

eliminating racism
empowering women

yw
boston



F.Y.R.E. INITIATIVE

Fierce Youth Reigniting Excellence

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 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. Sessions can be facilitated in-person or remotely.

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

The F.Y.R.E. Initiative consists of seventeen 1-hour sessions.

Section I: Learn

- Session 0: Information Gathering
- Session 1: Introduction & Community Norms
- Session 2: Personal Power: Self Esteem & Self Advocacy
- Session 3: Identity: Race & Gender Intersectionality
- Session 4: Healthy Relationships
- Session 5: Conflict Resolution
- Session 6: Collective Power
- Session 7 & 8: Unpacking Racism & Sexism

Section II: Plan

- Session 9: Community Assessment
- Session 10: Selecting a Community Issue & Root Cause Analysis
- Session 11: Researching & Understanding the Issue
- Session 12: Conducting the Power Analysis

Section III: Act

- Session 13: Identifying Tactics & Project Development
- Session 14: Symposium Preparation
- Session 15: Reflection
- Session 16: Program Review & Discussion

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.



@ywboston www.ywboston.org