5. Expect to make lots of phone calls and personal contact
Because young people are so often told in this society that they are not important, we as adults will need to make lots of phone calls to personally remind them that meetings are important and that we want them to come. They may not call back. Again, this society is persistent in telling them they are not worthy. Keep calling. Assume that you are wanted. Remember, it is the harshness of the oppression of not being worthy that you are up against, not the young people themselves.

6. Involve their parents
Primarily their parents will not allow them to attend or participate in things you are involved with if they don't feel that it is safe. I encourage you to get to know the parents, answer their questions, and invite them to events and think of them well. Most parents find it most confusing to manage this life stage development of their child.

7. Provide food, transportation and advocacy
In working with teens it is important to provide food, transportation and advocacy for money and resources.

8. Encourage involvement on committees
In an effort to encourage empowerment among teenagers we need to encourage their involvement in organization. Young people should be a central part of any organization whose mission is specifically to assist them. Make sure that young people are general members to committees and boards, not occasional representatives. It is important that we not give toke representation, but at least two, if not more, teen representatives.

9. Get teen input
Ask young people what they think should be done in all situations. Be very careful and resist the temptation to sway the group in the direction that you think it should go. I find this extremely difficult because of our belief system that we have more information than teens and pressures from adult organizations to respond in certain ways. Our role is to negotiate goals and to help facilitate the events that will reflect those goals, while giving teenagers incredible latitude to accomplish them within a certain framework. One of the ways that we can be clear from the beginning is to insist that young people be represented at every meeting where they are being discussed. If a group of teens is making a presentation, it is important that you meet with them ahead of time and get them to share their ideas about the topic. Please remind them how important their thinking is and encourage them to speak during the meeting.