

A Maturing Field

- A profession operates from a body of knowledge, theory of action, and a repertoire of behaviors and skills
- Becoming increasingly clear about what those are in the youth development field
- The more we know about “what works” the more we can focus on quality standards
- Field is dynamic and fluid in nature



National Learning Priorities



Personal Responsibility

- Field grows through scholarship
- Scholarship results from *innovations* which are *validated* and *communicated*
- Practitioner must know and apply the field
- Scholar must grow and represent the field
- Why are you engaged in scholarly activity?
- Better practice, programs, and policies



National Learning Priorities



Selection of Metrics

- What single piece of knowledge would solidify your confidence in your program?
- Does my program subscribe to what is known?
- Does my program incorporate an innovation that transforms the field?
- Managing external demands for information



National Learning Priorities



Assessing Actual Impact

- Program may be of high quality and high dosage but has ***little reach***
- Program may have broad reach but is of ***poor quality***, high dosage may be detrimental
- Program may have broad reach and be of high quality but limited ***dosage***
- How can we influence practice in the field?



National Learning Priorities

