

Invitation for Expressions of Interest to join the YEF's Race Equity Data Collection Panel

Race Equity in YEF's research and evaluation

As a research organisation, we have a duty to make sure that we fund projects that build evidence on how we can reduce racial disproportionality across public services. You can find out more about our race equity commitments [here](#) and review the first published report on our progress [here](#). We also need to make sure that our evaluations improve our understanding of what works for children from Black, Asian and other minority backgrounds.

A key challenge in achieving this goal is that research teams are often predominantly White. This means that there's a lack of lived experience of racism, which affects the design and delivery of evaluations and other kinds of research. We would like to mitigate this and are [committed to investing in improving the cultural competency of the researchers we work with.](#)

We are keen to identify teams and organisations who can support us in going a step further, and who specialise in conducting research with and collecting data from children and young people from racialised communities in the UK.

YEF's approach to evaluating outcomes

[We fund work](#) in England and Wales that aims to prevent children and young people from becoming involved in violence. Our projects support those aged between 10 and 18 years who are either at risk of crime or violence or already affected by violence, offending or exploitation. We are focusing our work on seven [sectors](#), where we see the biggest opportunities to improve support for children and young people at risk of becoming involved in violent crime.

Our projects are mostly either quantitative impact evaluations with individual-level or cluster-randomised controlled trial designs or projects leading up to this type of evaluation (pilot or feasibility studies). YEF evaluations are conducted in a variety of settings and predominantly with children and young people who are at risk of or already involved in crime and violence, including children in care and in secure estates.

YEF wants to find what works to prevent children and young people from becoming involved in violence. To this end, we aim to ensure common measurement of outcomes wherever possible to maximise learning across the fund. We encourage all evaluators on our projects to collect data on offending behaviour and emotional and behavioural difficulties through standardised self-report measures, such as the [Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire](#) and

the [Self-Report Delinquency Scale](#), and any organisation looking to join our data collection panel would need to collect this data, too.

All of our evaluations are published on YEF's website, and the security of the primary impact estimate is rated using YEF's magnifying glasses evidence security system. The main risk to the security of impact findings of YEF-funded evaluations is attrition from the outcome measurement due to children and young people (sometimes schools or families) dropping out of evaluations. **For this reason, YEF is keen to work with organisations that have the capacity and experience collecting high-quality data from children and young people from minority ethnic backgrounds.**

Expression of interest

YEF is inviting expressions of interest to become a member of its Race Equity Data Collection Panel (RE DCP). Members of RE DCP will have the opportunity to work with YEF's panel of evaluators to collect data, as part of YEF's commissioned programme of evaluations.

Members of the RE DCP will be identified on YEF's website with details of the data collection services they can provide. Evaluators will be able to invite members of the RE DCP to bid to provide data collection services for relevant evaluations, where the evaluators do not have the capacity or sufficient race equity competence to deliver the data collection with children from Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic backgrounds themselves. Members of RE DCP will be subcontracted by YEF evaluators (please see Terms and Conditions for RE DCP for more details). Expressions of interest should be no more than 2,500 words. The following criteria will guide the selection of organisations for YEF's RE DCP:

- **Experience collecting primary data** with vulnerable children and young people from Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic backgrounds, either qualitative or using self-report measures (**essential**).
- Experience collecting data as part of an impact evaluation and/or implementation and process evaluation, including the ability to work closely and collaboratively with evaluators and delivery teams (**essential**).
- **Competence in race equity in research is essential** (competence in youth serious violence and offending prevention is desirable).

Please provide the following information in your expression of interest:

- 1) **Prior experience of collecting data from vulnerable children and young people from minority ethnic backgrounds.** This can be qualitative or using self-report measures such as the SDQ and SRDS.

- a) Please indicate the type of data you have prior experience in collecting (where applicable the specific self-reported tests) and give details of the maximum number of children and young people you have collected data from and the time frame.
 - b) Please detail the settings you have collected data in, the maximum number of settings, and the characteristics of the children and young people you have collected data from.
- 2) **Prior experience collecting data as part of an impact evaluation**, although the assessor does not need to be an expert in delivering impact evaluations themselves.
 - 3) Please provide an example of when you collaborated with a programme delivery team and/or a research team on data collection. Describe **your role and how you supported the success of the project, as well as what you think was key to a successful partnership**.
 - 4) Brief details of **any systems or processes** that you have in place to **communicate effectively** with children and young people and, where applicable, their parents/carers and other stakeholders involved (e.g. telephone unit, chat service).
 - 5) Details of any **innovations or strategies** adopted and/or refined by your organisation that would support the collection of high-quality data with good response rates from children and young people for YEF evaluations. Please include any relevant policies in an appendix.
 - 6) The **size, expertise and experience** of your field force and key members of staff who would lead the projects, including recruitment criteria and any training and support that you provide.
 - 7) Details of how your organisation **embeds race equality and equity** in your work.
 - 8) **Any additional data collection, processing or other services** your organisation might be able to provide to support YEF evaluations (e.g. data cleaning, qualitative data collection, conducting community landscape assessments, reporting on how participants self-identify their race or ethnicity).
 - 9) Brief details of **data protection safeguards**, including GDPR training of test administrators.

Next steps

If you are interested in joining the Race Equity Data Collection Panel, please send expressions of interest and contact details of two referees to Stanislava Klymova (stanislava.klymova@youthendowmentfund.org.uk) and Freyja Fischer (freyja.fischer@youthendowmentfund.org.uk) **by 17:00 on the 21 March 2025**.



Successful applicants will be invited to stage two of the recruitment process, which will consist of an interview with the YEF Evaluation Team.

If you have any questions about this opportunity, please contact us at evaluation@youthendowmentfund.org.uk.