WHAT IS F.Y.R.E.?

The F.Y.R.E. Initiative is YW Boston’s leadership and empowerment program for middle school girls in the Greater Boston area. The program’s 12 to 15-week curriculum incorporates social justice education, positive identity development, and civic engagement. Each weekly session is designed to promote dialogue and experiential learning to cultivate empathy and increase social emotional learning.

The F.Y.R.E. Initiative takes place in schools or during Out of School Time programs. F.Y.R.E. is developed to operate in a “girls group” structure rather than a traditional classroom structure. At the end of the program, participants will present a community action project at the F.Y.R.E. Symposium and have the opportunity to engage with other youth leaders from across Greater Boston.

WANT TO BRING F.Y.R.E. TO YOUR SCHOOL OR OUT OF SCHOOL TIME PROGRAM?

To learn more about participation, contact TiElla Grimes at tgrimes@ywboston.org or visit ywboston.org/fyre for more information.

YW Boston Gender Inclusion Statement:

We use girl as a term to include anyone, including transgender, non-binary, and gender non-conforming people, whose key gender identity, experience and internal perception on the spectrum of gender, is woman or girl.
WHAT CAN F.Y.R.E. IGNITERS ACCOMPLISH?

• Utilize critical thinking to assess racial and gender inequities in the city of Boston

• Learn about historical and current movements for racial and gender equity

• Increase their capacity to engage in advocacy and policy change and lead others to act on issues important to them

• Build sense of self, empowerment, and resilience by controlling their lives and making an impact in their community

• Identify community needs and assets, and build problem solving skills in identifying solutions

• Understand how identities intersect and are impacted by systems of power

• Utilize reflection, empathy, and conflict resolution to work across differences to resolve broader institutional issues

CURRICULUM OUTLINE

Section 1: Learn
Week 1: Introduction & Norms
Week 2: Personal Power: Self Esteem & Self Advocacy
Week 3: Identity: Race & Gender
Week 4: Healthy Relationships
Week 5: Conflict Resolution
Week 6: Collective Power
Weeks 7 & 8: Unpacking Racism & Sexism

Section 2: Plan
Week 9: Community Assessment
Week 10: Selecting an Issue
Week 11: Researching Issue, Conduct Power Analysis

Section 3: Act
Week 12: Identifying Tactics, Project Development
Week 13: Plan
Week 14: Symposium preparation
Week 15: Reflection

READY TO GET F.Y.R.E.’D UP?

To learn more about YW Boston’s F.Y.R.E. Initiative, inquire about program participation or become a F.Y.R.E. sponsor, please contact TiElla Grimes at tgrimes@ywboston.org or visit ywboston.org/fyre.