are observed and evaluated by adults to answer research questions.
- Youth are not actively involved in the research process.
- Adults hold the power and make all the decisions during the research process.
- Adults are considered the experts.

Who are youth researchers?

- Youth work with adults to answer research questions.
- Youth researchers are active during each step and/or multiple steps of the research process.
- Youth share power and decision-making during the research process.
- Adults and youth are considered experts.