

CHC Worst Case Scenario 7: CHC appointees believe that younger generations aren't interested in local history. What recommendations would you give to this group to improve their perspective and develop connections with the younger generations in the county?

**For our purposes, "younger" will be 18 years of age and under.*

Best CHC Outcome Scenario 7: To dispel misunderstandings and bad opinions in order to embrace opportunities for the CHC to educate younger audiences and encourage their participation in CHC activities.

GROUP PARTICIPANTS

1. Marie Bassett	Hays County H.C.
2. Bart Wales	Refugio County H.C.
3. Dennis Engelke	Caldwell County
4. Bruce A. Hamilton	Jefferson County H.C.
5. Marianne Wells	Collin County H.C.
6. Sharon Whitaker	City of Round Rock H.P.C.
7. Joe Boudreaux	Grimes County HC
8. Gregory Walker	Fayette County HC

1. Gather information — *What information do we need before taking action?*

- What youth opportunities are already there, and which have had a track record of success? (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc.) [What do these activities look like? Why are some reasons that they are popular?]
- What partnerships currently exist that provide youth programming? What programs?
- What youth programming have you offered? What partners helped you provide this programming?
- Identify targeted programs that youth would respond to. [Make sure you ask age group or people who currently have children that age or teach children that age to ensure that your programs are age-appropriate.]
- Examine your own bylaws/policies to see if there is anything that would prohibit/encourage involvement with K-12 level (look for language that refers to adult audiences exclusively). Think of what this language could look like in a best case scenario, consult education-minded folks to drive this.

2. Consider relationships — *What to keep in mind to maintain respectful relationships?*

- You're never "too young to appreciate history," so figure out the appropriate ways to connect to different age groups—not how you want to but how they prefer to participate.
- Map out potential partnerships and contacts that can contribute to your success or you to theirs.

3. Make a plan — *What actions should be taken to accomplish best case outcome?*

1. Consult with county on interaction with K-12 students. [Verify if background checks are needed.]
 2. Identify 'hands-on' opportunities for education in your area
 - You as a CHC, have an understanding what makes your area special from a historical point of view, so tying that unique history to an activity can bolster the staying power of that lesson over time.
 - Ex: creating a map around your area and interpreting the historical resources you could visit/use in programming.
 3. Approval of 'governance' in your county to do a project finding education-minded folks.
 - Mapping out who needs to be consulted in your organization before moving forward.
 - Piggy-backing on existing programs as a sponsor to get your feet wet.
 4. Identify ways to connect to youth leaders, teachers, PTA, homeschool organizations.
 - What roadblocks might you encounter? Have a plan to address these challenges.
 5. Identify an 'insider' in the organization you want to partnership with, who can pull the levers of access, knows kids, and who to talk to.
 - Asking a school leader (an all-star teacher) who knows the kids and has led this kind of programming before
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