Year-Round Youth Development and Empowerment

The Year-Round Youth Development and Empowerment programs funded by OFCY help youth develop leadership skills, contribute to their community, and build friendships while engaging in the arts, technology, entrepreneurship, and sports. In addition to providing enrichment activities, usually in an afterschool setting, programs allow youth to build relationships with adults and mentors. Many of these programs also specifically support specific populations, including foster youth, youth exposed to violence, homeless youth and LGBTQ youth.

Year-Round Youth Development and Empowerment at a Glance

$3,465,544

Invested

9,336

Youth Served

35

Programs

120

Sites

Alameda Family Services - DreamCatcher Youth Services
Alternatives in Action - Life - AIAHS - McClymonds
American Indian Child Resource Center - Culture Keepers
Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN) - AYPAL: Building API Community Power
Attitudinal Healing Connection, Inc. - West Oakland Legacy & Leadership Project
Bay Area Girls' Rock Camp - Girls Rock After School Program and Girls Rock Summer Camp
Bay Area Outreach & Recreation Program - Sports & Recreation for Youth with Disabilities
Boys & Girls Clubs of Oakland - Educational Programs for the Youth of Oakland
Brothers on the Rise - Brothers, UNITE!
Center for Media Change, Inc. - Hack the Hood Bootcamp
Chapter 510 INK - Dept. of Make Believe
College Track - College Track Oakland
Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice - Homies 4 Justice
Community Works West Inc - Project WHAT
Dimensions Dance Theater, Inc. - Rites of Passage
East Bay Asian Local Development Corporation - Lion's Pride
East Oakland Boxing Association - SmartMoves Education and Enrichment Program
East Oakland Youth Development Center - After School Leadership Academy
First Place for Youth - First Steps Community Resource Center
Fresh Lifelines for Youth, Inc - FLY Leadership Program
Health Initiatives for Youth (HIFY) - Youth Development and Empowerment
La Clinica de La Raza, Inc - Youth Brigade
Music is Extraordinary, Inc. - Preparatory Studies in Music
Native American Health Center, Inc. - Community Wellness Department Youth Services
Oakland Kids First - REAL HARD Youth Leadership
Oakland Leaf Foundation - Love Cultivating Schoolyards
Oakland Parks and Recreation - Oakland Discovery Centers
Oakland Public Education Fund - Media Enterprise Alliance
Project Re-Connect Inc. - Family Connections/Leaders Connect
Refugee Transitions - Newcomer Community Engagement Program
Safe Passages - Get Active
Teen Success, INC - Support Teen Mothers Program
Youth Alive - Teens on Target Youth Leadership
Youth Speaks, Inc. - Arts in Education
Youth UpRising - Queer & Allies Initiative
Participants

During FY2016-2017, 9,336 children and youth participated in Year-Round Youth Development and Empowerment programs. Key demographic findings are displayed in Exhibit 2 below.

Exhibit 2: Year-Round Youth Development and Empowerment Participants

Children and youth came from across Oakland, with the largest proportion coming from the Fruitvale District.

A racially diverse group of children and youth participated in this strategy. Compared to OUSD, these programs served a larger proportion of African American students.

While programs served children and youth from age five to twenty, over half of participants fell between the ages of 13 and 18.
Services

On average, participants in Year-Round Youth Development and Empowerment programs received 69 hours of service. Because programs varied in duration from several weeks to year-long, the number of hours youth participated in programs ranged widely, as shown in Exhibit 4.

Exhibit 3: Services Received by Year-Round Youth Development and Empowerment Participants

Youth participated in a wide range of activities, spending the most time in academic and youth leadership activities.

Elementary-aged children spent the most time in programming and were more likely to participate in academic activities. High-school aged youth were more likely to participate in leadership and civic engagement.

The amount of time youth spent in programming varied, with about 20% receiving more than 120 hours of service and one-third participating for less than ten hours.

Sampling of Year-Round Youth Development and Empowerment Activities

**Academic:**
- Tutoring
- STEM programs
- English classes

Example: Newcomer Community Engagement Program provided home-based tutoring and supplemental summer classes to newcomers.

**Art/Culture:**
- Music
- Media arts
- Woodworking
- Urban arts

Example: Girls aged 8-18 learned an instrument, formed a band, wrote an original song, and performed at Bay Area Girls Rock Camp.

**Leadership & Civic Engagement:**
- Facilitating classes & activities
- Peer tutoring
- Youth-led events
- Community revitalization projects

Example: Youth at Homies4Justice organized a reclaiming Cinco de Mayo block party to promote solidarity across different races.
Outcomes

Children and youth survey results reveal participants’ assessments of their progress towards youth development and empowerment outcomes. The results, shown in Exhibit 4, indicate that Year-Round Youth Development and Empowerment programs successfully supported youth in these areas.

Exhibit 4: Percent of Youth Agreeing to Questions tied to Youth Development and Empowerment Outcomes

**Youth Development Outcomes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Agreement Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development and Mastery of Skills</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased Confidence and Self-Esteem</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Connections to Caring Adults</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved Decision-Making and Goal Setting</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

88% reported they try new things in the program.

86% reported that the adults in the program tell them what they do well.

85% reported that they feel like they belong at the program.

**Youth Empowerment Outcomes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>High School</th>
<th>Middle School</th>
<th>Elementary School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increased Knowledge of and Engagement in Community</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased Sense of Empowerment and Agency</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased Leadership Capacity</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased Risk Avoidance and Conflict Resolution</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

86% reported that adults in the program listen to what they have to say.

79% reported that they feel they can make more of a difference since coming to the program.

79% reported that they are more aware of what is going on in the community since coming to the program.

Older youth reported strong progress in youth empowerment outcomes. These outcomes encompass higher-level developmental tasks, such as community engagement, leadership, and conflict resolution. Many programs prioritized engaging youth in the community to build self-confidence and a sense of empowerment. Youth led community service activities, engaged in advocacy around issues that affect them, organized community events, and mentored younger youth.

88% reported they try new things in the program.

86% reported that the adults in the program tell them what they do well.

85% reported that they feel like they belong at the program.