



The WE LIP Newcomer Youth Committee has been working on identifying barriers facing newcomer youth in Windsor-Essex and aims to take steps toward mitigating these barriers.

WE LIP council member organizations assisted in promoting and recruiting participants for a newcomer youth engagement event hosted by the WE LIP Newcomer Youth Committee. On August 14, 2017, the youth enjoyed an hour and a half of rock climbing at Windsor Rock Gym, followed by a facilitated discussion and networking opportunity. For many of the youth, the rock climbing wall was symbolic of the challenges and barriers they have faced in their lives; conquering the wall with the support and encouragement of others allowed them to feel a sense of accomplishment and success.

During the discussion period, participants were asked to share their thoughts about the following questions:

1. What are the positives and negatives of living in Windsor and Essex County?
2. What challenges do you or did you face as a newcomer youth in Windsor-Essex?
3. What should our community do to make newcomer youth feel included and welcome?

Responses to the questions will be shared with the committee and incorporated into future goal setting.

