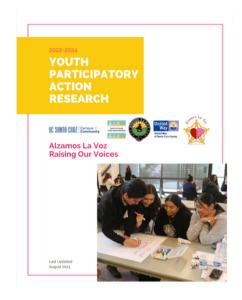
# **Youth Participatory Action Research**

2023-2024

## WHAT IS Y-PAR? Y-PAR + CISER Approach

Youth Participatory Action Research trains young people to conduct research to improve the community and informs solutions to problems that are important to young people. Y-PAR centers youth's voices and experiences to empower them to learn and apply research to solve issues in their community. Similarly, the Community-Initiated Student-Engaged Research (CISER) approach offers creative ways to engage the community. The framework for both Y-PAR and CISER research models uphold the concept of valuing cultural capital and community contexts.





### Read Our 2022-2023 Report

https://tinyurl.com/yparreport

#### **OUR GOALS**



Increase access to youth leadership skills



Increase meaningful participation for youth within Santa Cruz County



Increase authentic youth engagement and youth informing community-level decision-making



Increase youth knowledge of research methodologies/data indicators



Increase opportunities and resources for higher education



Increase youth voice and perspective to shift cultures of stigma around mental health



Increase youth understanding of mental wellness resources/frameworks



Increase peer to peer connections and protective factors

### 22/23 Recruitment

The Santa Cruz County Youth Action Network & Jóvenes Sanos is partnering with UC Santa Cruz to recruit Youth to participate in a second cohort of our Youth Participatory Action Research (Y-PAR)!

We are seeking 60 middle school & high school youth from throughout the County to support research on community mental health.

#### Youth will:

- Work with their peers to find solutions to problems surrounding their community
- Become advocates for mental health & share findings to improve mental wellbeing in their community
- Work alongside UC Santa Cruz Professors & Students

Applications due by September 8, 2023. https://tinyurl.com/raisingourvoice









