Youth Forum
2.0
Meeting 2
February 16, 2023
Convening Partners
Youth and Young Adult Experience Survey

Respondent group: youth and young adults (ages 16-29) who live and/or work in Santa Clara County.

- Outreach efforts targeted to youth connected to forum participant organizations
- Respondents earned $20 (e-gift card)

Our Goal was to reach 100-200 young people - then use data to help form recommendations to leaders and policymakers about how to improve services and create more opportunities for young people in our community.
Who took the survey

247 young people shared substantive data through the survey

106 responses were from students in the Extended Opportunity Program & Services (EOPS) program at Mission College

Other groups/organizations with 4-20 responses:

- Bill Wilson Drop-In Center*
- Covenant House
- Escuela Popular*
- Justice Ed
- Pivotal
- Razing the Bar*
- Resilience Corps EDU
- SCC Intern & Earn
- Shine Together*
- SJ Works
- SJCCCS*
- The HUB (DFCS)*
- Youth Action Board (OSH)*
- Youth Advisory Council (FLY)*
- Youth Liberation Movement*

*participated in focus groups
Who took the survey

Average age: **21.3**

Median age: **20.5**

**50** zip codes were represented

Top 10 Zip Codes:

1. 95112
2. 95051
3. 95050
4. 95116
5. 95112
6. 95133
7. 95122
8. 95035
9. 95111
10. 95126
Who took the survey

Top Responses

- Hispanic/Latina/o/x: 56.9% (140)
- Caucasian/White: 13.0% (32)
- Black/African Descent: 12.2% (30)
- Vietnamese: 7.7% (19)
- Filipina/o/x: 6.9% (17)
- Native American or Indigenous: 5.7% (14)

What is your racial/ethnic background?

246 responses
Who took the survey

**Top Responses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I consider myself low income</td>
<td>63.0%</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I struggle with my mental health</td>
<td>49.1%</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am/will be (or would be) the first person in my family to go to college</td>
<td>39.1%</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am or have previously been homeless</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am or have been in the foster care system</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I was born outside of the United States</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*230 Responses*
Who took the survey

65.7% of respondents (151 of 230) identified with more than one of the statements on the previous slide.

Many of the statements (e.g., “I consider myself low income”) relate to barriers/challenges for youth as they navigate education and workforce systems.
Who took the survey

Top Responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In community college</td>
<td>46.31%</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In high school</td>
<td>21.72%</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not attending school - I have a high school diploma or equivalency</td>
<td>11.07%</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In four-year college/university</td>
<td>7.38%</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Who participated in focus groups

YLM senior leaders facilitated 9 focus groups between Jan 23 and Feb 3:

- Bill Wilson Drop-In Center
- Escuela Popular
- Razing the Bar
- Shine Together
- SJCCCS
- The HUB (DFCS)
- Youth Action Board (OSH)
- Youth Advisory Council (FLY)
- Youth Liberation Movement
Illustrative Quotes

“If I didn’t have to work as much I could focus on school.”

“Why do I have to go into poverty to get out of poverty.”

“Growing up where we did, we don’t have the luxury to take a bunch of classes and try different majors.”

“I want to go to college but I don't feel like I'm going to be supported by the adults in the system.”

“Having a mentor [would make it easier to achieve goals], I’m helping others achieve their goals I need someone to help me with mine.”
Results Build on 2021 Youth-led Focus Groups

In August 2021, as a part of the first Youth Forum, the Youth Liberation Movement hosted 6 focus groups. The top three issues that surfaced were:

1. Housing
2. Mental health
3. Quality of programs and services

The weight of not having stable housing is exhausting and impacts mental health.
Then, when youth seek services, they are not getting the help they need.
“San Jose: The No. 1 U.S. city in youth homelessness”