

Hispanic Outreach Goodhue County

Evaluation Results for Youth and Family Program: School Year 2023-2024

The Youth and Family Program (YFP) is an afterschool program for middle and high school students aimed to help them adjust to the U.S school system, set academic goals, offer leadership opportunity, and allows for parents to be involved.

Stakeholders



**Middle school and
High school students**



**Parents and
guardians**



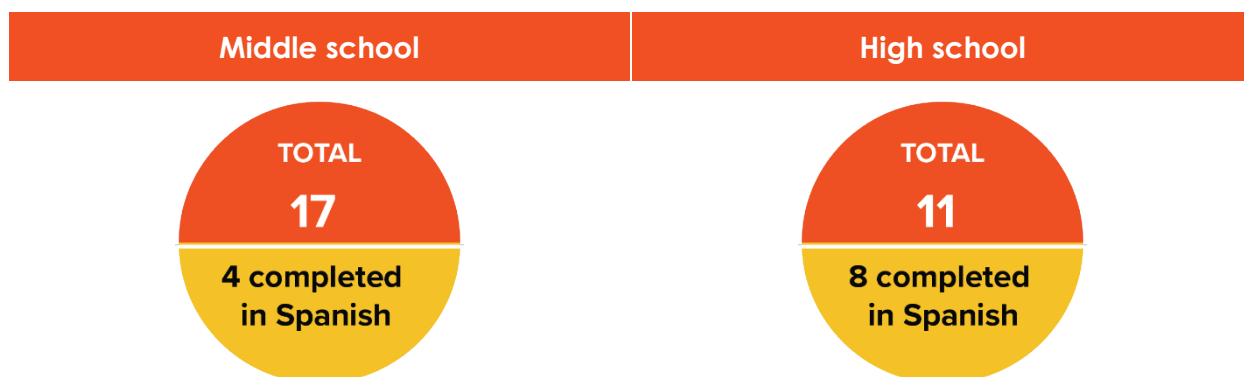
**Program staff
and coaches**



**Community
partners**

Student Surveys

Number of Students who completed a survey:



Note. Students were surveyed in the Fall in the beginning of the program and in the Spring at the end of the program.

Two milestones were set for student outcomes:

1. being an 80% benchmark for “yes” responses in the survey
2. increasing 4 percentage points or more between Fall to Spring in program areas (academic, social-emotional, creative, and physical)

Both milestones were met

	Middle school	High school
Academic	Spoke English with friends	- Got good grades - Completed classwork and homework
Social-emotional	- Had someone at home that cares about school success - Aware of feelings - Aware of actions and consequences	- Had someone at home that cares about school success - Had an adult to ask for help - Asked for advice - Aware of feelings - Aware of actions and consequences - Had information and resources to make career choices
Creative	Cultural pride	- Belonging - Spent time with other races or cultures - Learned about other races or cultures - Cultural pride
Physical	Aware of benefits between physical activity and health	Awareness of benefits between physical activity and health

One milestone was met

	Middle school	High school
Academic	Completed classwork and homework	Spoke English with friends
Social-emotional	- Had an adult to ask for help - Asked for advice - Opportunities to be a leader - Shared ideas	Shared ideas

Room for Improvement

	Middle school	High school
Academic	Got good grades	
Social-emotional	Felt others cared	- Opportunities to be a leader - Felt others cared
Creative	Belonging	

What students think could be improved

Middle school students would like to have more activities that they are interested in offered. They also mentioned limited days and times offered, location of the program, and lack of communication to program staff. High school students would also like to have more activities they are interested in offered. They also mentioned limited days and times offered, length of the program, and would like food offered instead of snacks.

Future Participation and Considerations

Of the 17 middle school students that completed the survey 8 were not sure of continued participation while 7 said yes, they would be interested in returning next year. For high school students of the 11 who completed the survey only 3 were not sure of continued participation while 8 said yes, they would be interested in returning next year. A way to improve participation could be to offer a friend referral incentive which could be offering a fun end of the school year event like a field trip or an end of the year prize.

High school students would like more support with their English skills and would like sessions and trainings to learn more about improving their computer skills and career/employment knowledge, they would also like field trips offered for visiting historic sites.

Middle school students want more support to improve academically which could be through offering more personalized tutoring sessions. Middle school students would also like to enhance their sense of belonging in the program and in school this could be through offering relationship building events like a sports day for students to do group activities to work together and get to know each other better.

For both middle school and high school students program improvements would be to extend the current program by one hour, offer food instead of snacks, offering more field trips in relation to leadership. As well as enhancing the sense of value that students have which could be improved by offering more opportunities to lead and share ideas, this could be done by collaborating with the student advisory council.

Parent/Guardian Surveys

Surveys were completed by 16 mothers, 2 fathers, and 1 guardian. Families have lived in Red Wing for more than 5 years and prefer to communicate in Spanish. For participation in the program 3 parent volunteered.

Similarly, to the student surveys for outcomes two milestones were set for parents **1) increasing or remaining the same for interactions 2) 80% of parents/guardians responded “yes” as a preferred response.**

	Both milestones were met	Room for improvement
Academic	▪ Confident expressing concerns ▪ Aware of child's academic progress	
Social-emotional	▪ Felt welcomed and respected by program staff ▪ Advocacy ▪ Destigmatizing mental health	
Creative		▪ Leadership opportunities

What Parents/Guardians Liked about the Program

Parents and guardians liked that the program offered homework assistance and tutoring, supportive and friendly program staff, cultural activities and events, and communication received through WhatsApp/texting. Parents and guardians also appreciated the program being well organized and how it helps improve students' social development.

Challenges and Considerations

A couple of challenges that parents and guardians noted are limited support for English learners and that the program is first come first serve. Parents and guardians also expressed that they want consistent staffing with coordinators and coaches and for consistent rules such as removing phones.

The YFP could offer more support for parents who are English learners as well as offer more opportunities for parents to become more involved with the program especially for parents who want to grow their leadership skills. This could be achieved with offering leadership events or trainings for both students and families or working on a collaborative school year project.

Program Staff Experience

Program staff understand YFP and school confidentiality policies and practices. Staff have a more limited knowledge of community organizations' confidentiality and policies and practices.

Social emotional aspects	
Good understanding or feeling	Good but could use a little more help
Valued by the program	Outreach strategies
Impact in student's social emotional relationships	Confidence in the role
Connecting and communicating with parents	
Work-life balance	
Impact in student's academic performance	

Coaches' Experience

As a way for coaches to share their experience with YFP two focus groups were held in which 9 coaches participated in. While coaches overall have a positive experience with the program there is one area for improvement in how coaches feel that they have an impact on student's academic performance.

Social emotional aspects	
Good understanding or feeling	Good but could use a little more help
Valued by the program	Impact in student's wellbeing
Valued by students	
Cultural awareness	

Academic aspects	
Good understanding or feeling	Good but could use a little more help
Confident tutoring middle school students	Confidence in tutoring for non-main school subjects
Confident tutoring high school students	
Confident tutoring in main school subjects	

Satisfaction and Improvements from Program staff and Coaches

Overall both program staff and coaches are satisfied with the YFP they highlight the impact of the program for students’ academic performance and social-emotional factors (such as relationships with family and friends). Program staff experienced personal development and coaches have a strong level of comfort to address diversity and inclusion topics.

For improvements both groups would like additional program staff and coaches who are younger and bilingual, an additional measure would be to offer more cultural competency sessions and trainings. Program staff would like a clearer list of responsibilities of their role including more training for strategies on ways to improve parent involvement and to learn more about community organizations and school confidentiality policies. Coaches would like more resources for tutoring (such as with textbooks) and to change the tutoring structure to one on one sessions when working with students.

Community Partners

Four community partners participated in interviews. They are a School district representative, CARE Clinic, RISE UP, and the Environmental Learning Center.

Social emotional aspects	
Good understanding or feeling	Good but could use a little more help
Valuable partnership to address students’ overall needs	Effectiveness of developing strategies to address students’ needs
Feel inspired by the partnership	Effectiveness of combining and sharing resources
Partnership is helping YFP address student’s needs	

Process Outcomes from Community Partners

Community partners feel a close connection emotionally and socially to the Youth and Family program. They are overall satisfied with the program including the impact it has on students and effective collaborations with teamwork across the community.

“I feel like I have a team that is not my team, they are not in my organization, but I feel like, oh, I can count with them”. -Partner

For areas of improvement community partners would like to see more sharing of resources, more partnership structure and organization, and more consistent staff. Limited funding was also mentioned as a challenge to continue support from partnerships.

“We could be more efficient with resources if we were to have consistency in determining how we partner”. -Partner

For future partnership we learned that for more structure we can schedule reoccurring meetings to keep communication going. For resource sharing we can work together to combine activities and programs. To continue to fill the needs of students and families we should hire more bilingual and bicultural program staff and coaches as well as continuing to collaborate to offer more mental health services and supports to students. For funding we can see if we can collaboratively apply for more funding as the program continues to grow.

“They are the organization that is doing that work more than anyone else”. -Partner

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