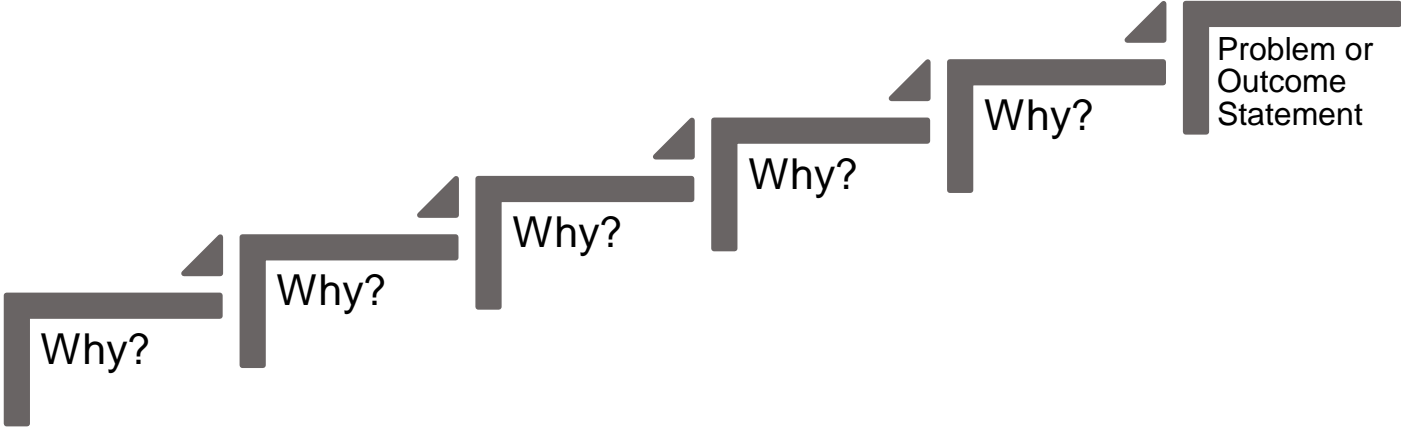


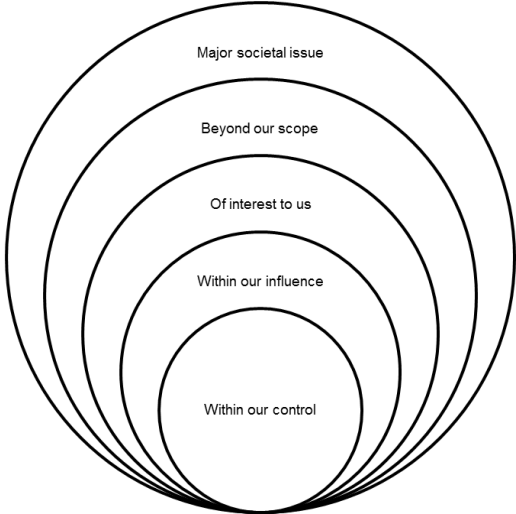
ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS

This data interpretation protocol is designed to help you work backward from data on youth outcomes to uncover root causes. Root causes are the deepest underlying causes of outcomes. If these causes were addressed, outcomes would be different. Root causes are generally systemic in nature, so it is also important to identify the *deepest root cause that falls within your sphere of influence*.

- 1. Use a FIVE WHYS method to track back from an outcome you are seeing to its root cause.¹



- 2. Now think about your SPHERE OF INFLUENCE. Which of the causes above fall within your control? Within your ability to influence? Think of these as *actionable root causes*.



Deepest (farthest left) cause within our control:

Deepest (farthest left) cause within our influence:

- 3. Based on your deepest actionable root cause, write a GOAL or ACTION statement for your program:

¹ Variations of the five whys method are widely used. The idea is typically credited to Sakichi Toyoda of the Toyota Motor Corporation

