

Executive Summary

Increased Learner Engagement: Strategies for Education Credential Attainment

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Moderator(s): [Toni Wilson](#)

Speaker(s): Jason Marshall, Michael Deragon, Michael Anderson

YouthBuild programs are always seeking to adopt teaching strategies that are engaging and relevant to YouthBuild participants. The youth served in this program are vulnerable learners with complex needs. The critical hope is that the teaching strategies used lead to positive student outcomes such as attaining a high school diploma or high school equivalency credential. YouthBuild educators must use continual assessment and reassessment to determine whether or not their academic content and teaching styles are sufficient to create a learning environment that is accessible to all learners. Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and Problem-Based Learning (PBL) are two strategies that have been shared with the YouthBuild field within the last three years with the goal of engaging and empowering learners so that they can successfully attain academic credentials.

UDL is an approach that creates flexibility in learning to adapt to individuals' learning differences. Problem-Based Learning presents students with a real-world problem and open-ended questions with many possible solutions in order to provide a place for authentic application of content and skills.

Jason Marshall of YouthBuild USA, Michael Deragon of YouthBuild Providence, and Michael Anderson of YouthBuild Omaha share their experiences learning and implementing Universal Design for Learning and Problem-Based Learning in YouthBuild to better connect with the non-traditional students served by the program and improved educational outcomes.

Run of Show

JASON MARSHALL: YouthBuild USA	2:30
• Engage and Empower Video	4:10
• The WHY	11:04
• PBL & UDL in YBUSA learning spaces	14:26
• UDL at a glance-video	16:09
MICHAEL ANDERSON: Experience with UDL	23:08
• Brief career history & Teacher Fellow work	24:10
• UDL implementation and Strategies	29:30
• Performance Measure Gains & other results	34:15
• Benefits of Gains	36:45
MICHAEL DERAGON: Student Engagement through Problem-Based Learning	40:50
• How did we get there?	43:33
• What did we find out?	44:07
• Getting Started	45:15
• Challenges	49:15
• The Results	53:11
Breakout Room Discussion Report-Outs	55:29
Resources	1:01:48