

RYSE: Youth Empowered



RYSE creates safe spaces grounded in social justice that build youth power for young people to love, learn, educate, heal and transform the lives and communities.



RYSE is a:

- ✓ Home
- ✓ Center
- ✓ 'Beloved Community'
- ✓ Movement
- ✓ *RYSE Commons...coming soon!*

RYSE provides:

- Sanctuary and safe space
- Opportunities to connect, heal, learn, and lead
- Programs in Community Health, Youth Leadership, Media, Arts & Culture, Education & Justice
- Trauma response and triage



Conditions and Context of Our Work

- Relentless focus on individual behavioral change and glaring avoidance of structural change.
- Dominant PH frames pose BIPOC as problems while actively avoiding white supremacy and pathologies of whiteness.
- BIPOC's compliance does not guarantee safety, livelihood, or even life.
- The science of trauma is catching up to BIPOC's pain and fortitude.
- For BIPOC, resilience is our baseline, not our benchmark.





Truths of our youth...

"Realizing institutions don't work for you, but against you, is the first step to healing your community."

"We know we can't run the city- it's too complex- but our experience and our voices should count, especially because we're the most effected."

"Healing looks like education. If people understood their privilege and how their actions can deeply affect someone, I think that it would help a lot of people who are struggling with these issues."

RYSE as liberatory public health



Grounded in...

Ecological Model of Health

SDOH and Health Disparities/Inequities

Conventional social science models of program design and evaluation

Cross-sector collaboration and coordination

Resource cultivation and sustainability

Growing towards...

Interacting Layers of Liberation and Healing

Structural Conditions of (Dis)ease and Liberation

Radical inquiry: proximate, responsive, adaptive; tender in our relationships, strident in our values

Beloved community; Truth, Reckoning, Reconciliation

Reparations, redistribution of risk and resources

Interacting Layers of Trauma and Healing

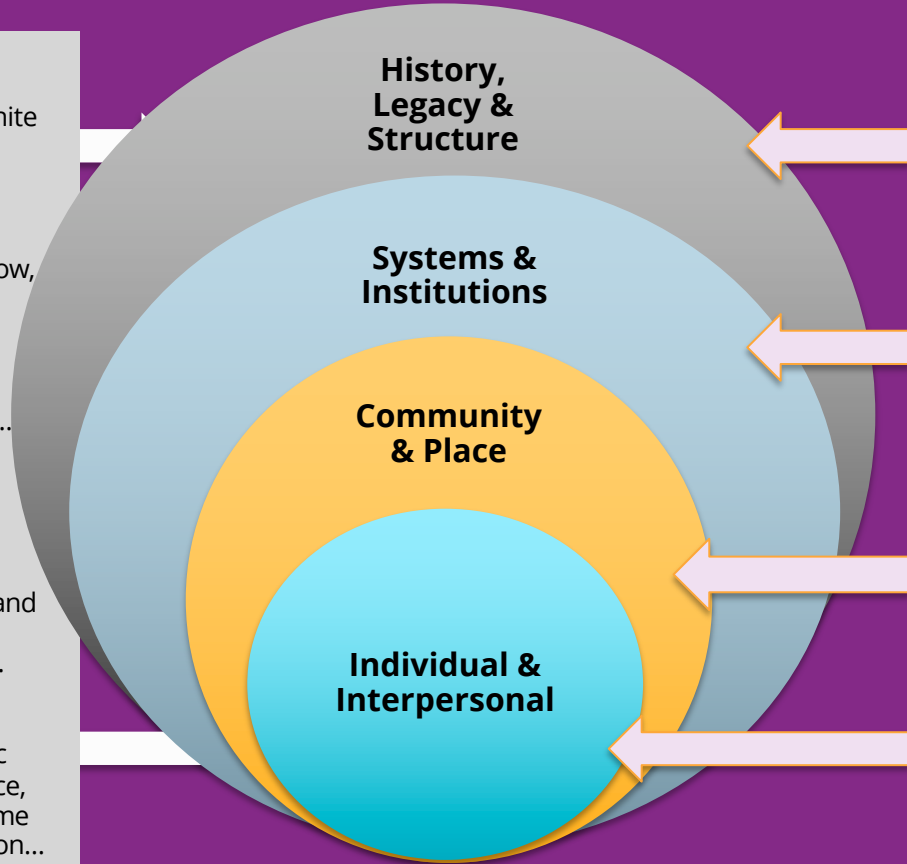
Dehumanization and Distress

Nation Building by Enslavement, Genocide, Colonization, Economic Exploitation, Resource Extraction, White Supremacy, Patriarchy...

Systemic Subjugation of BIPOC by Interacting Policies & Systems: (Capitalism): Broken Treaties, Jim Crow, War on Drugs, Mass Incarceration, Criminalization of Poverty & Survival, Anti-Immigrant/Imperialist Policies, Redlining and Gentrification, Climate Violence, Harmful Media Narratives ...

Atmospheric Distress that includes Interpersonal, Family, Community Violence & Exposure; Sexual Exploitation/Gender Violence, Displacement, Lack of Safe Passage and Spaces; Lack of Green Spaces, Underinvestment, Oversurveillance...

Embodiment and Expression of Distress through Personal Traumatic Experiences; Bullying/Gender Violence, Family Systems Stressors, ACEs, Shame and Blame, Generational Transmission...



Liberation and Healing

Collective Liberation by Truth & Reconciliation, Reparations, Redistribution, Open Borders/No Borders, Multi-racial Solidarity, Gender Justice, Just Transitions...

Lead with Love and Justice by Healing-Centered & Restorative Practices, Listening Campaigns, Collective Care, Identity Affirming, Adaptive, Responsive, and Proximate, Land and Power-sharing (Nothing about us without us)...

Build Beloved Community by Radical Inquiry, Popular Education and Culture Building, Celebration and Affirmation; Healing Spaces, Land Acknowledgement, Arts & Expression, Base & Power-Building...

Honor Resilience and Fortitude by Listening & Validating, Processing/Integrating Personal Traumatic Experiences, Family Healing, Tailored Supports & Opportunities, Loving Connections To Each Other and The Land; Loving, Predictable Structure...

RYSE's Theory of Liberation

Systems Are Transformed

- No policy, investment, practice about young people of color without young people of color.
- Systems, both in policy and praxis, are responsive to the priorities and needs of young people as defined by young people.
- Systems takeover by next generation leaders committed to a platform for liberation in which cultural work and race are central.

Young People Feel Loved

- Young people have emotional, physical, political safety to acquire tools, skills, and resources they need to understand and change inequities.
- Young people construct their own narrative and those of their communities.
- Young people feel loved.

We lead with love and rage, build power, take risks, center creativity & healing, conduct radical inquiry

Beloved Community

engaging members, staff, stakeholders

We acknowledge white supremacy, anti-Blackness, and intersecting forms of oppression

We prioritize relationships

We lead with love and rage

We take risks

We stop to acknowledge grief and loss



Beloved Community

engaging members, staff, stakeholders



We practice and invest in collective care

We encourage and invest in self-care

We honor resilience AND resistance

We celebrate and have fun

We keep learning

RYSE
CENTER