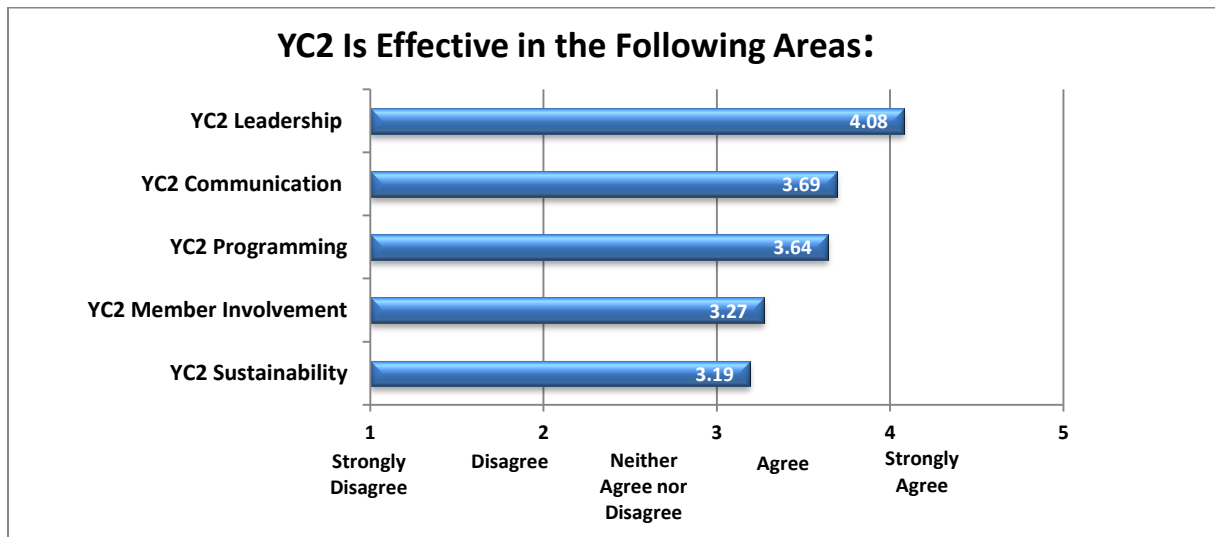




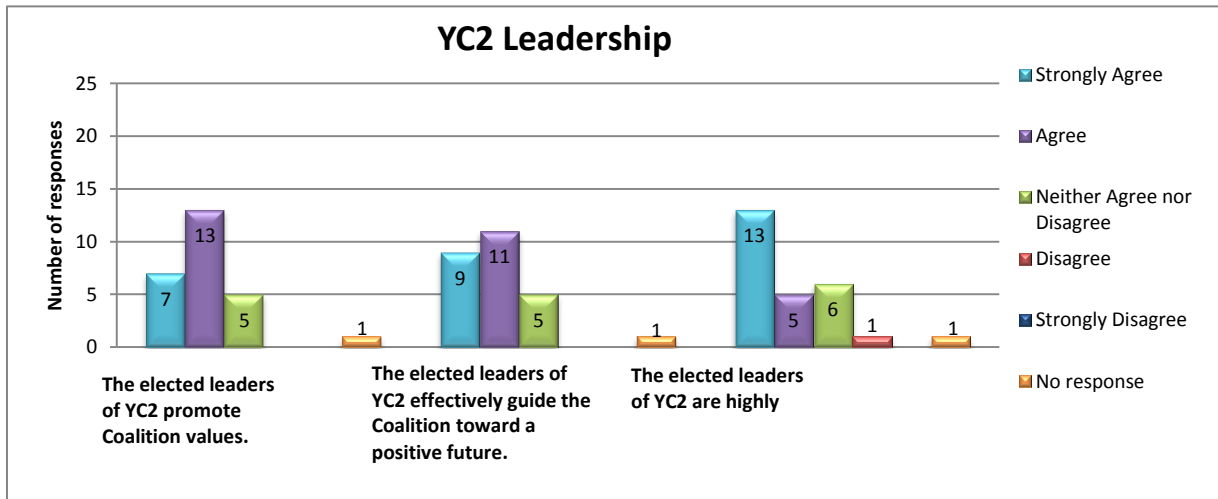
2014 Youth Community Coalition Assessment

The Youth Community Coalition (YC2), in conjunction with the Institute of Public Policy at the University of Missouri, conducted a web-based survey of 82 Coalition members to assess the benefits gained from YC2 membership and to identify opportunities for improvement. Members were asked about the leadership, communication, programming, member involvement and sustainability of YC2, and to provide comments to help clarify their responses. Members also were asked which of the “40 Developmental Assets” their organization supports through its work with youth in the community. Of the 82 surveyed, 26 members (32%) responded. A complete record of survey responses can be found in Appendix A.

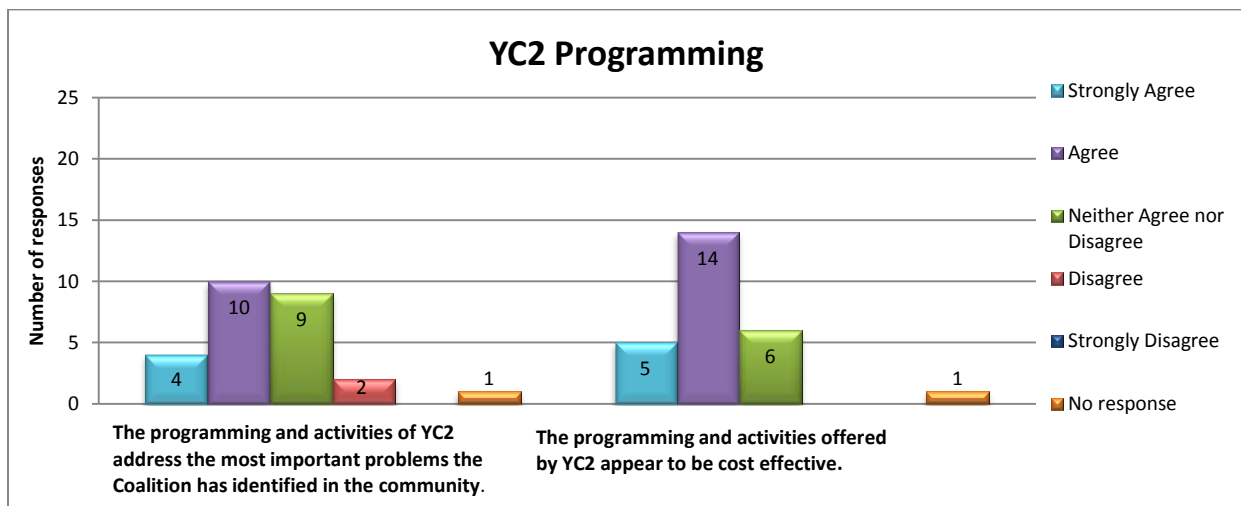
Members were asked to respond to sixteen positive statements about the Coalition using a five-point scale from “strongly disagree” (0) to “strongly agree” (5). Survey responses indicate that most Coalition members approve of Coalition leadership, its communication with members and the public, and its current programming efforts. Fewer agreed that they understood their individual role on the Coalition, or that the Coalition’s efforts were sustainable going forward.



When asked to evaluate their experiences with the YC2 Executive Board (the elected leaders of the Coalition), 80% of respondents agreed that YC2 leadership promotes Coalition values and is guiding the Coalition toward a positive future, while 70% agreed that YC2 leaders are highly trustworthy. One respondent commented that the Coalition “seems to be playing a bigger role in advocacy which is easier for the coalition than for individual agencies. That is good.”



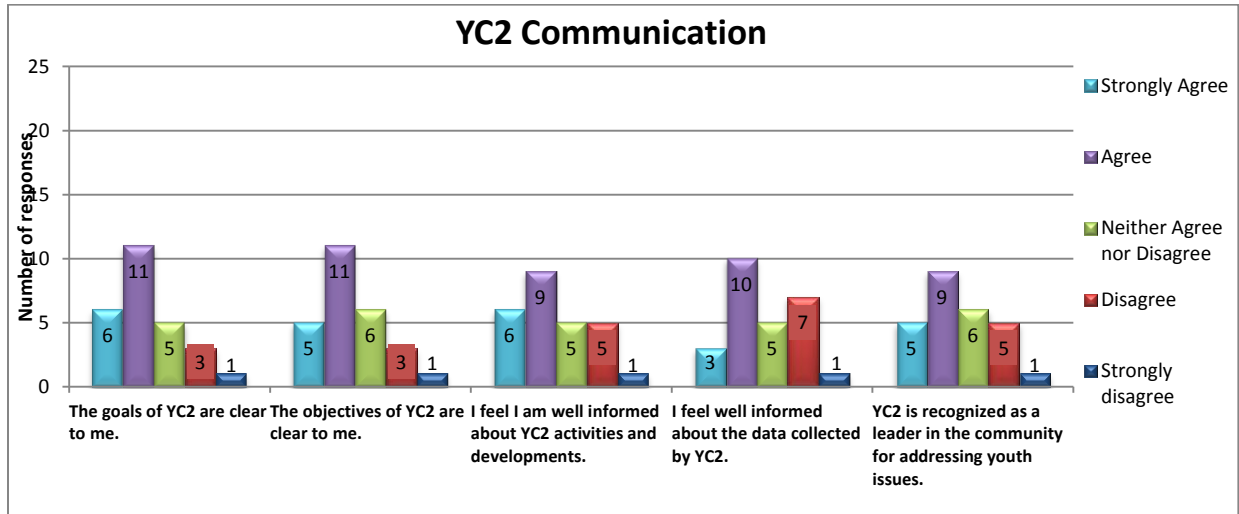
Although responses were generally positive, Coalition members were slightly less enthusiastic about YC2 programming. While 73% agreed that YC2 programming and activities are cost effective, only 54% agreed that the programming offered by YC2 addresses the most important problems the Coalition has identified in the community. One respondent who did not have a favorable opinion of YC2’s programming commented that YC2 activities “need to be performed on a face to face, Coalition to public basis.” Another noted that “activities seem to center around current issues...the strategic plan doesn’t seem to provide direction or information about the purpose of the Coalition.” These responses suggest that, moving forward, Coalition leaders should consider clarifying the strategic plan and including more member input regarding programming and activities.



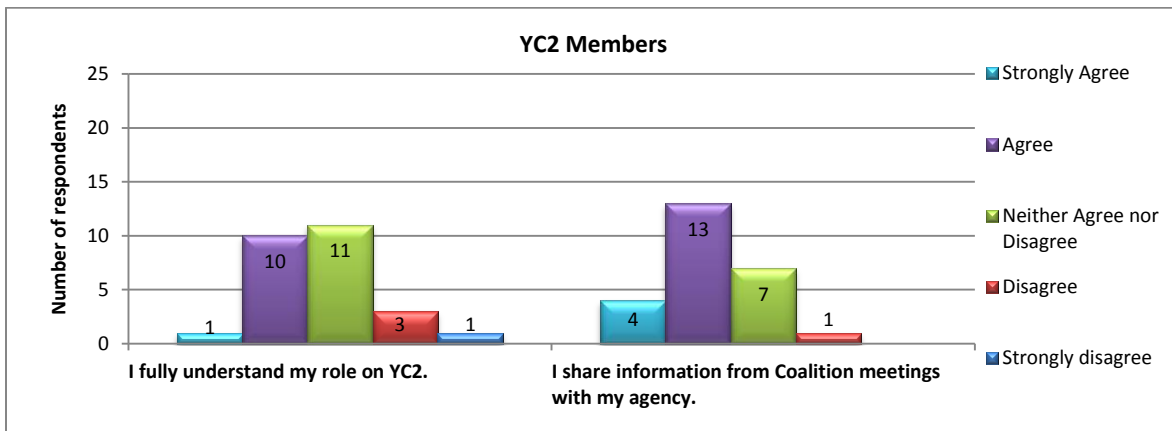
Members were more divided over how well the Coalition communicates its goals and objectives. While most agreed that the goals of YC2 and the objectives of YC2 are clear to them (69% and 62%, respectively), only 58% felt they were well informed about YC2 activities, and 54% agreed



that YC2 is recognized as a leader in the community for addressing youth issues. Only half of respondents felt well informed about the data collected by YC2. Members expressed concern that “people who would like to align with us don’t know who we are and what we do,” and that “beyond Coalition members, people don’t know what YC2 is or what it does.” Coalition leaders should consider the ways that they communicate the organization’s goals, objectives and activities, both to members and the public, as an opportunity for improvement.

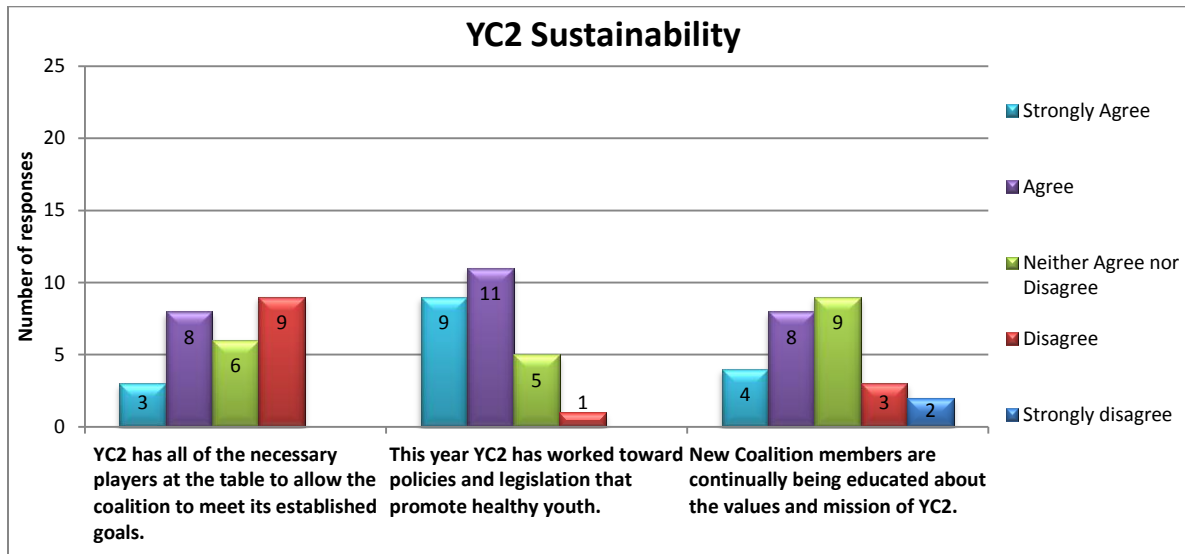


In addition to evaluating the Coalition’s leadership, each member was asked to assess her or his role within YC2. Most respondents (65%) indicated that they do share information from Coalition meetings with their agencies. However, only 11 members (42%) agreed that they understand her/his role in the Coalition. The finding that many members do not understand how their organizations and representatives fit into the mission of YC2 speaks again to the need for improved communication within the Coalition. Leaders should ensure that each member understands how s/he can contribute to the Coalition’s success in meeting its goals.





When asked about the sustainability of the Coalition’s efforts, 77% of survey respondents agreed that YC2 has worked toward policies and legislation that promote healthy youth. However, less than half (46%) agreed that new members are educated about the values and mission of YC2, and only 42% agreed that the Coalition included the necessary players to meet its goals.



When asked whether YC2 has worked toward policies and legislation that promote youth, one member responded that the Coalition’s focus on adolescents excluded the needs of young children and pre-adolescents. Another expressed concern that there are no youth members at Coalition meetings, noting that “we are serving youth but...never directly hear their voices.” A new member commented that “new Coalition members like myself are left out in the dark.” Coalition leaders should ensure that YC2 includes the right members to meet its goals, and that those members are well educated about the Coalition’s mission and values.

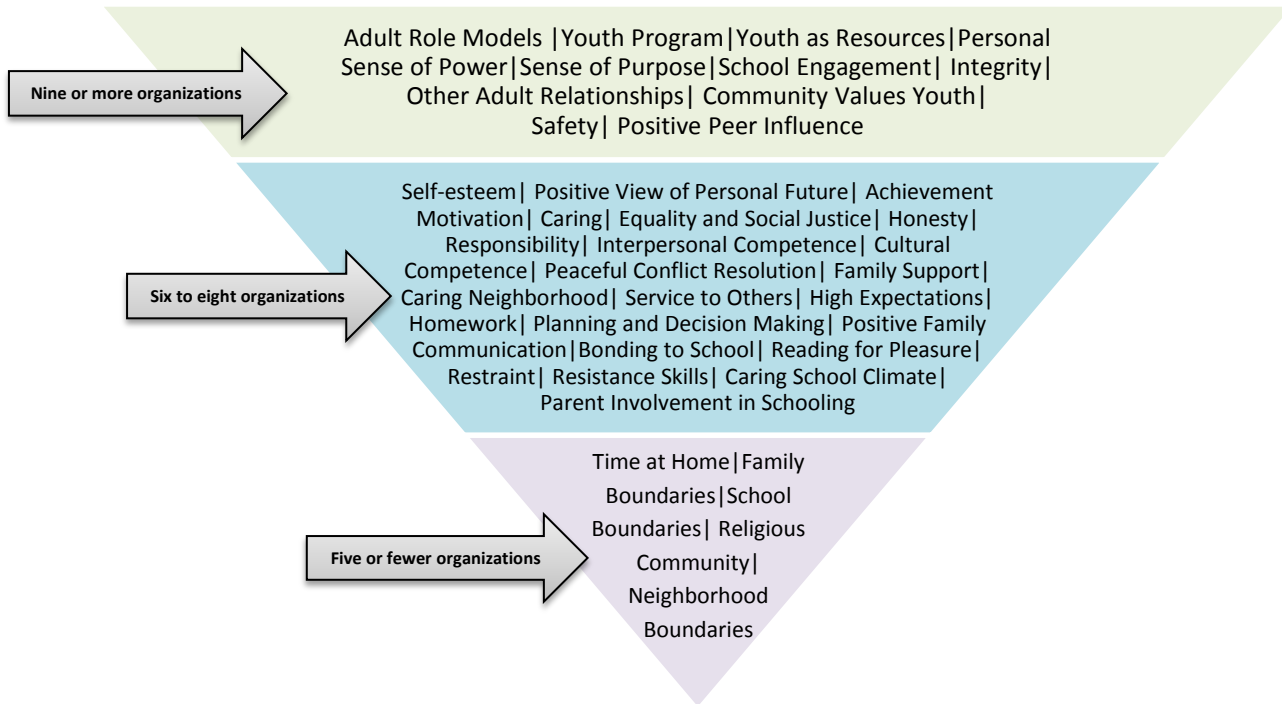
To identify any barriers to participation in Coalition meetings, members were asked whether the Coalition’s current meeting date and time work for members. Most (64%) responded the current meeting time does work, while 36% answered that the meeting time does not work with their schedules. Of those who expressed a preference for a different meeting day and/or time, most preferred to meet on Tuesdays (75%), and most (75%) preferred to meet over their lunch hour, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

In addition to assessing their opinions about the effectiveness of YC2, members were asked which of the “40 Developmental Assets” their organizations support. YC2 promotes the “40 Developmental Assets” as a framework to develop the skills, experiences, relationships and



behaviors that enable young people to become successful and contributing adults.¹ Members' survey responses indicated that at least one organization supports at least one of each of the 40 assets. In descending order of frequency, members reported supporting each of the assets as follows:

YC2 Member Support of the 40 Developmental Assets



A complete list of member responses regarding the 40 Developmental Assets can be found in Appendix B.

¹ The 40 Developmental Assets framework was created in 1990 by the Search Institute as part of its research and outreach mission to promote positive change for young people. More can be found at: <http://www.search-institute.org/research/developmental-assets>.



1. Consider your experience with the YC2 Executive Board (elected leaders) and answer the following questions.

#	Question	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total Responses	Mean
1	The elected leaders of YC2 promote Coalition values.	0	0	5	13	7	25	4.08
2	The elected leaders of YC2 effectively guide the Coalition toward a positive future.	0	0	5	11	9	25	4.16
3	The elected leaders of YC2 are highly trustworthy.	0	1	6	5	13	25	4.20

2. Please use the space below to add any comments or concerns about the YC2 Executive Board.

Text Response

We seem to be playing a bigger role in advocacy which is easier for the coalition than for individual agencies. That is good.

I did not know anyone was elected at all. There seems to be no "guiding" the coalition. Instead, I would characterize it more like commanding the coalition as it seems like coalition leaders show up ready to tell the coalition members what they should do next.

I am not sure why I received this survey.

I have only been minimally involved in YC2. While I hope to be more involved in the future, I don't know that I have been involved enough to make a judgment about the leaders of YC2.

3. Consider YC2 programming and activities and answer the following:

#	Question	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total Responses	Mean
1	The programming and activities offered by YC2 address the most important problems the coalition has identified in the community.	0	2	9	10	4	25	3.64
2	The programming and activities offered by YC2 appear to be cost effective.	0	0	6	14	5	25	3.96



4. Please use the space below to add any comments about YC2 programming and activities.

Text Response

I tank publicizing the activities and programs could improve. I also thi e community needs to know what YC2 is and how other agencies fit within its structure and guidance.

Activities seem to center around current issues. The objectives and action steps in the strategic plan don't make sense as a plan and don't seem to provide direction or information about the purpose of the coalition.

Activities need to be performed i n the streets on a hand to hand, face to face, coalition to public basis to be more effective

I only receive their emails.

Once again, I have not been involved enough to make a wise judgment.

5. Consider communication with and about YC2 and answer the following:

#	Question	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total Responses	Mean
1	The goals of YC2 are clear to me.	1	3	5	11	6	26	3.69
2	The objectives of YC2 are clear to me.	1	3	6	11	5	26	3.62
3	I feel I am well informed about YC2 activities and developments.	1	5	5	9	6	26	3.54
4	I feel well informed about the data collected by YC2.	1	7	5	10	3	26	3.27
5	YC2 is recognized as a leader in the community for addressing youth issues.	1	5	6	9	5	26	3.46



6. Please use the space below for any specific comments about communication with YC2.

Text Response

YC2 is a very quiet, under the radar group. Sometimes that's good because the policy changes necessary to impact our community are not always popular. at the same time, people who would like to align with us don't know who we are and what we do/

YC2 offers many programs but is not well publicized.

I don't feel like many people know anything about YC2.... I know very little about YC2. The goals and objectives in the strategic plan don't appear to provide any plan for the future.

I only receive their emails.

I wish there was a little more time for collaboration with other community members at the meetings. I have really enjoyed the spotlights on specific organizations that have happened recently. I just wish the into/ice breaker was a short snippet of what's happening at each program. Leaving the organization updates to the end, means many folks are gone or rush.

I would say that the communication of goals falls more on me than on the organization.

I don't see the name of YC2 in the community other than very sporadically on tv commercials. I feel that beyond coalition members, people don't know what it is or what it does.

7. Consider the ongoing sustainability of YC2 and answer the following:

#	Question	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total Responses	Mean
1	YC2 has all of the necessary players at the table to allow the coalition to meet its established goals.	0	9	6	8	3	26	3.19
2	This year YC2 has worked toward policies and legislation that promote healthy youth.	0	1	5	11	9	26	4.08
3	New Coalition members are continually being educated about the values and mission of YC2.	2	3	9	8	4	26	3.35



8. Please use the space below for any specific comments about the ongoing sustainability of YC2.

Text Response

I would like for us to see regular attendees of youth at the meetings. We are serving youth but coalition members never directly hear their voices.

The only issue I have is that the coalition's focus is on adolescents and there is not much if anything being done for children who are not in high school. I feel there is a gigantic absence for the prevention and early intervention aspect of serving "youth" of our community by not including young children and the pre-adol population

I wonder what role the schools can play to support YC2?

The mission has been mentioned but again, the plans don't make any sense. We were assigned the task of reviewing these plans with staff but if we don't understand we can't convey purpose to staff. New coalition members like myself are left out in the dark but more importantly, no critical comments are ever allowed. At the last meeting leadership came in and told the coalition we were to support raising the tobacco purchase age to 21. The motion to approve was forced and coached. The question was asked if anyone had comments in opposition but only a few seconds were given before moving on to a different topic. All in all I don't feel comfortable speaking my mind with this group as viewpoints different from those held by leadership are regularly ridiculed before discussion even opens.

I only receive their emails.

The coalition could use more law enforcement, Children's Division staff to be involved in the coalition. I think it has been a benefit for the Juvenile Office to be involved.

9. Consider your role in YC2 and answer the following:

#	Question	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total Responses	Mean
1	I fully understand my role on YC2.	1	3	11	10	1	26	3.27
2	I share information from Coalition meetings with my agency.	0	1	7	13	4	25	3.80

10. Currently YC2 meets on the third Thursday of the month from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. Does this meeting time work for you?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Yes	16	64%
2	No	9	36%
	Total	25	100%



11. If the current meeting day does not work for you, please indicate a preferred day below. You may select more than one day.

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Monday	3	38%
2	Tuesday	6	75%
3	Wednesday	2	25%
4	Thursday	2	25%
5	Friday	2	25%
6	Other (please specify)	1	13%

Other (please specify)

My business calendar is full at this time.

12. If the current meeting time does not work for you, please indicate a preferred time below. You may select more than one time.

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Mornings (9:00 - 10:30 am)	3	38%
2	Noon (11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.)	5	63%
3	Late afternoon (5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.)	2	25%
4	Other (please specify)	2	25%

Other (please specify)

Mornings on Thursday could work, but afternoon for the other days listed above. before the 3pm timeslot



40 Developmental Assets survey responses

14. External Assets: Support

#	Answer	Response
1	Family Support: Family life provides high levels of love and support.	8
2	Positive Family Communication: Young person and her or his parent(s) communicate positively, and young person is willing to seek advice and counsel from parents.	7
3	Other Adult Relationships: Young person receives support from three or more non-parent adults.	9
4	Caring Neighborhood: Young person experiences caring neighbors.	8
5	Caring School Climate: School provides a caring, encouraging environment.	6
6	Parent Involvement in Schooling: Parent(s) are actively involved in helping the child succeed in school.	6

15. External Assets: Empowerment

#	Answer	Response
1	Community Values Youth: Young person perceives that adults in the community value youth.	9
2	Youth as Resources: Young people are given useful roles in the community.	10
3	Service to Others: Young person serves in the community one hour or more per week.	8
4	Safety: Young person feels safe at home, school, and in the neighborhood.	9

16. External Assets: Boundaries & Expectations

#	Answer	Response
1	Family Boundaries: Family has clear rules and consequence and monitors the young person's whereabouts.	4
2	School Boundaries: School provides clear rules and consequences.	4
3	Neighborhood Boundaries: Neighbors take responsibility for monitoring young people's behavior.	3
4	Adult Role Models: Parent(s) and other adults model positive, responsible behavior.	11
5	Positive Peer Influence: Young person's best friends model responsible behavior.	9
6	High Expectations: Both parent(s) and teachers encourage the young person to do well.	8

17. External Assets: Constructive Use of Time

#	Answer	Response
1	Creative Activities: Young person spends three or more hours per week in lessons or practice in music, theater, or other arts.	9
2	Youth Programs: Young person spends three or more hours per week in sports, clubs, or organizations at school and/or in community organizations.	11
3	Religious Community: Young person spends one hour or more per week in activities in a religious institution.	4
4	Time at Home: Young person is out with friends "with nothing special to do" two or fewer nights per week.	5



18. Internal Assets: Commitment to Learning

#	Answer	Response
1	Achievement Motivation: Young person is motivated to do well in school.	8
2	School Engagement: Young person is actively engaged in learning.	9
3	Homework: Young person reports doing at least one hour of homework every school day.	7
4	Bonding to School: Young person cares about her or his school.	6
5	Reading for Pleasure: Young person reads for pleasure three or more hours per week.	6

19. Internal Assets: Positive Values

#	Answer	Response
1	Caring: Young person places high value on helping other people.	8
2	Equality and Social Justice: Young person places high value on promoting equality and reducing hunger and poverty.	8
3	Integrity: Young person acts on convictions and stands up for her or his beliefs.	9
4	Honesty: Young person “tells the truth even when it is not easy.”	8
5	Responsibility: Young person accepts and takes personal responsibility.	8
6	Restraint: Young person believes it is important not to be sexually active or to use alcohol or other drugs.	6

20. Internal Assets: Social Competencies

#	Answer	Response
1	Planning and Decision Making: Young person knows how to plan ahead and make choices.	7
2	Interpersonal Competence: Young person has empathy, sensitivity, and friendship skills.	8
3	Cultural Competence: Young person has knowledge of and comfort with people of different cultural/racial/ethnic backgrounds.	8
4	Resistance Skills: Young person can resist negative peer pressure and dangerous situations.	6
5	Peaceful Conflict Resolution: Young person seeks to resolve conflict nonviolently.	8

21. Internal Assets: Positive Identity

#	Answer	Response
1	Personal Power: Young person feels he or she has control over “things that happen to me.”	9
2	Self-esteem: Young person reports having high self-esteem.	8
3	Sense of Purpose: Young person reports that “my life has a purpose.”	9
4	Positive View of Personal Future: Young person is optimistic about her or his personal future.	8