

	<u>Most of the Time</u>	<u>Some of the Time</u>	<u>Beginning to Occur</u>	<u>Not at All</u>	<u>NA</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
<b>1. Network Purpose/ Mission</b>						
a. Network has a clearly articulated purpose and a clear set of policy objectives members have agreed on.						
b. Progress towards policy objectives is continuously reviewed with goals and strategies adjusted as needed based on circumstances.						
c. Network participation offers “value” for member organizations that can’t be obtained alone						
<b>2. Network Management</b>						
a. A process or system exists to make decisions and resolve conflicts among network members.						
b. There is a clear meeting schedule with agendas prepared in advance, and meetings serve to advance the goals of the network.						
c. Network is engaging the right set of organizations and members to achieve its goals.						
d. Network supports and enables communication between network participants, allowing for collaboration and information sharing.						
e. Network provides leaders of membership organizations and affected constituents (e.g. youth, parents, youth serving orgs.) with opportunities for leadership development.						
f. Network has the designated staffing capacity or resources sufficient to manage its operations and move its agenda forward from one meeting to the next.						
g. Network utilizes technological infrastructure (e-mail, web-based tools, etc.) to engage relevant constituencies.						
<b>3. Network Advocacy Capacity</b>						
<i>Issue or Campaign Development</i>						
a. Network has prioritized an issue or set of issues they are trying to address.						
b. Network has identified a solution(s) to address this issue.						
c. Network has formulated a set of advocacy strategies to accomplish the public policy changes they are seeking.						

<sup>1</sup> This tool was created through a collaboration of CEK Strategies, Community Matters and the Public Policy Institute for use by the Youth Policy Initiative. The tool builds upon and draws from “Real Clout,” a handbook for community activists engaged in coalition building and policy changed, produced by Judy Meredith of the Public Policy Institute.

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<i>Research &amp; Data:</i>						
d. Network uses data to identify and understand the policy problem or solution on which it is focused.						
e. Network uses data to make the case for change.						
<i>Message Development &amp; Media:</i>						
f. Network creates materials (electronic or written) that clearly and persuasively articulate the network's core message.						
g. Network has a capable media spokesperson(s).						
h. Network strategically uses press-releases, op-eds and other materials to obtain media coverage on their activities and issues.						
<i>Policy Action (e.g. legislative, program, regulatory, etc.)</i>						
i. Network understands the policy-making process and the steps needed to achieve what they are seeking.						
j. Network knows which policymakers they must reach to achieve their policy goals.						
k. Network has access to and is building relationships with the policy makers they need to work with to achieve their goals.						
l. Network actively creates "hero opportunities" <sup>2</sup> for their allies and potential allies.						
<i>Grassroots mobilization</i>						
m. Network is able to recruit, educate and mobilize affected constituents to share stories and support the network's efforts.						
n. Network is able to connect affected constituents with relevant decision makers (e.g. legislators, agency leaders, civic leaders, etc.)						
o. Network directly engages youth in policy action, strategy development and leadership.						

**Key Priorities for Our Network (list 3 – e.g. 1a, 2c, ...)**


<sup>2</sup> A Hero Opportunity as defined by "Real Clout" is a compelling problem or crisis that provides policymakers with public occasions to propose and champion a solution that brings a measurable difference in the lives of a critical mass of constituents (www.realclout.org).