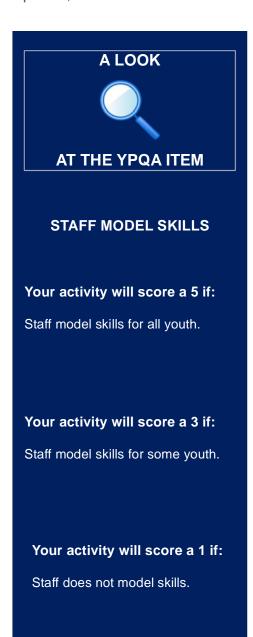# QUALITY TIPS FOR QUALITY PROGRAMS
YPQA HELPFUL HINTS

Quality Tips for Quality Programs (QTQP) is a series of short tips created by the Youth Development Advisory Committee (YDAC) for YEN programs to consider. YPQA Helpful Hints are designed to help programs score better on the Youth Program Quality Assessment (YPQA) one item at a time.

April 14, 2017

A LOOK

AT THE YPQA ITEM

STAFF MODEL SKILLS

Your activity will score a 5 if:

Staff model skills for all youth.

Your activity will score a 3 if:

Staff model skills for some youth.

Your activity will score a 1 if:

Staff does not model skills.

STAFF MODEL SKILLS

This is the third item on the "skill-building" scale found under the Supportive Environment domain. This item involves **showing, not just telling** youth how to do something. Staff sometimes assume that if they explain how to do an activity or task, youth will understand; however, when staff demonstrates how it is done, youth will be more likely be able to repeat the process or steps correctly. Staff modeling skills does not necessarily mean that each and every step needs to be demonstrated. At times, only one tricky step might need to be modeled.

DOS and DON'TS to score a 5 almost every time:

Do

• Include how you will model for youth in your lesson or activity plans.

• Model new skills for youth. For example, if the youth are learning how to draw a self-portrait for the first time, they might benefit from modeling. In subsequent sessions, these same skills might not be needed, but youth might benefit from learning an additional way to do the same task.

• Model a variety of tasks, such as how to behave on an interview, set up an excel spreadsheet, conduct a science experiment, calculate a budget, do a jump-shoot, create an ice sculpture, etc.

Don't assume that this item is about being a role model for youth. Adults are role models for youth at all time, but this item is about demonstrating skills for youth.

For questions or more information on these YPQA Helpful Hints, contact Project RISE's Associate Director of Youth Development, Dr. Diana Lores, at dlores@nova.edu.