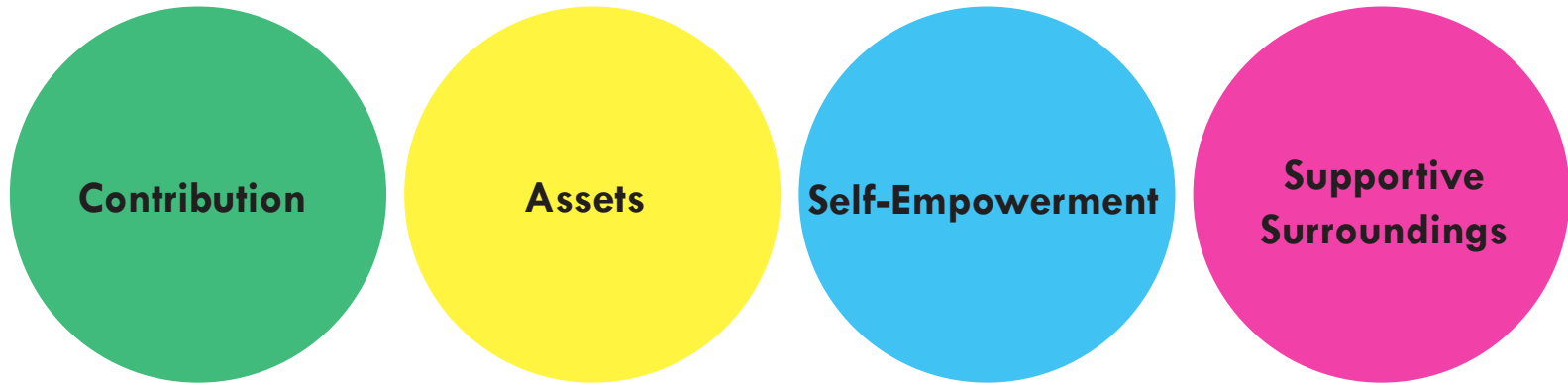


LUK Positive Youth Development Definition

Positive Youth Development (PYD) engages youth along with their families and communities so that youth can realize their full potential. PYD approaches build skills, assets, and competencies; foster healthy relationships; enrich their environments; and transform systems.

Positive Youth Development (PYD) Framework



PYD programs, practices, and policies work with youth to improve their:

- **Contribution:** Youth are engaged as a source of change for their own and for their communities' positive development.
- **Assets:** Youth have the necessary resources, skills, and competencies to achieve desired outcomes.
- **Self-Empowerment:** Youth perceive and have the ability to employ their assets and aspirations to make or influence their own decisions about their lives and set their own goals, as well as to act upon those decisions in order to achieve desired outcomes.
- **Supportive Surroundings:** Youth are surrounded by an equitable environment that develops and supports their assets, self-empowerment/agency, access to services, and opportunities, and strengthens their ability to avoid risks and to stay safe, secure, and be protected and live without fear of violence or retribution. Supportive surroundings encourage and recognize all youth, while promoting their social and emotional competence to thrive.

Lerner's 6 Cs



LUK's understanding of Positive Youth Development also includes Learner's 5 (or 6) Cs:

- **Connection:** A feeling of safety, structure, and belonging; positive bonds with people and social institutions
- **Confidence:** A sense of self-worth and mastery; having a belief in one's capacity to succeed
- **Character:** Taking responsibility; a sense of independence and individuality; connection to principles and values
- **Competence:** The ability to act effectively at school, in social situations, and at work
- **Contribution:** Active participation and leadership in a variety of settings; making a difference
- **Caring:** Sympathy and empathy for others; commitment to social justice