



# MyCom Progress Report 2008-2013



The Begun Center for Violence Prevention Research &  
Education  
Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences  
Case Western Reserve University

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# Overview of MyCom (2008-2013)

This report summarizes progress made by My Commitment/My Community (MyCom) from January 2008 through June 2013. MyCom is a youth development initiative in eight Cuyahoga County neighborhoods that coordinates activities among six lead agencies and multiple community-based agencies to provide programs and services to Cuyahoga County youth. The eight components of MyCom include neighborhood engagement, youth engagement, transitions, employment/job readiness, out-of school time (OST), communications, advocacy, and evaluation. The long-term goals of MyCom focus on young people's greater access to social and economic support and opportunities and family life in safe environments, which ultimately transfer to youths' positive transition to young adulthood. From 2008-2013, MyCom established an inter-neighborhood support network. This network improves youth physical and emotional development; learning skills; family and community engagement. This report provides details on MyCom progress from 2008-2013. Significant process improvements were witnessed in strengthening organizational, leadership, management, technical, and assessment (evaluation) capacity. MyCom progress in each of its internal strategies (out-of-school time; youth employment; neighborhood engagement, youth engagement, transitions, and advocacy) are a direct function of improvement in organizational capacity.

MyCom's organizational ability to affect positive change had seven major accomplishments.

## **Accomplishment 1: Improved targeted recruitment in MyCom neighborhoods**

-In 2010, a majority of MyCom neighborhood agencies preferred youth who were accessible and willing program participants (i.e., **programs had a narrow definition of youth participants**)

-**Since 2010**, there has been an expansion of services to a wider range of youth, thus strengthening MyCom's local influence

## **Accomplishment 2: Improved program design in MyCom neighborhoods**

-In 2010, there was a need to capitalize on neighborhood agencies' personnel who know the culture and social character of their communities

-**Since 2010**, there has been a focused effort to educate all stakeholders about the complexities of program design.

-**Since 2010**, Neighborhood-level leadership has increased buy-in, trust and communication across MyCom communities

## **Accomplishment 3: Improved ability to measure quality of out-of-school time programming in MyCom neighborhoods**

-In 2010, there was a need to measure the quality and effectiveness of OST programming

-**Since 2010**, Starting Point has trained Starting Point staff to use the Youth Program Quality Assessment (YPQA) tool with OST agencies in MyCom neighborhoods

-**Since 2010**, YPQA data was gathered from 21 agencies in MyCom neighborhoods including measures of safe environments, supportive environments, youth interaction, and youth engagement

-**Since 2010**, 21 MyCom agencies have used the YPQA with their programs and have developed program improvement plans as a result

## **Accomplishment 4: Provided program- and activity-assessment training for agencies in MyCom neighborhoods**

-In 2010, there was a need to provide education tools and training sessions to explain research design and the significance of the evaluation component in nontechnical language.

-**Since 2010**, there has been a focus on partner’s knowledge, skills and ability to gather process and outcome data, resulting in improved data collection

**Accomplishment 5: Implemented Child Wellbeing assessment in MyCom target neighborhoods**

-In 2010, there was a need for a regular assessment of child wellbeing in MyCom and non-MyCom neighborhoods in Cuyahoga County

-**Since 2010**, we have identified and piloted the Developmental Assessment Profile tool with over 250 MyCom youth, resulting in baseline DAP measures

-**Since 2010**, we have imbedded the DAP tool within the ETO platform, allowing all MyCom agencies the ability to assess their youth using evidence-based child wellbeing measures

**Accomplishment 6: Implemented comprehensive database system for gathering youth program participation and child wellbeing assessment data**

-In 2010, there was a need for a database capable of gathering and reporting youth program service and child wellbeing data

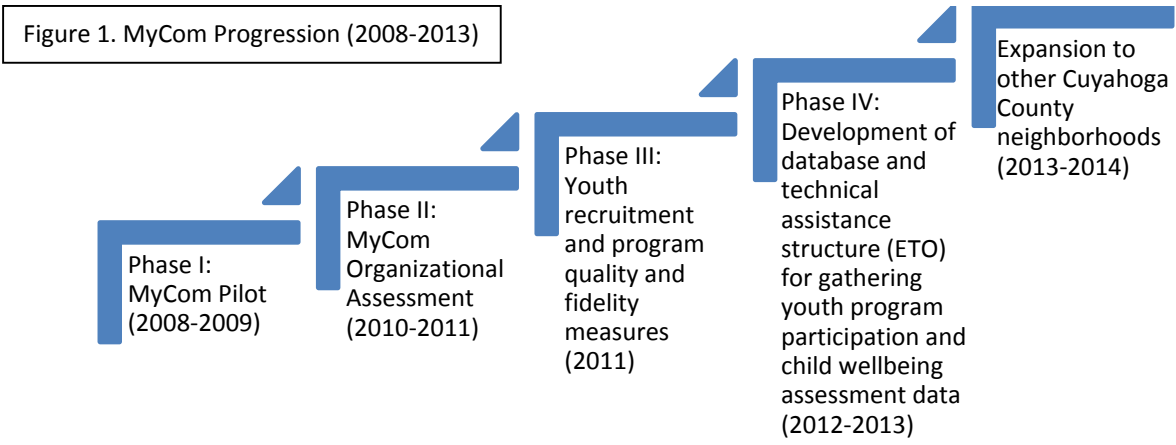
-**Since 2010**, the Efforts to Outcomes (ETO) database has been pilot tested and subsequently offered to agencies in all MyCom neighborhoods

-**Since 2010**, now have assessment data to provide partners and lead agencies with information needed for program improvement.

**Accomplishment 7: Improved coordination among lead agencies**

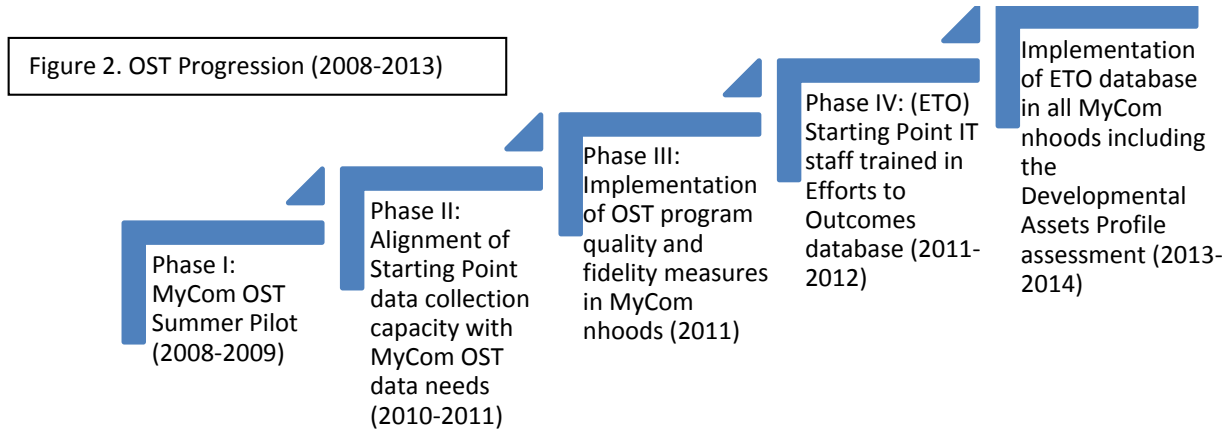
-In 2010, there was a need for improved collaboration among leadership in MyCom agencies

-**Since 2010**, Collaboration of the senior-most personnel in lead agencies, resulting in improved stakeholder integration and the formation of a stronger system of youth service delivery



# OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME

The Out-of-School time (OST) component of the MyCom initiative played an integral role in the success of the MyCom initiative from 2008-2013. In MyCom's developmental stages, summer OST programs were a central focus of MyCom implementation; and OST programs yielded outcome data generated in summer 2008 and 2009. MyCom OST included concentrated on diverse programming, such as academic assistance, career exploration, recreation, nutrition education, service-learning, and arts.



The positive impact of OST programming on youth outcomes has been well documented in the research literature. Overall, results from the evaluation of summer 2009 MyCom OST programming activities support previous research findings. Early in the MyCom initiative, results from a pretest-posttest survey of OST youth revealed a number of potentially significant findings related to youth functioning informed MyCom program planning and Child Wellbeing data collection efforts in Cuyahoga County. The overarching purpose of the MyCom summer 2009 OST evaluation was to identify any improvements in the skills and competencies necessary for Cuyahoga County OST youth to successfully function in schools, families and communities. Findings indicated notable skill improvements were made related to concentrating, paying attention and completing tasks, expressing feelings, being motivated to finish projects, and getting along with family and other adults outside the family. OST youth believed their participation during summer 2009 will positively affect their future school performance and academic success, and now believe they will try harder to succeed in school and get along better with classmates. Youth also indicated OST participation will improve interpersonal relationships with family members and other adults. OST youth stated they had better conflict resolution, goal-setting and decision-making skills and thought summer programming had a significant impact on their interpersonal and communication skills, including listening, getting along with others, and expressing feelings. In addition, OST youth made significant improvements in daily functioning levels, as measured by the Ohio Scales Functioning Scale.

A number of factors limited statistical ability to draw specific inferences about the direct effects of OST programming on youth functioning. First, a methodology to collect program type dosage data for youth involved in OST programs was not yet implemented. In addition to the number of days attended and self-reported average weekly hours in OST programming, it would have been beneficial to collect program participation data for each youth, including number of hours participating in each program type (e.g., 10 hours/month in theatre program, 3 hours/week in academic enrichment program). An absence of detailed program exposure data for OST youth precluded inferences on the effects of program dosage levels on

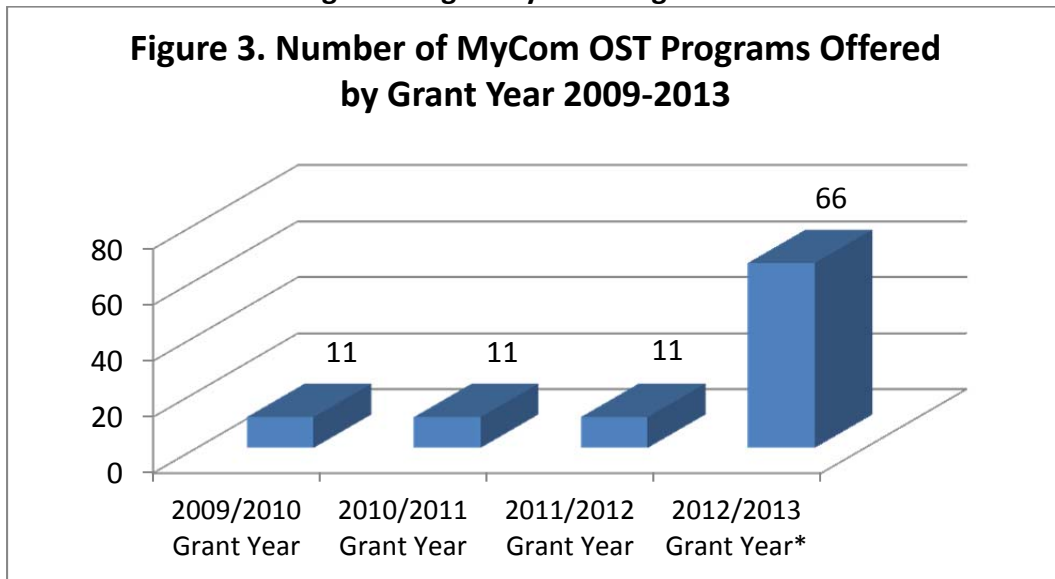
functioning outcomes. In 2009, we recognized this limitation could be addressed with the implementation of a comprehensive Web-based data system for tracking program participation and dosage.

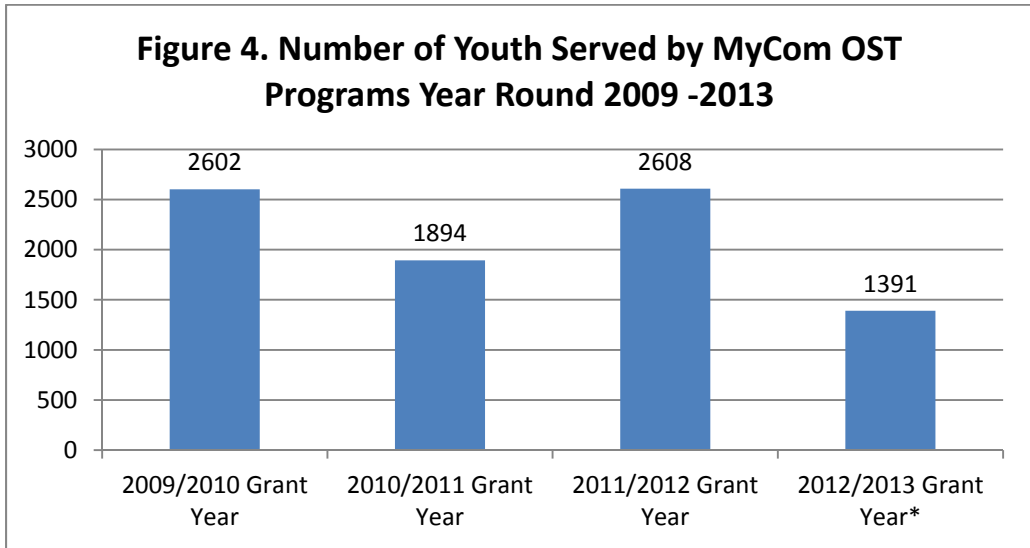
A second limitation related to measuring program dosage in 2009: there was no protocol to measure OST program fidelity and quality. Certain summer OST agencies utilized programs that were the most effective when delivered with high reliability to their original design. Due to the variety and large number of OST programs, the control for fidelity or quality of OST program implementation was infeasible. Starting Point implemented a system for training staff and agencies on use the Youth Program Quality Assessment (YPQA), an evidence-based tool used to measure program fidelity across OST programs.

Lessons learned, in the early years of MyCom data collection, with OST programming served as a foundation for the development of the current Efforts to Outcomes (ETO) database platform. An important outcome of MyCom funding from 2008-2013 was the development of ETO. ETO leverages the technical capacity of Starting Point. There are a number of key accomplishments for MyCom OST.

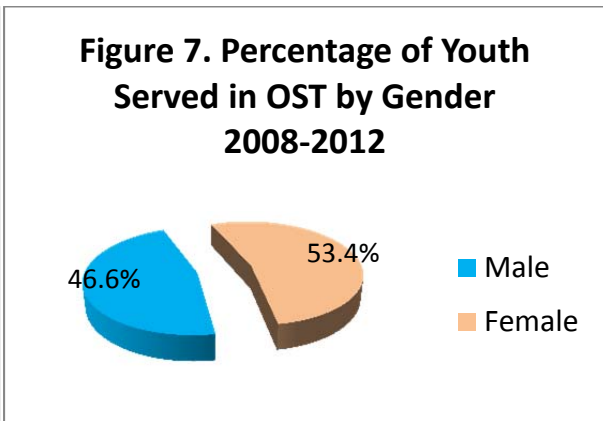
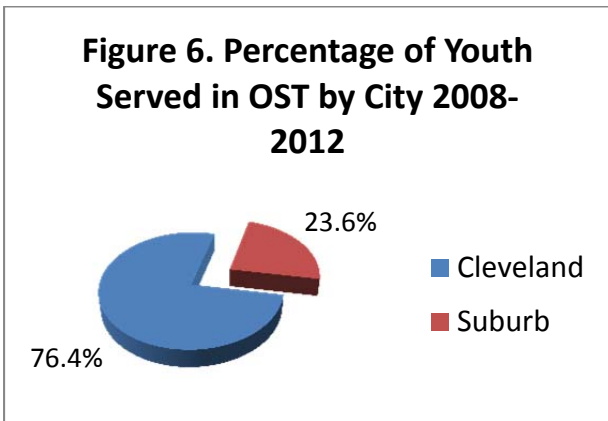
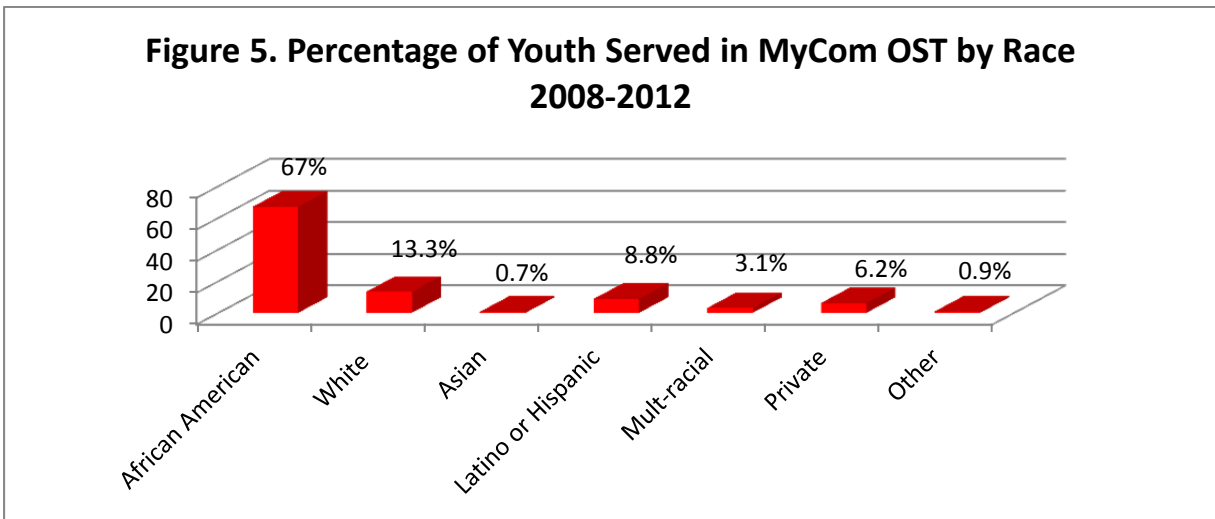
### Accomplishments

#### Accomplishment 1: Increased OST Programming in MyCom Neighborhoods





\*October-December 2012 only



### Accomplishment 2: OST Programming with Demonstrated Impact on Child Wellbeing

An evaluation of summer MyCom out-of-school time (OST) activities in Cuyahoga County was conducted in summer 2008 and 2009. OST activities were coordinated by Starting Point, which dispersed grant funds to 35 neighborhood agencies that provided OST programming during summer 2009. Examples of OST programming included educational and academic services, enrichment programming, career exploration activities, recreation, and service-learning stipends. The overarching purpose of the evaluation of out-of-school time components was to provide some baseline data on child well-being in Cuyahoga County as well as to identify any impact of OST programs on youth development outcomes.

OST youth made significant improvements in daily functioning, as measured by the Ohio Scales Functioning Scale, a 20-item scale representing a wide array of self-reported items related to interpersonal relationships, psychosocial functioning, self-efficacy, and out-of-school time activities (see Appendix A for outcome data tables).

- OST youth with at least one working parent demonstrated significant gains in functioning levels compared to youth with no working parent.
- Youth in OST summer programming for 20 hours or more weekly had significant improvements in functioning compared to youth in programming less than 20 hours per week. Similarly, youth with 10 or more days of OST participation during summer 2009 demonstrated significant gains in functioning levels.
- During summer 2009, the majority of OST youth felt they learned skills that will help them resolve conflicts peacefully and also help with goal-setting and decision-making. Youth reported feeling that OST participation will improve their level of school success including being more attached to school, getting along better with classmates, trying harder, and getting better grades. Youth indicated that OST participation will assist in improving interpersonal and communication skills, including listening, getting along with others, and expressing feelings.

**Table 1a. OST Training Numbers 2009-2013**

Year	# Training Sessions	# Providers Trained (Unduplicated)	# Providers Trained (Duplicated)	# of Children Trained Professionals could potentially serve
2009	44	237	427	4266
2010	74	532	1076	9576
2011	87	473	1009	8514
2012	87	514	1044	9252
2013 <sup>1</sup>	18	173	235	3114
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>1929</b>	<b>3791</b>	<b>34722</b>

<sup>1</sup> Trainings as of April 2013



**Table 1b. OST/School Age Training Numbers**

2013 (1/1/13 - 6/30/13)	Number of centers	Number of Students (Unduplicated)	Number of Training Sessions
	<b>Cuyahoga Total</b>	103	353
<b>Training at CWRU/Treu-Mart</b>	20	123	9

2012	Number of centers	Number of Students (Unduplicated)	Number of Training Sessions
	<b>Cuyahoga Total</b>	159	514
<b>Training at CWRU/Treu-Mart</b>	32	121	13

**Accomplishment 3: Instituted evidence-based fidelity and quality measures for MyCom OST programs**

In 2009, there was a need to measure the quality and effectiveness of OST programming in MyCom neighborhoods. However, at that time, no measures were being uniformly used

-Since 2009, Starting Point has facilitated 310 training sessions for OST providers in Cuyahoga County.

-Since 2009, Starting Point has trained 1,929 OST providers

-Since 2010, there was increased capacity of Starting Point and OST providers to use the YPQA tool

-Since 2010, Starting Point increased their ability to monitor OST providers

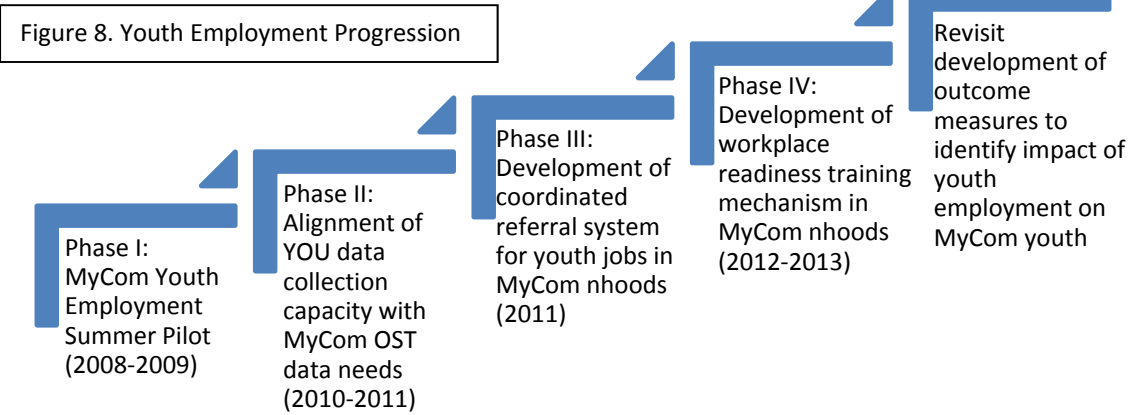
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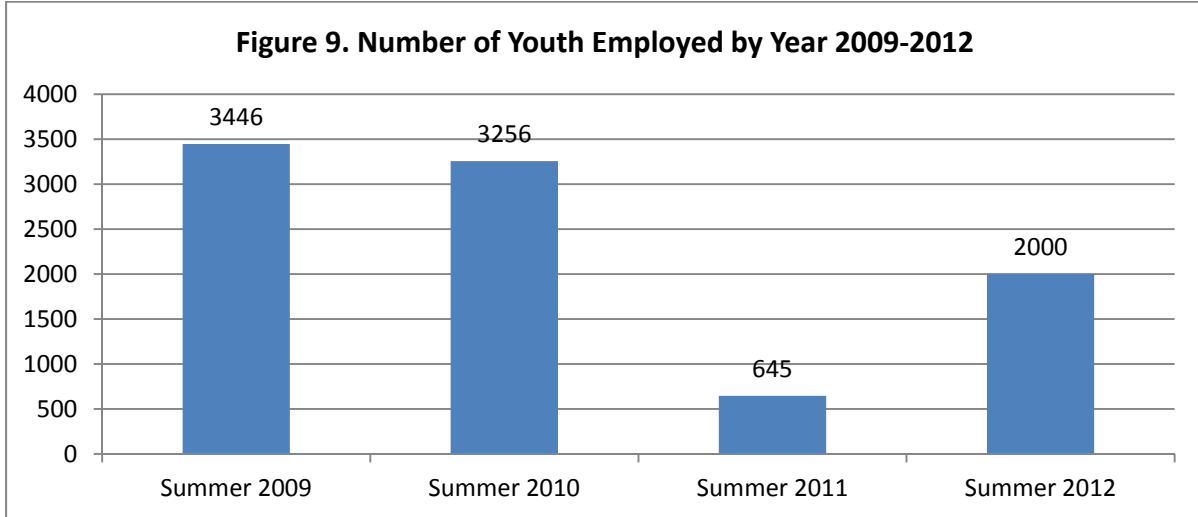
## YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU) coordinates youth employment, and has since the initial stages of MyCom implementation. YOU's pilot summer employment program in 2008 has since expanded (see Figure 8). Youth employment opportunities are sensitive to federal, state, and local funding. MyCom funds support youth employment in Cuyahoga County. These funds supported the coordination of neighborhood employers that resulted in more youth employment (see Figure 9).

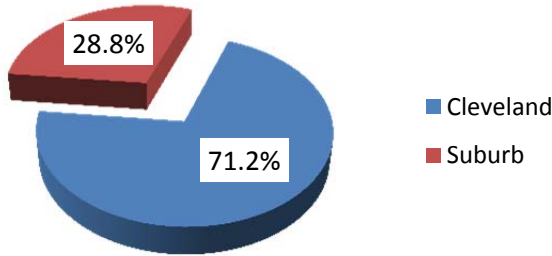


## YOU Accomplishments

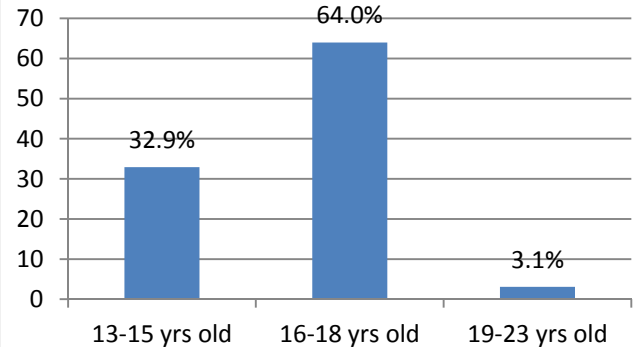
**Accomplishment 1: Youth Opportunities Unlimited developed a coordinated system that referred youth to employment in MyCom neighborhoods.** Youth employment expansion in the summers of 2009 and 2010 were dramatically affected by a downturn in the national and local economic in 2001 and soon recovered in 2012. Figures 10 illustrates YOU’s dramatic effect on youth employment in the City of Cleveland (vs. suburbs). Figure 11 exemplifies the effect YOU’s programming on aggregate engagement of youth ages 13-15 to 16-18 from 2009-2012.



**Figure 10. Percentage of Youth Employed by City 2009-2012**



**Figure 11. Percentage of Youth Employed by Age 2009-2012**



### **Accomplishment 2: Workplace readiness programming for youth in MyCom neighborhoods**

MyCom strengthened workplace readiness in MyCom neighborhoods through partnership companies within MyCom neighborhoods. The Slavic Village 50/50 Match Program, for example, improved job readiness and provided sustainable employment to Slavic Village youth, which resulted in the creation of 13 fulltime youth jobs in Slavic Village.

### **Accomplishment 3: Youth Employment Programming with Demonstrated Impact on Child Wellbeing**

An improvement in child well-being is one of MyCom's strategic goals. A 2009 pilot research study measured the effects of youth employment programming on the youth perceptions of the future (see Appendix A). Child-wellbeing measures are italicized.

- Youth believed that summer employment will result in improved *adult employment opportunities* and improve the likelihood *life-long success* in the job market.
- Youth perceptions of *self-efficacy* improved: youth ages 16-19 believed their *ability to cope* and their *ability to contribute to the betterment of the community* were significantly improved.
- Youth believed that summer employment enhanced *self-confidence* and engendered a positive future outlook, especially for older youth.
- Older youth believed that summer employment aided *pro-social behavior* and *social interactions* with peers.
- Youth believed that YOU programming improved their understanding of *workplace readiness skills*, such as personal appearance, getting along with others, and attendance.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD ENGAGEMENT**

MyCom activities have successfully engaged neighborhood adults and agencies in a multitude of programming and service coordination activities. These efforts have been coordinated by staff at Neighborhood Leadership Incorporated (NLI) in all MyCom neighborhoods.

### **Accomplishments**

Figure 12. Neighborhood Engagement Progression

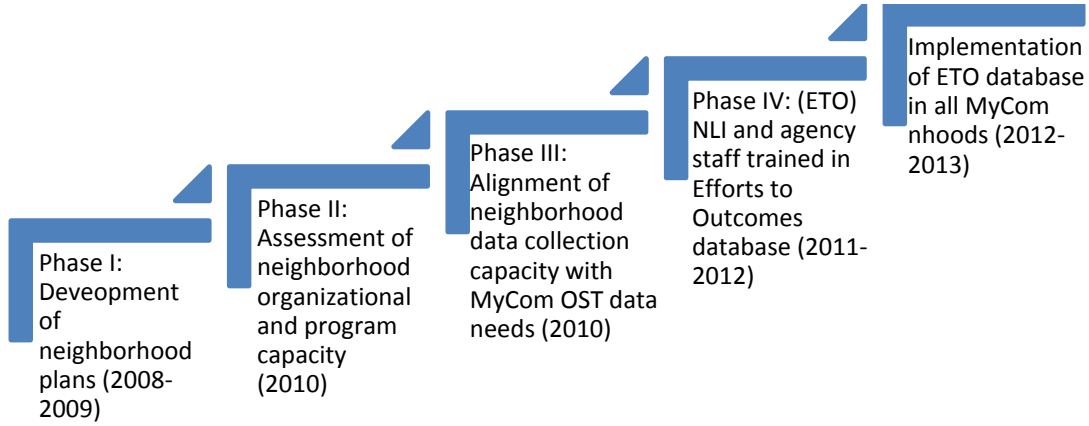
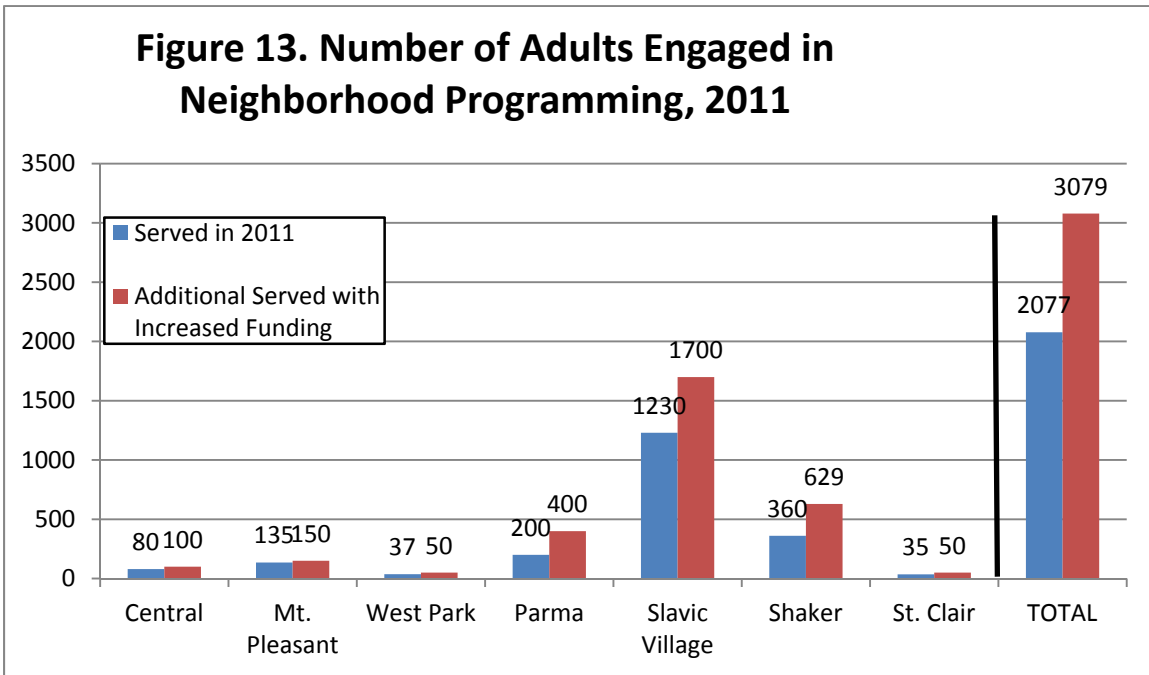
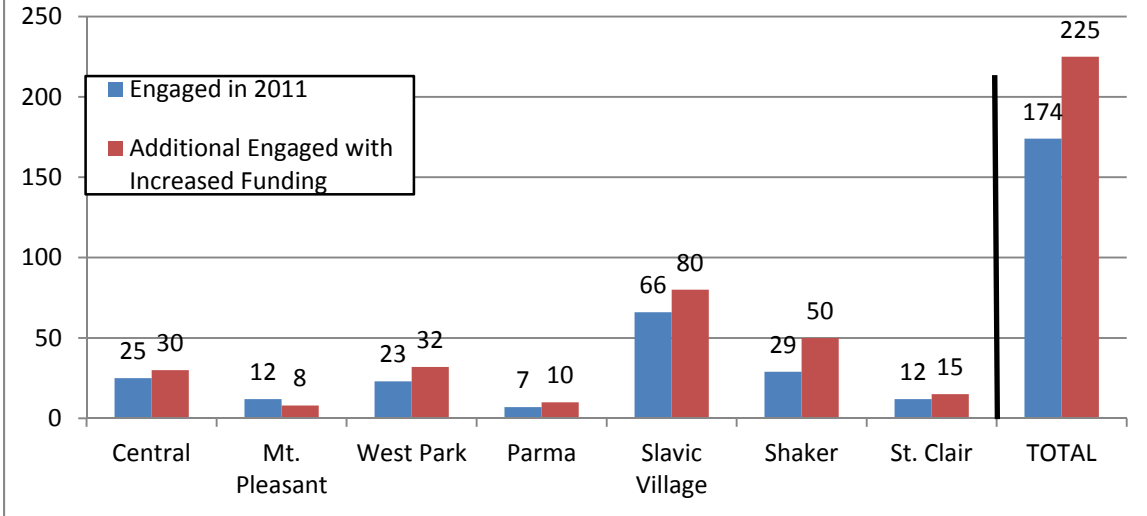


Figure 13. Number of Adults Engaged in Neighborhood Programming, 2011

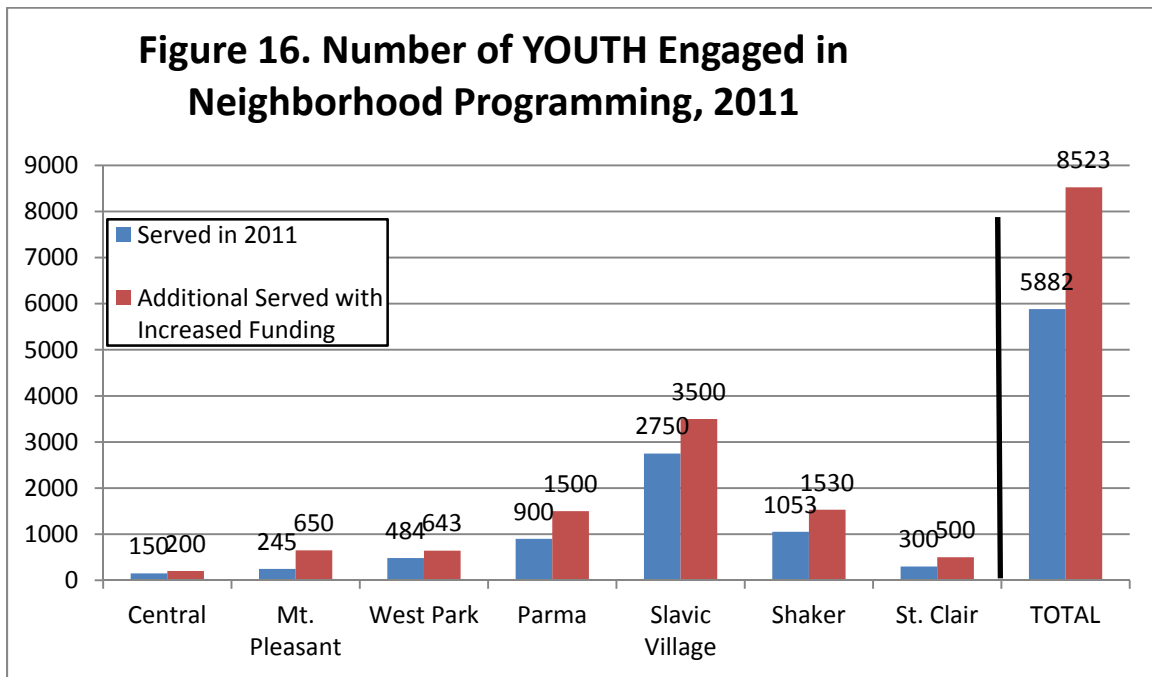
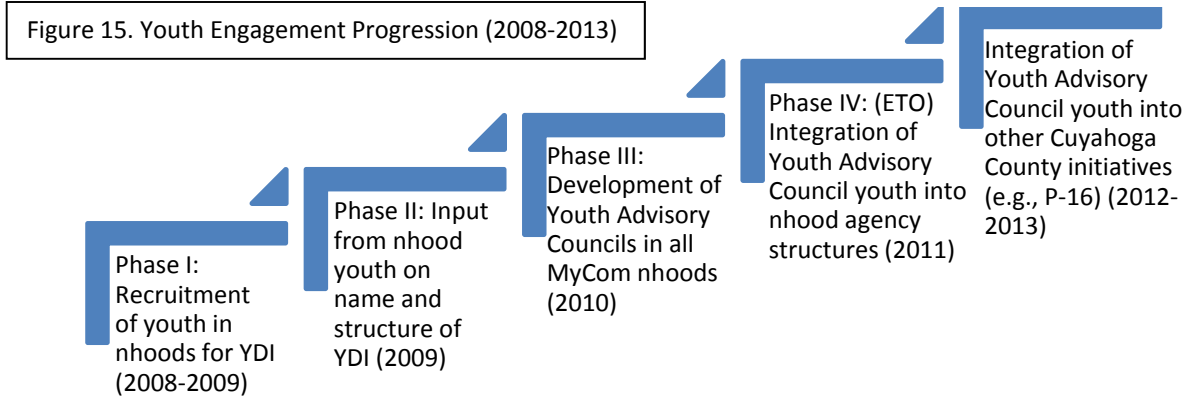


**Figure 14. Number of Neighborhood Agencies, 2011**



# YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

## Accomplishments



# TRANSITIONS

## Examples of Transition Activities funded with MyCom Dollars

Beginning in 2010, transitions programming has been folded into neighborhood engagement, youth employment and OST programs. This has helped to provide these 3 MyCom content areas with a new focus on the key areas of youth developmental transitions, including middle and high school transitions, college, and work readiness.

## Accomplishments

Figure 17. Neighborhood Engagement Progression

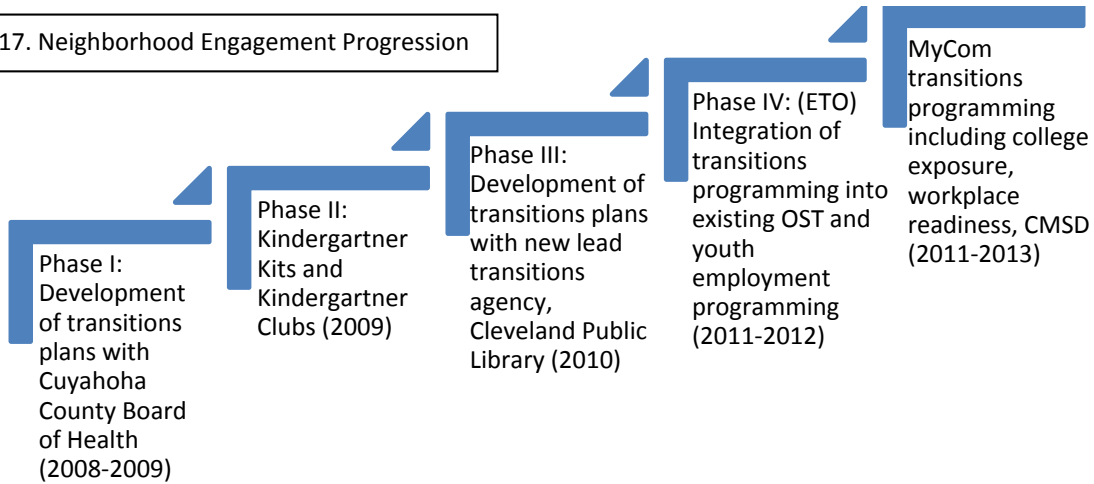
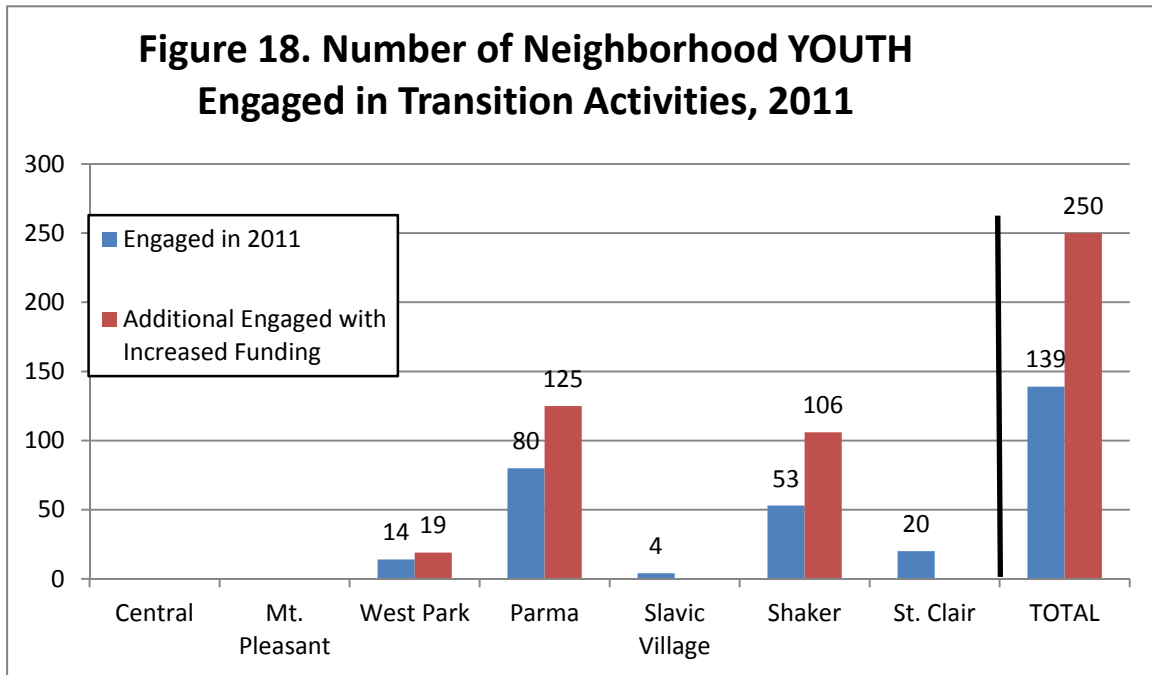
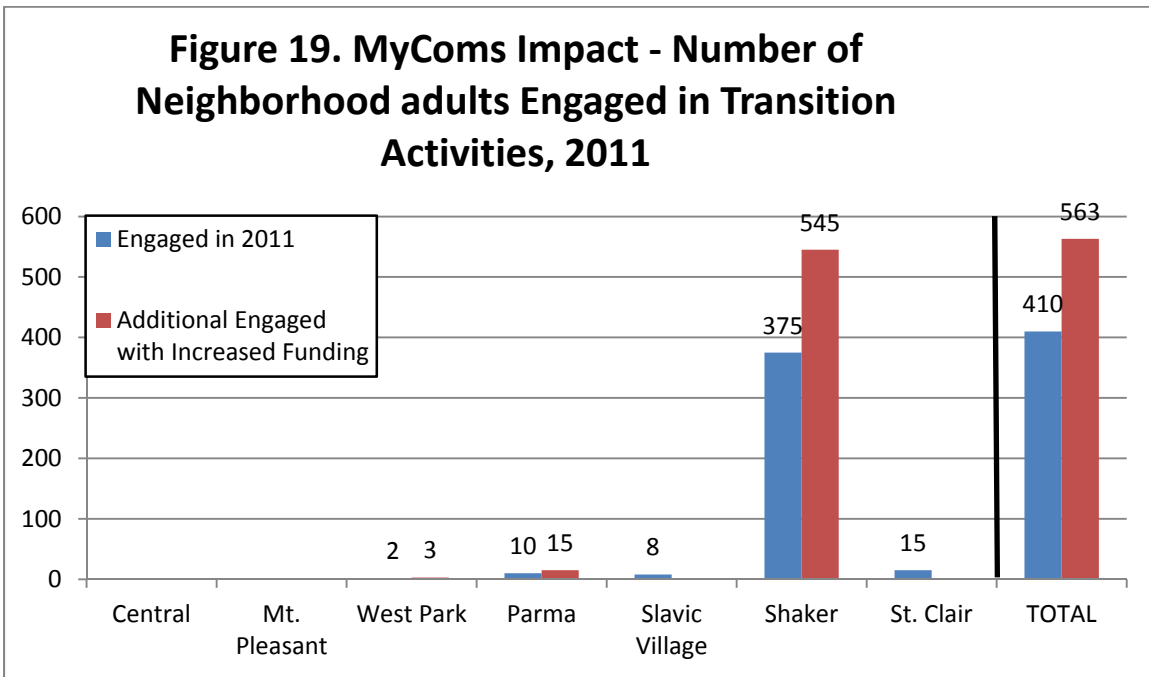


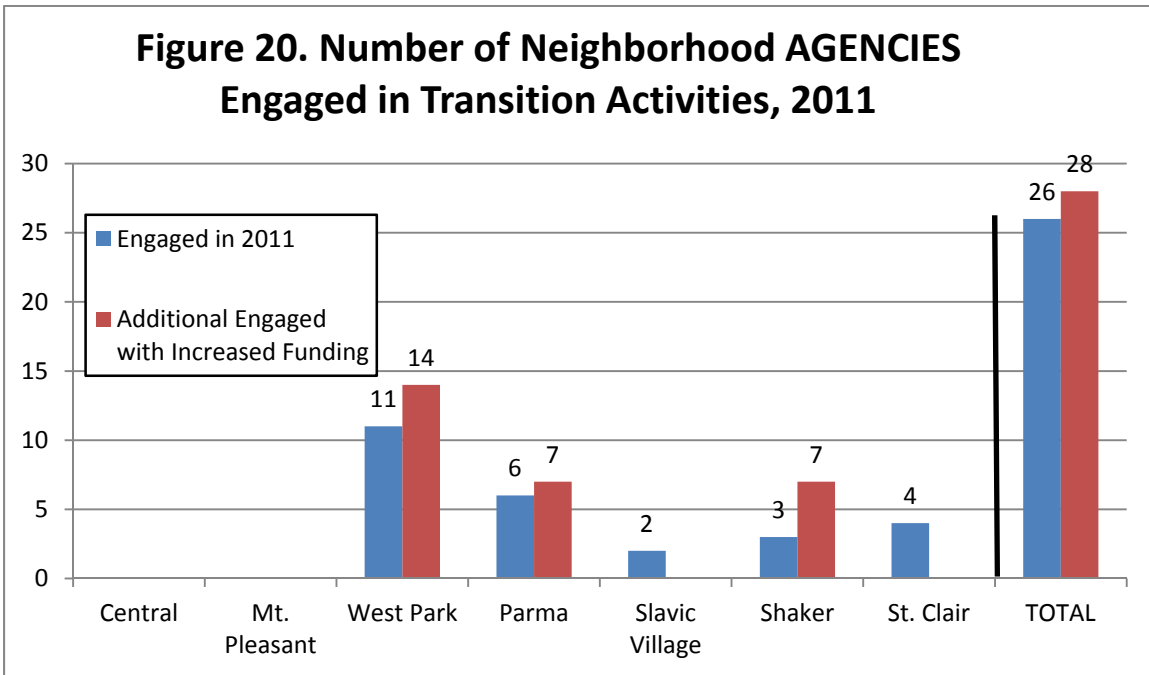
Figure 18. Number of Neighborhood YOUTH Engaged in Transition Activities, 2011



**Figure 19. MyComs Impact - Number of Neighborhood adults Engaged in Transition Activities, 2011**



**Figure 20. Number of Neighborhood AGENCIES Engaged in Transition Activities, 2011**



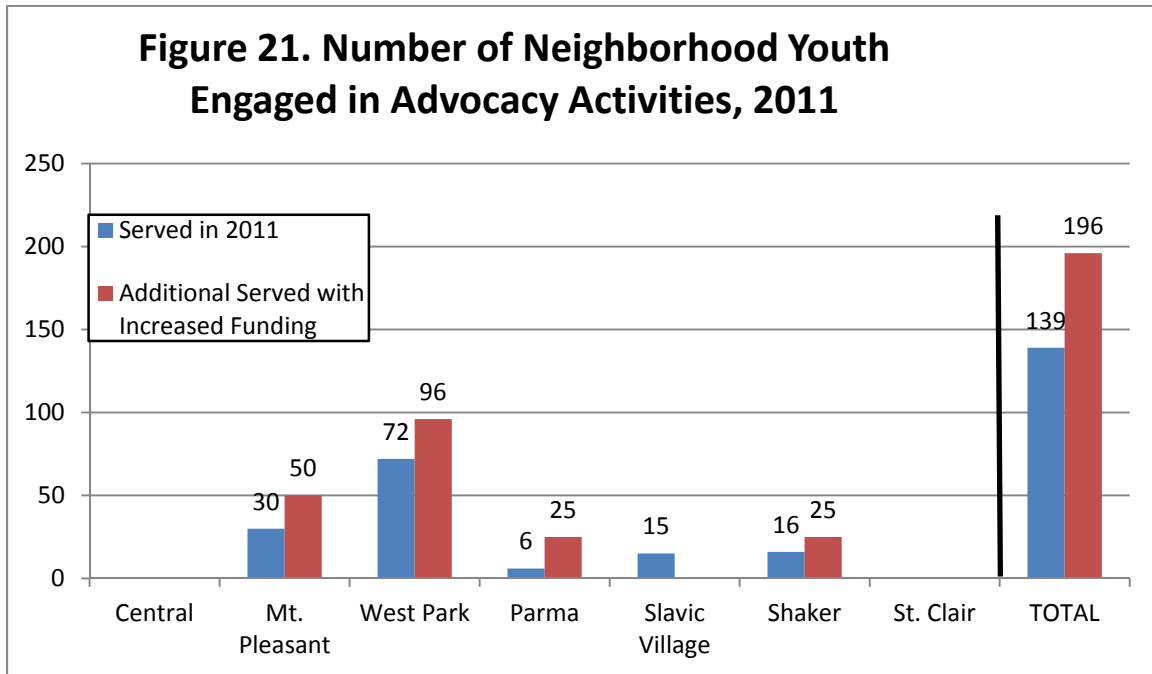


# ADVOCACY

## Accomplishments

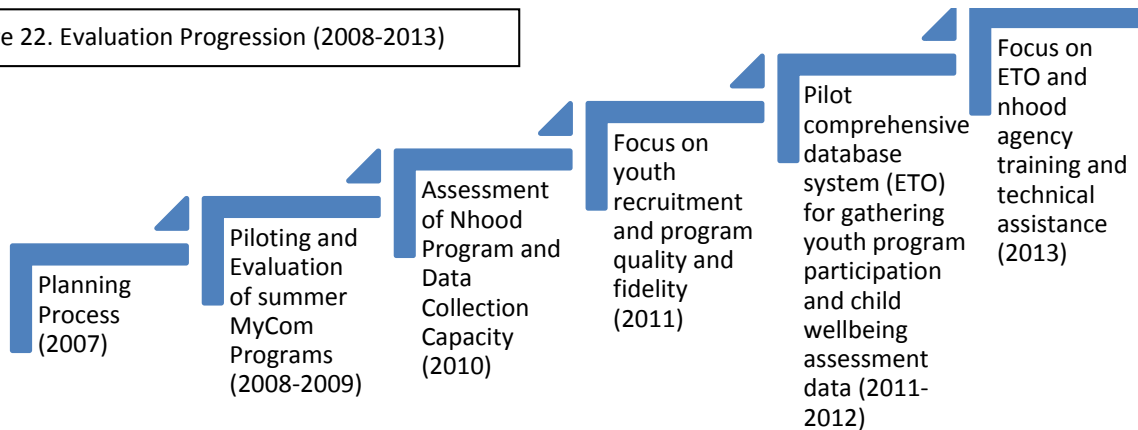
Advocacy was directed by Voices for Ohio’s Children. Advocacy has made significant strides since 2008. According to Amy Swanson, former executive director of Voices for Ohio’s Children, “MyCom assisted youth in building influence and affluence.” Advocacy’s mission focuses on gaining access to community leaders and young people, and instructing youth in advocacy skills. Youth were taught how to develop case statements and present them to policy makers in Columbus. Youth provided personal experiences about employment and job training, enabling policy makers to personalize youth achievements. MyCom elevated Out-of-School Time programs into the debate about OST’s function in youth development and wellbeing. Voices for Ohio’s Children collaborated with the state and federal personnel, identifying funds for the MyCom initiative and local neighborhoods. In these ways, advocacy set the public policy advocacy agenda.

**Figure 21. Number of Neighborhood Youth Engaged in Advocacy Activities, 2011**



## YOU programming: measures and effects

Figure 22. Evaluation Progression (2008-2013)



### Accomplishments

#### **Accomplishment 1. 2008-2009: Initial Outcome Findings for OST and Youth Employment Programming**

As discussed above, Begun Center evaluators were asked to complete an outcome study of summer MyCom programming in 2008 and 2009. Specifically, pre/posttest assessments were administered to youth participating in OST and youth employment programming. These findings provided the MyCom initiative with preliminary outcome data and most importantly, informed MyCom key stakeholders about needed changes in program implementation.

**Accomplishment 2. 2010: Capacity Assessment of MyCom neighborhoods and lead agencies.** This activity began in 2010 and carried over into the first quarter of 2011. The activity was related to the assessment of MyCom neighborhood agencies' structural, operational, programmatic, and managerial capacity. The research design for this evaluation activity was designed to examine the role and functions of neighborhood agencies within the broader MyCom network of technical assistance providers and partners. In a spirit of collaborative assessment two ISPV researchers and a member of the Family and Children First Council conducted interviews, reviewed and discussed responses and derived consensus on the interpretation of individual agency as well as aggregate issues, which emerged as interviews progressed. Interviews were conducted in neighborhood offices and lasted from approximately one to two hours. Interviewees were self-selected members of neighborhood agencies, including but not limited to program officers; agency executive directors; MyCom youth development directors, youth engagement coaches, and coordinators; and so on. In such research the "tone" of interviews becomes a critical issue in gathering data, information, and explanations. In all cases interviews were friendly, collegial and cordial; neighborhood personnel were forthcoming; and direct in their opinions. In addition to the primary interviews, two follow up interviews were conducted as well. These follow-up interviews were intended to clarify points and gain further perspective on issues that emerged in the first interview.

#### **Accomplishment 3. Pilot comprehensive database system (ETO), to gather youth program participation and child wellbeing assessment data (2012). 2010-2013: Building a Comprehensive Data Collection**

Beginning in 2010, the focus of the evaluation started to shift from the examination of the impact of summer OST and youth employment programming, to the development of a comprehensive database platform

capable of capturing MyCom youth program dosage data, youth demographics, and ongoing child wellbeing data.

A major accomplishment in 2011 provided specific technical assistance for the development of the universal intake and program dosage tracking mechanism. Early in 2011, the evaluation team revisited the use of SP and YOU data platforms as mechanisms for gathering MyCOM youth demographic, program participation, program-specific indicators, and universal well-being indicators. The ultimate goal was for MyCOM to have a common IT platform for gathering and reporting these data. Begun Center Evaluation staff met with IT staff from the two lead agencies responsible for the vast majority of direct programming for MyCOM neighborhoods (YOU and OST). The evaluation team discussed best practices for using SP and/or YOU database as a data gathering platform for MyCOM.

Begun Center researchers, in 2011-quarters 3 and 4, worked closely with Starting Point and FCFC staff on the Efforts to Outcomes (ETO) database implementation in one pilot MyCom neighborhood. ETO is a Web-based software database that tracks performance and outcomes of Starting Point. The overarching purpose of implementing ETO is to be able to obtain youth participant data and dosage levels so the Begun Center evaluation team will be able to report on the impact of program dosage on youth wellbeing outcomes. The role of the Begun Center evaluators includes working with Starting Point IT and program staff in the development of a MyCom ETO charter, surveys, a barcode scanning system, and mechanisms for providing data collection and training support to all pilot agencies. Begun Center staff is also working to develop a system for measuring and improving use of evidence-based out-of-school time programming for the MyCom initiative. They have also worked with Starting Point and FCFC staff in the development of a child wellbeing survey that will be used when a youth is enrolled in the program. Begun Center staff has also participated in ETO training at Social Solutions headquarters in Baltimore where they learned about all aspects of ETO implementation. They continue to participate in evaluation Webinars and trainings including a train-the-trainer model and the ETO Reports module.

#### **Accomplishment 4: Implemented Child Wellbeing assessment in MyCom target neighborhoods**

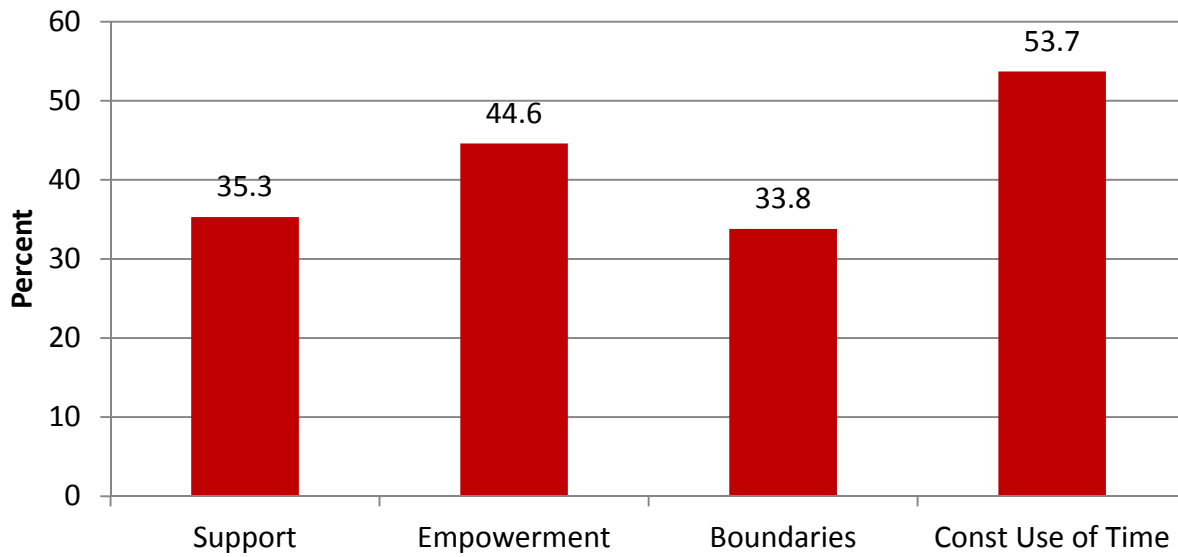
-In 2010, assessment of child wellbeing in MyCom and non-MyCom neighborhoods in Cuyahoga County was implemented.

-*Since 2010*, we have identified and piloted the Developmental Assessment Profile tool with over 250 MyCom youth, resulting in baseline DAP measures (see below)

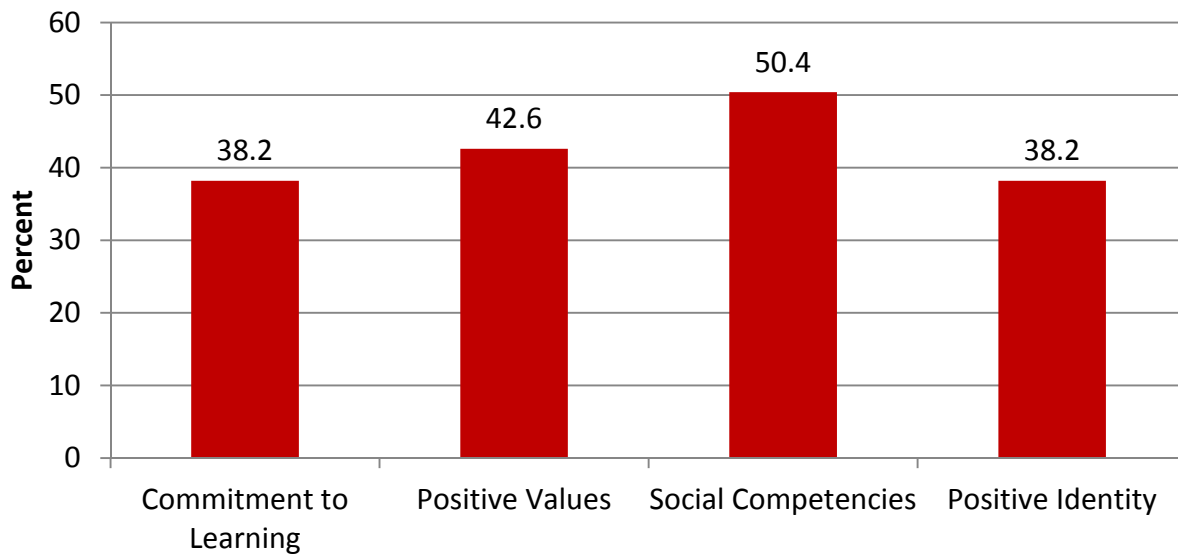
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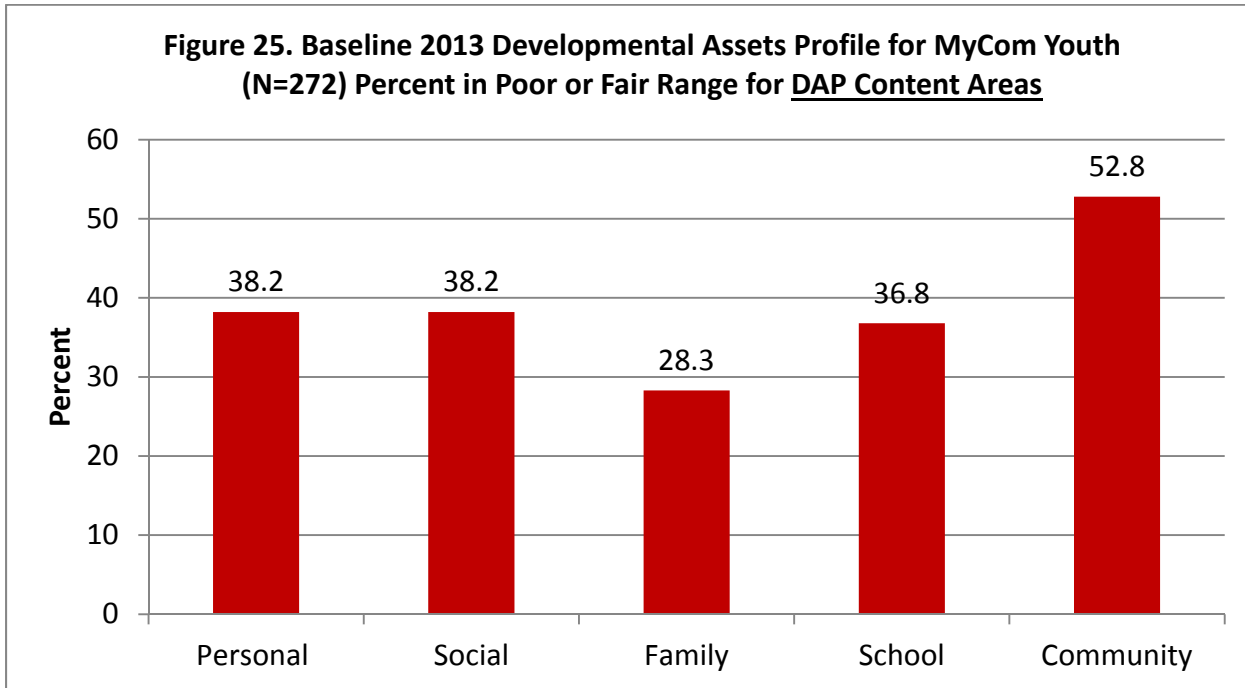
The DAP baseline data below indicated that MyCom recruits a wide demographic range of youth with a range of risk levels and assets. Findings presented below indicate that 53.7% of MyCom youth rated their constructive use of time as fair or poor; 40% had similar beliefs about their level of support and boundaries. Related to internal assets, 50.4% of MyCom youth rated their social competencies as fair or poor, while slightly 42.6% indicated the same rating for positive values; 52.8% of MyCom youth believe their community is a fair or poor asset; and 4 out of 10 MyCom youth felt the same about assets related to personal, social and school.

**Figure 23. Baseline 2013 Developmental Assets Profile for MyCom Youth (N=272) Percent in Poor or Fair Range for External Assets**



**Figure 24. Baseline 2013 Developmental Assets Profile for MyCom Youth (N=272) Percent in Poor or Fair Range for Internal Assets**





## Resources Leveraged by MyCom Neighborhoods

A significant amount of resources have been leveraged and provided in-kind by neighborhoods for MyCom programming. These funds have been used to provide additional services to MyCom youth and their families. Below is a description of the amount and type of resources leveraged by MyCom neighborhoods in 2011.

### **Central – (Value \$77,500)**

MyCom resources provided staff which supported the work of the Central Coordinating Council/MyCom which included staffing council meetings, staff support of events planned by CCYD, continued to identify and recruit youth serving providers and residents, staff the Youth Coordinating Council and provide staff support for activities planned and implemented by the Council. Attend meetings convened by Neighborhood Leadership Institute, Families and Children First Council. Meet with Lead agencies and provide support as requested: Youth Opportunities Unlimited, Cleveland Public Library, College Now and Starting Point. Plan and implement Out-of-School Time funded programs and activities. Enter Data in Data System and required by Starting Point. Sisters of Charity Foundation provided additional funding support for Winterfest. United Way Services provided John Mott Funding to the Youth Coordinating Council. Out-of-School time Funding received from Starting Point. CCYD/MyCom members also contribute resources to implement community wide youth activities.

### **Slavic Village – Value (\$200,000)**

During Year 3 the Third Federal Foundation made a financial commitment to fund a Neighborhood Youth Leadership Coordinator who is housed at the Boys and Girls Club and is responsible for staffing the Neighborhood Youth Leadership Team and building a portfolio of youth leadership opportunities for neighborhood youth.

Funding was leveraged through a challenge by Tracy Mason, Marie Kittredge and Councilman Tony Brancatelli to their respective Leadership Cleveland classes to fund youth summer jobs. \$4,000 was raised by this challenge and used to fund 50/50 job matches through Youth Opportunities Unlimited. Three Slavic Village businesses stepped up to the challenge as well, Corlett Movers hired 2 youth, Finishline Binderies hired 10 youth and Chas Phipps hired 1 youth.

Neighborhood groups including America SCORES Cleveland, University Settlement, Jones Road Family Development, the Boys and Girls Club and others leveraged resources and dollars with match grants through Starting Point Out of School time dollars to run camps and after school activities for youth during the 2009-2010 school year and the 2010 summer. During the Summer months the Boys and Girls Club and America SCORES received Friends of Slavic Village mini grants totally \$1,000 and used match staff time with University Settlement and Jones Road Family Development to run a 6 week summer soccer camp.

The Third Federal Foundation leveraged dollars and resources to send the twenty members of the Slavic Village Youth Leadership team to Baldwin Wallace for a three day and two night leadership training program.

The MyCom initiative and infrastructure dollars created a platform from which leverage the Third Federal P-16 initiative. The P-16 places a more direct focus on families and schools connecting the OST work and agency coordination done through MyCom. The P-16 Council has also been able to pull in a broader scope of stakeholders including but not limited to leadership within the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and the Union, law enforcement, juvenile justice system and local colleges. Through P-16 the Third Federal Foundation purchased Nook readers for the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders at Mound School and for all of the high school students at Washington Park Environmental Academy. The P-16 Council will continue to work in collaboration with the Slavic Village MyCom initiative in coordinating youth services for in school and out of school time for youth in Broadway Slavic Village.

### **Mt. Pleasant – (Value \$50,000)**

We have received additional training and technical support from national youth servicing organizations; Plain Talk National, and Sexuality Information & Education Council of the United States (SIECUS). YANC has received two local grants, Mott Foundation and Neighborhood Connections.

### **Parma – (Value \$140,000)**

The MyCom/Shiloh Café Program Coordinator applied for and received a Fuel Up To Play 60 Grant from the American Dairy Association and the National Football League. The funds received allowed the café to inform students and families on healthy eating habits and the importance of exercising for 60 minutes every day. Healthy foods and activities were provided to students during the school day and to families at the monthly family nights. The 2011-2012 Fuel Up To Play 60 grant has been applied for and if awarded will again supplement the Café for student and family outreach.

The MyCom Summer Dayz program was developed to provide recreational activities for youth (age 3-12) in Parma neighborhoods. This was done in collaboration with Y.O.U. (youth employment) and the City of Parma Recreation Department (city parks and sports equipment) and partially funded with MyCom dollars. This program for younger youth complemented the Shiloh Café Summer program for Middle School students and

the MyCom Youth Group which is composed of Parma area High School youth. The success of these programs will hopefully lead to partial or full funding by the recreation department in the coming years. The Summer Dayz program helped our older youth develop leadership and teamwork skills while becoming role models to younger youth. These youth will in turn be recruited for roles in our MyCom Youth Group.

MyCom dollars were leveraged to enable our successful Shiloh Café Summer program to run for six weeks this summer.

The summer program had 80 students register and 98% of these youth completed their Parma City School District summer reading requirement.

We are planning a youth leadership activity with the Shiloh café students who transitioned to Parma Senior High and the current MyCom Youth Group. This will help students form a sense of group and enable our Youth Group to grow and promote sustainability. We hope to expand OST programming. The Shiloh Café at Shiloh Middle School has been very successful and well received. The Café receives strong support from the Parma City School District, Shiloh Middle School's principal and staff, community members and our parents/families. If additional grant money can be obtained, we hope to expand successful Out of School Time programs at the secondary level. This would allow Parma area youth to have access to safe, free, asset-based recreation, youth development and leadership opportunities.

#### **Shaker – Value (\$70,000)**

The Shaker Youth Center leveraged its MyCom resources and provided a Summer Leadership Camp for Girls twice each week for 8 weeks. A total of 12 African American middle and high school girls were engaged in a variety of positive developmental field trips, workshops and community service. In addition, program hours for existing after school services funded by MyCom dollars continued to be expanded during last school year and open. Accessible community enrichment activities remained available to our youth.

Most significant is the creation of a teen Coffee House formed by local churches as a result of leveraging MyCom resources, this program will commence on October 7<sup>th</sup> and provide activities for youth grades 6-8 the first Friday of each month, MyCom staff will provide the supervision, another example of how we leverage our MyCom resources and maximize our collaboration

#### **St. Clair – Value (\$90,000)**

MyCom Coordinator provides support to community activities for youth including the community Halloween party, enabling the neighborhood to benefit from funds from area businesses who contribute to such events. MyCom Coordinator identified potential funding for neighborhood organizations including Kaboom. As a result Kaboom built a new playground at Rainey Institute. MyCom dollars are being leveraged in an effort to receive a Cuyahoga Arts and Culture grant. The CAC grant will allow for a mural project to be completed with neighborhood youth and the Youth Leadership Council. The mural project will be connected with the Year of the Dragon public art project.

#### **West Park – (Value \$87,000)**

Sometimes this question is a bit like “the chicken and the egg”, but here goes: We have leveraged a lot of support and partnerships with CMHA and our enrichment activities there have grown in quality and quantity.

My Com and OST funding has enabled us to employ a teacher who is certified in reading to serve as a part of their 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Center staff. The children are the beneficiaries!

We received \$20,000 from Time Warner for 2012 (we received the same amount in 2011) that enabled us to upgrade all of the computers in the lab to Windows 7 and Office 2010, so students are learning on the most current software. Time Warner supports two kinds activities in our computer lab – youth development and adult education. They are invested in our availability and ‘open lab’ for both age groups as well. Without Time Warner funds supporting youth development at the computer lab (also located in CMHA Riverside Park Estates) we would not have attracted MyCom in the first place.

We received a \$7,000 grant from Thomas White Foundation that is enabling the neighborhood/community to explore the feasibility of a youth center of some kind. The criticism we received from several foundations is that we do not have a particular location for BPDC’s own programming. We do programming at CMHA, in conjunction with CMHA and MyCom and Time Warner but we do not have a non-CMHA site of our own for people from all around the neighborhood. These dollars will significantly enhance our ability to offer programming throughout the neighborhood and helps us create a sustainable model for BPDC’s role in the West Park MyCOM youth development activities. Additionally, staff hopes that the process will enhance efforts to strengthen the Neighborhood Council and renew their engagement with the Neighborhood Plan. That work will conclude late summer of 2012.

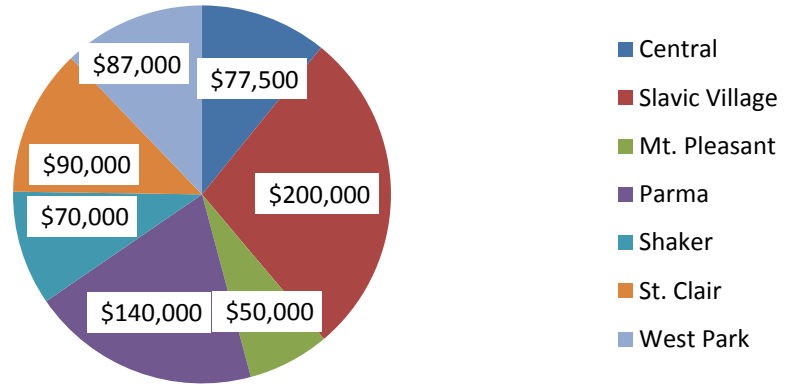
We also have a \$40,000 contract with CMHA that goes from April 2011 to March 2012. We sincerely hope the contract will be renewed in 2012 (through March 2013). About half this contract is for our youth development efforts at the computer lab and with the CMHA Riverside Park Estates 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Center, and about half is for our adult education and literacy efforts at CMHA as well. Our staff also works closely with the Local Advisory Council (LAC) at CMHA’s Riverside Park Estates to give them resources, consulting and support in applying to Neighborhood Connections for some funding for the summer youth programs there. They were very successful in the summer of 2011 with an anti-bullying theme of “Turn It Around” and are looking forward to summer 2012. (They plan to continue the anti-bullying work and expand the theme to invite greater acceptance of diversity within their community.)

Recognizing BPDC is one (tremendous) part of the West Park MyCom’s youth development activities, it would be important to also consider what the other youth serving organizations are doing in the neighborhood, and what they leverage. SCORES brings a match to the MyCOM OST funds awarded them from West Park. Joyful Noise is providing services in the neighborhood – all within the MyCom plan, but only receiving a small amount for instrument repair from West Park MyCOM OST.

**Total Initiative 2011 Leverage = \$714,500**



**Figure 26. Resources Leveraged by MyCom Neighborhoods: 2011**



## MyCom Changed Neighborhood-agencies' Infrastructure

### Central

- There is **increased knowledge** that there is a Collaborative in Central that is working to develop a coordinated approach to serving youth and their families.
- Leadership has continued to grow within CCYD/MyCom and new Co-Chairs have accepted the responsibility of moving the Collaborative forward.
- The **Central System of Care Family to Family Collaborative** has over sixty members which include systems representatives, non-profit organizations located in or serving individuals and families residing in Central as well as residents.
- CCYD/MyCom is the youth serving arm of the Central Collaborative and has 20 **committed members** who represent youth serving organizations, and residents.
- The **Youth Coordinating Council** actively identifies issues and makes recommendations to CCYD/MyCom.

### West Park

- Our **Mobilization Team** greater representation from neighborhood, youth-serving organizations and really good representation by youth leaders. They shared program information with each other, did a mini-needs assessment, and the “executive committee” worked with staff on the OST-RFSSP and prioritized and approved the final submission.
- They are currently looking forward to a **planning process** and to updating our neighborhood plan. They hope to strengthen areas of work outside of BPDC and OST funding.
- **Programming is more diverse** – in terms of variety, locations in our MyCom community geography, and ability to reach youth with diverse backgrounds and situations. As a result, more youth know MyCom and respond positively when invited to participate in a MyCom offered event.
- **Community members** respond positively when staff mentions MyCom.
- Have a **larger youth development staff**.
- Because of MyCom relationships built with a local school and supported by out-of-school time programming support there, we are now serving in a contractual situation and offering our Options program at the school during school time hours.
- We staff and we have received some excellent **training** (which is especially helpful to those without youth work in their portfolio.)
- Our larger staff, Board, and volunteers have a **better understanding of what MyCom is** and our possibilities.

### Mt. Pleasant

- The Mt. Pleasant Executive Roundtable meets regularly (monthly) and is working to establish more partnerships with local agencies and entities. **MYCOM related issues are presented in writing prior to the meeting and voted upon membership.**

- Since My Com's inception, Mt. Pleasant has seen an increased number of program options and access to those services
- Seen an **increase in number of students participating** in programs

### Slavic Village

- The MyCom initiative in Broadway Slavic Village has changed the neighborhood by **refocusing how Slavic Village Development does community planning.**
- Previous to the MyCom initiative community planning meetings were scheduled around the availability of adults and focused on the impact of redevelopment on adults and families. At the beginning of the initiative we would send reminders to neighborhood partners to bring youth and schedule the meetings when they fit best within the work day and early evening. Now **meetings are scheduled around when youth can be at the table** and youth are expected as part of the norm rather than the exception.
- The **youth voice is encouraged** and an intentional effort is made to amplify that voice in public gatherings.
- The **MyCom initiative provided a platform to strengthen partnerships** and build new ones.
- It strengthened the working relationships of three of the key nonprofits serving the Broadway Slavic neighborhood along the Broadway artery; Broadway Boys and Girls Club, Slavic Village Development, and University Settlement. This partnership has proved beneficial for each organization, **strengthening their service capabilities.**
- The MyCom initiative has **improved communication across organizations.** We now have a better understanding of the multiple OST providers in the neighborhood.
- The **mobilization team meetings** have provided a forum to stimulate conversation and cooperation on different programming initiatives among out of school time programming.

### Shaker

- **Shaker youth who began with our MyCom movement have grown to go on to college with positive experiences,** heightened self-confidence and a portfolio of influential contacts all due to their involvement with this youth development movement.
- In addition, our **MyCom has become successfully integrated into the fabric of the community** resulting in active commitment from virtually every entity in South Shaker. This was evidenced by Mayor Earl Leiken being awarded the 2010 Youth Voice Award along with three (3) Shaker students.
- Most important to the success of this youth initiative has been the **essential partnerships** that have developed among community organizations, public safety, churches, neighborhood associations and residents.
- The continued **dedication, support and input of our neighborhood planning team** (South Shaker Neighborhood Council) has continued from the initial planning phase to present with documented partnerships established between the Shaker Prevention Coalition, Shaker Library system, Open Doors, Department of Community Life, Office of the Mayor and the Shaker Youth Center all of whom collaborate and work together to ensure effective, positive events, activities and opportunities for the youth of Shaker Heights.

## Parma

- MyCom has changed our organization to begin **thinking more collaboratively**.
- MyCom support has allowed our organization to **develop our ties to the schools, the community and our children and families**.
- We have a **stronger strategic development plan** and have been able to connect with all stakeholders to determine plans and discuss relevant issues.
- Our **staff is becoming more aware** of the need for coordination of existing programs and enhanced access for youth.
- Our staff has collaborated to **increase support to our stakeholders** and a culture of respect and teamwork has been established through the variety of ways that MyCom has impacted the Parma Area.
- MyCom support has **directly affected** our community, youth and adults by providing resources for OST programs, a MyCom Youth Group, a Job Fair and a Fall Festival. The Shiloh Café, supported by the MyCom Infrastructure has increased OST programming for the Parma Cluster. **The Shiloh Café has enrolled close to 380 students in the last 2 years**. Summer Dayz had close to 100 children attend its 6 week program and the MyCom Youth Group currently has 25 members.
- The **adults in our community** are starting to realize that giving youth voice and choice is an asset to all stakeholders and affects the Parma Area in a positive manner.
- Youth feel like an integral part of the community and **sense more hope for the future**.
- The Parma Area Family Collaborative has incorporated MyCom into their **monthly meeting agendas** to report on the many ways MyCom has impacted our youth and families and our community.

## St. Clair

- MyCom has impacted the way in which **youth serving organizations communicate and work together** to improve programming for youth in the community.
- **Greater collaboration** amongst youth serving organizations.
- Youth are starting to have a **greater voice in the programs and activities** that are designed for them. For example, the Youth Leadership Council planned and held a community festival for other youth in the community. The council has also been actively involved in the plans for a new teen center in the neighborhood.
- The SCS neighborhood planning team meets at least every other month to discuss the progress of MyCom in the neighborhood. **Increasing numbers of organizations** from the neighborhood are attending, including several schools.
- Planning team members recommended youth for the Youth Leadership Council and provided space for meetings.

## Case Study: The Impact of MyCom Funding on Parma Neighborhood

MyCom changed youth programming by offering several out of school time opportunities that have grown over time and been welcomed by the community. Youth have more access to caring adults in the MyCom programs. MyCom support has definitely helped our youth develop a sense of belonging with the schools and the community. We have been able to engage youth in a myriad of ways. Youth have been able to have a voice in planning events and programs. Collaboration with community partners continues to grow. The City of Parma provided space for our Summer Dayz program and the Shiloh Café was supported by partnering with Berea Children's Home and Family Services, the Cuyahoga County Public Library, the Parma Community Hospital Health Education Center and the Ridgewood YMCA.

The infrastructure funds were used to support the development of our Youth Group, our Summer Dayz program and the Shiloh Café OST program. The MyCom Youth Group continues to grow and implemented the Mott Grant Fall Festival this year. Many Youth Group students worked for the Summer Dayz program. Summer Dayz is a recreation program which utilized the high school students in leadership roles. A variety of crafts and game activities were provided at two city parks where the neighborhoods have higher concentrations of "at risk" youth under the supervision of our high school youth. MyCom initiatives and events have been promoted at the Parma Area Family Collaborative meetings and throughout the community. Programming is provided for children/families and elementary, middle school and high school youth.

## **Appendix A: Summer Outcome Study Tables**

**Table 27. Mean Functioning Scale Scores by Sociodemographic Subgroups: OST MyCOM Youth 12 Years and Older**

Sociodemographic Grouping	PRETEST Mean Functioning Score	POSTTEST Mean Functioning Score	Difference	P-Value	N
All Youth	65.9	67.3	1.4	.00***	365
Male	66.0	67.4	1.4	.04*	167
Female	65.8	67.3	1.5	.00***	191
12.0-14.9 years old	65.5	67.1	1.6	.01**	167
15.0 years or above	66.2	67.5	1.3	.02*	198
Single Parent Household	65.4	67.0	1.6	.02*	180
Two Parent Household	66.3	67.5	1.2	.02*	185
Parent(s) Employed	66.1	67.6	1.5	.00***	299
No Parent(s) Employed	65.3	65.9	0.6	.67	63
Weekly OST <20 Hours	66.4	66.9	0.5	.32	206
Weekly OST 20 Hours+	65.3	67.7	2.4	.00***	153
Total OST Days 1-9	66.3	67.1	0.8	.50	100
Total OST Days 10+	65.9	67.8	1.9	.00***	174
Cleveland Youth	65.7	66.8	1.1	.02*	246
Non-Cleveland Youth	66.6	68.6	2.0	.01**	113
MyCOM Neighborhood	66.6	68.3	1.7	.01**	75
Non-MyCOM Nhood	65.7	66.9	1.2	.01**	290

\*\*\*=.001 level of confidence, \*\*=.01 level of confidence, \*=.05 level of confidence

**Table 28. Mean Functioning Scale Scores by Sociodemographic Subgroups  
OST MyCom Youth 12 Years and Older**

Pretest Risk/Competency Grouping	PRETEST Mean Functioning Score	POSTTEST Mean Functioning Score	Difference	P	N
All Youth	65.9	67.3	1.4	.00***	365
Engaged with community	67.9	68.7	0.8	.06	259
<b>Not engaged with community</b>	<b>61.0</b>	<b>63.6</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>.00***</b>	<b>102</b>
Engaged in school	67.2	68.3	1.1	.01**	317
Not engaged in school	56.8	60.6	3.8	.02*	45
Have adult to talk to	67.8	68.7	0.9	.04*	297
<b>No adult to talk to</b>	<b>57.1</b>	<b>60.6</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>.00***</b>	<b>64</b>
Feel safe in neighborhood	67.0	68.2	1.2	.01**	299
Feel unsafe in neighborhood	60.9	63.1	2.2	.04*	63
Feel safe in school	66.5	67.8	1.3	.01**	326
Feel unsafe in school	60.7	62.6	1.9	.18	38
Past month not bullied at school	66.5	67.8	1.3	.00***	318
Past month bullied at school	62.4	63.4	1.0	.47	45
No past month drug /alcohol use	66.3	67.8	1.5	.00***	306
Past month drug/alcohol use	63.9	64.8	0.9	.51	57
No past month anxiety/fear	67.3	68.7	1.4	.00***	243
Past month anxiety/fear	63.1	64.5	1.4	.10	120
No past month sadness/depression	68.5	69.5	1.0	.10	159
<b>Past month sadness/depression</b>	<b>64.0</b>	<b>65.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>.01**</b>	<b>204</b>

\*\*\*=.001 level of confidence, \*\*=.01 level of confidence, \*=.05 level of confidence



Table 29. Perceived impact of OST programming on problem solving, decision-making and goal setting (n=732)

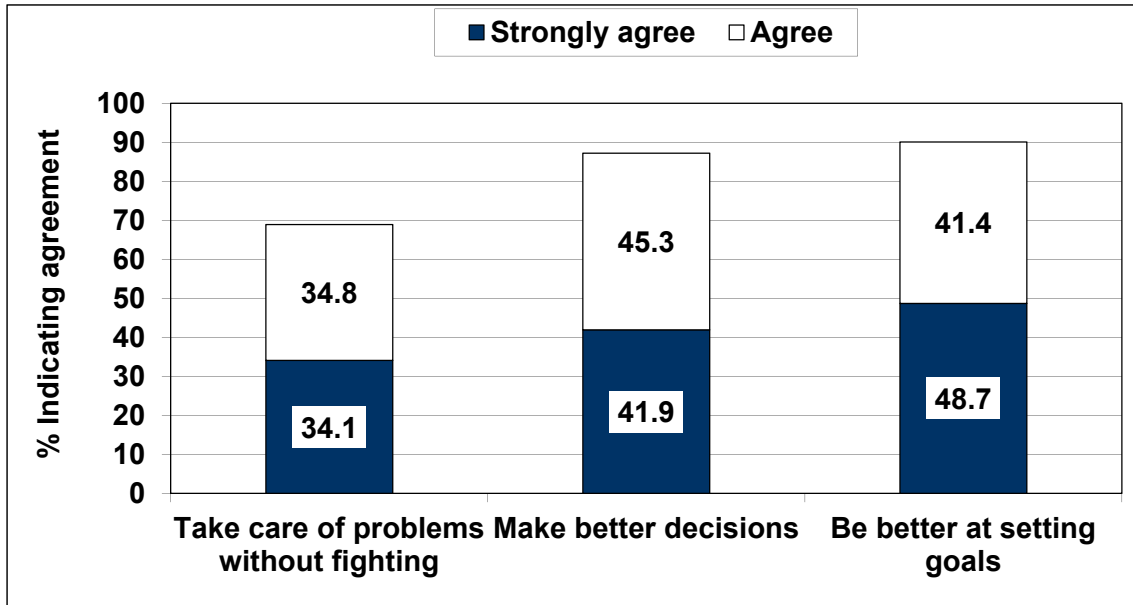
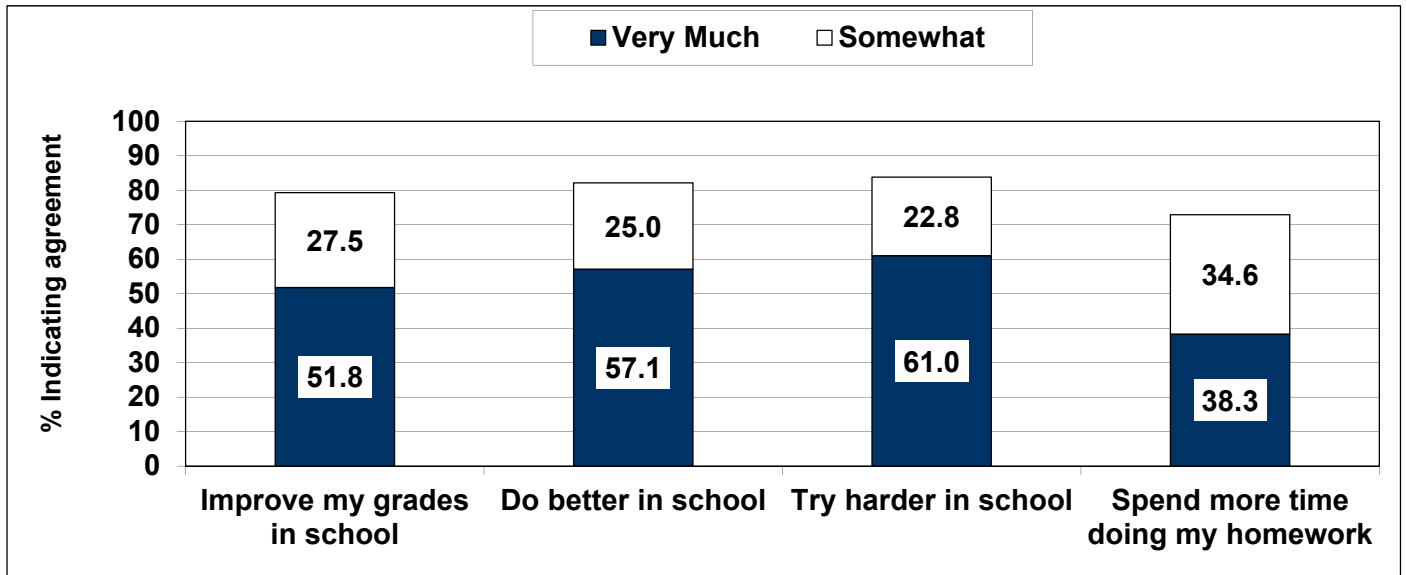
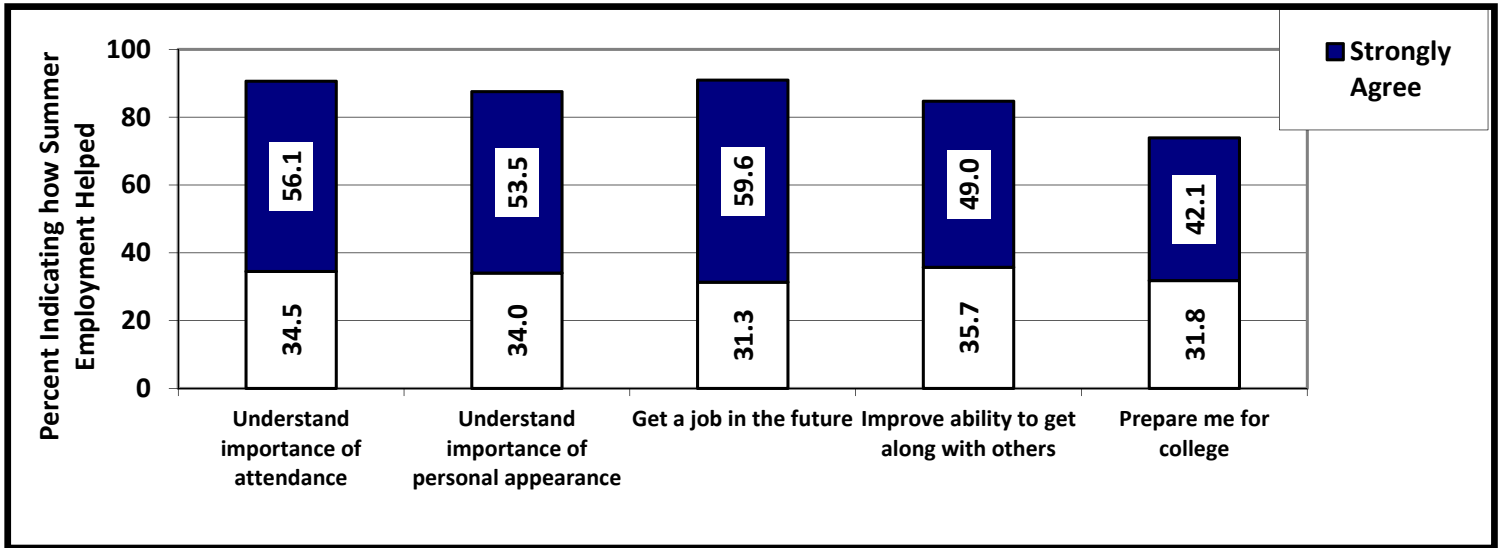


Table 30. Perceived impact of OST programming on school success (n=732)



**Table 31. Employment Readiness Retrospective Posttest Items  
ALL EMPLOYED YOUTH (n=2,332)**



## **Appendix B: Neighborhood Engagement Summary Tables and Figures**

**Table 32. Number of unduplicated individuals engaged over the past year as a result of MY COM dollars**

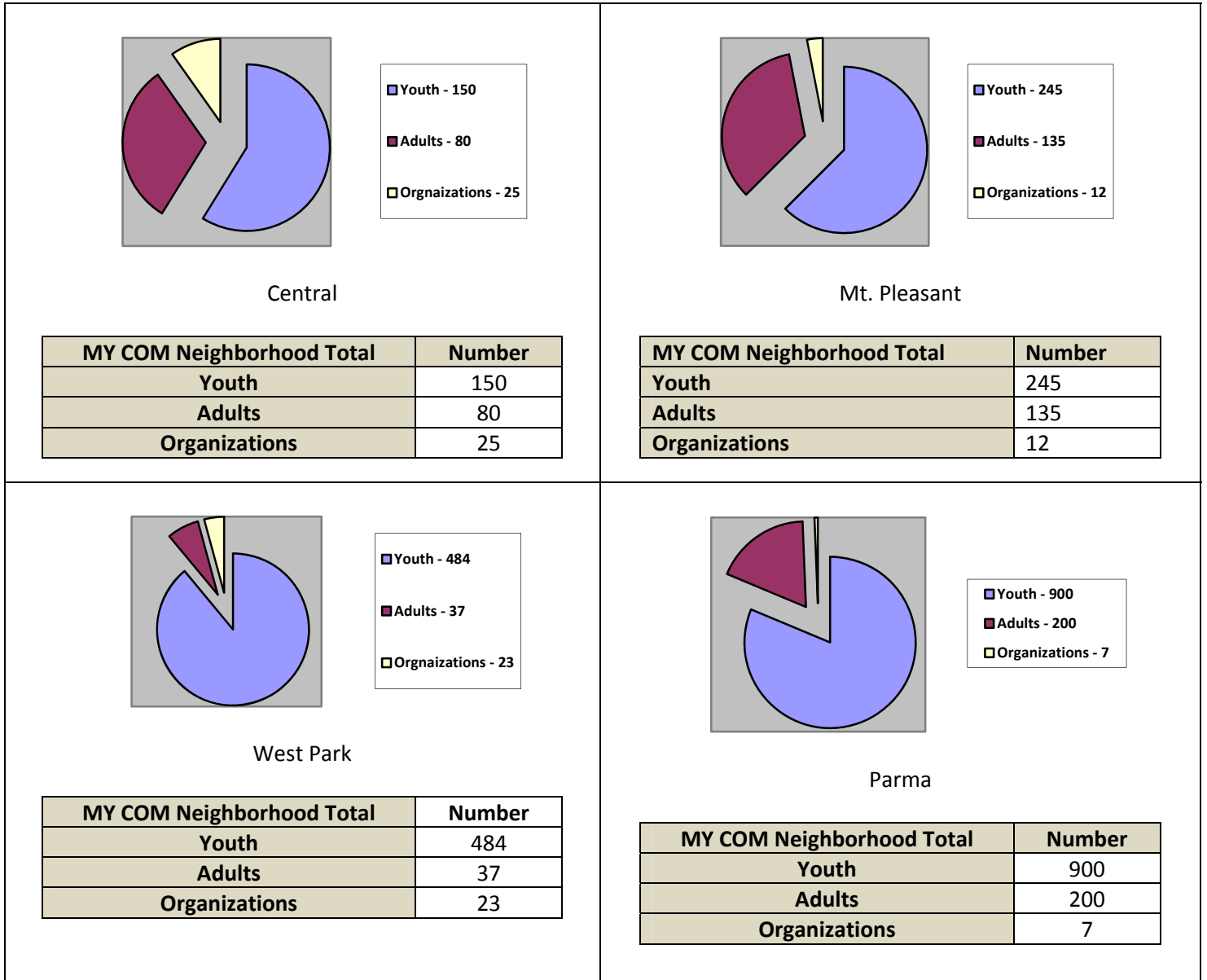
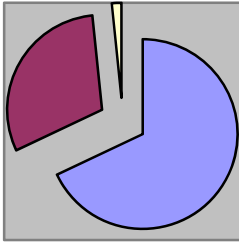


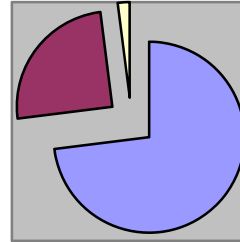
Table 32, continued.



■ Youth - 2750  
 ■ Adults - 1230  
 □ Orgnaizations - 66

Slavic Village

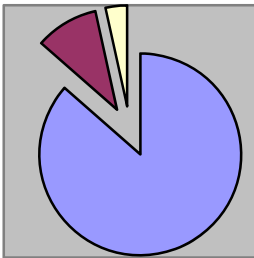
MY COM Neighborhood Total	Number
Youth	2750
Adults	1230
Organizations	66



■ Youth - 1053  
 ■ Adults - 360  
 □ Organizations - 29

Shaker

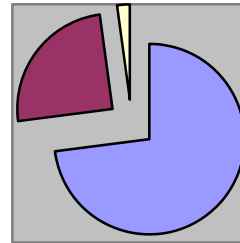
MY COM Neighborhood Total	Number
Youth	1053
Adults	360
Organizations	29



■ Youth - 300  
 ■ Adults - 35  
 □ Orgnaizations - 12

St. Clair

MY COM Neighborhood Total	Number
Youth	300
Adults	35
Organizations	12



■ Youth - 900  
 ■ Adults - 200  
 □ Organizations - 7

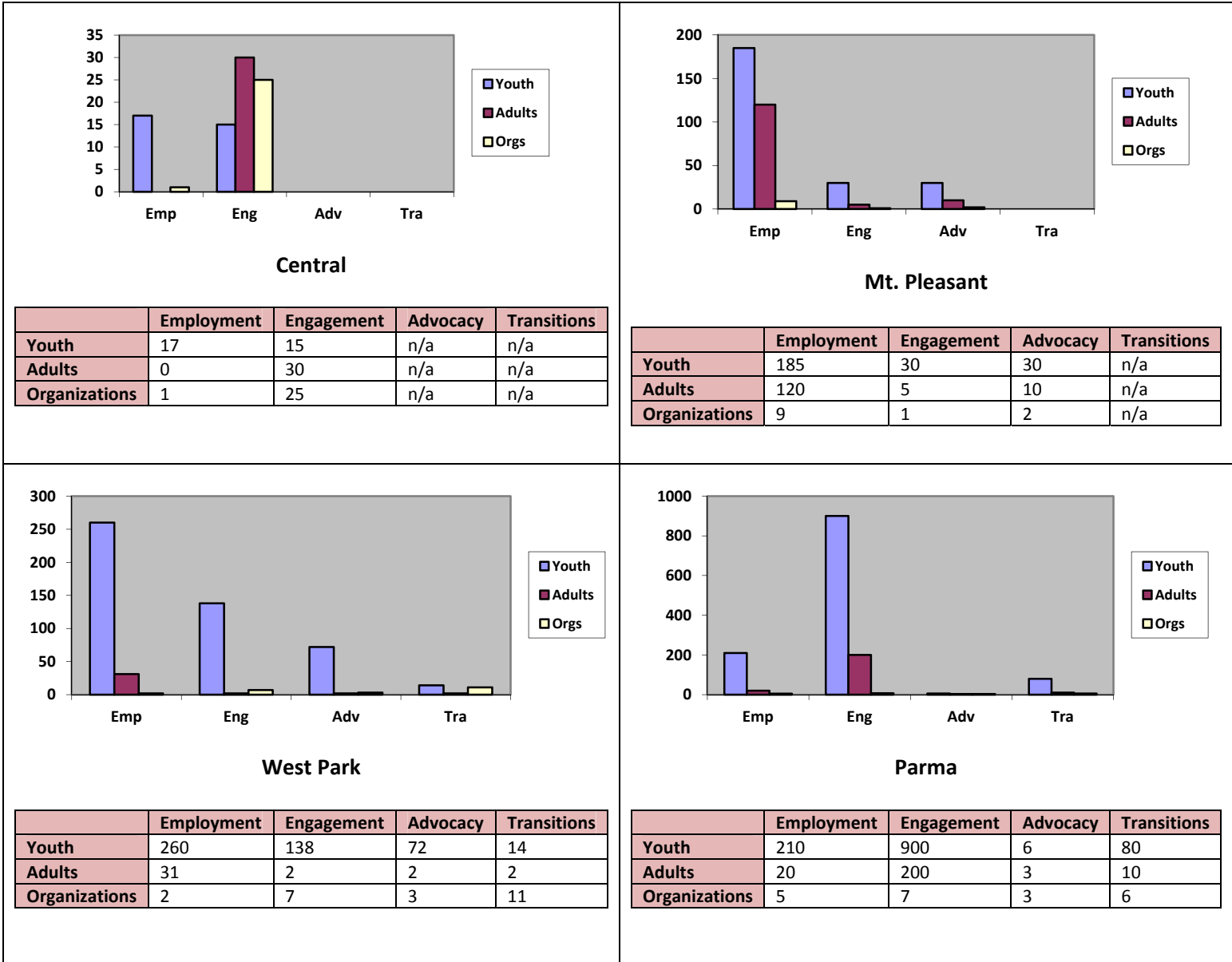
TOTAL INITIATIVE

MY COM Neighborhood Total	Number
Youth	5,882
Adults	2,077
Organizations	174

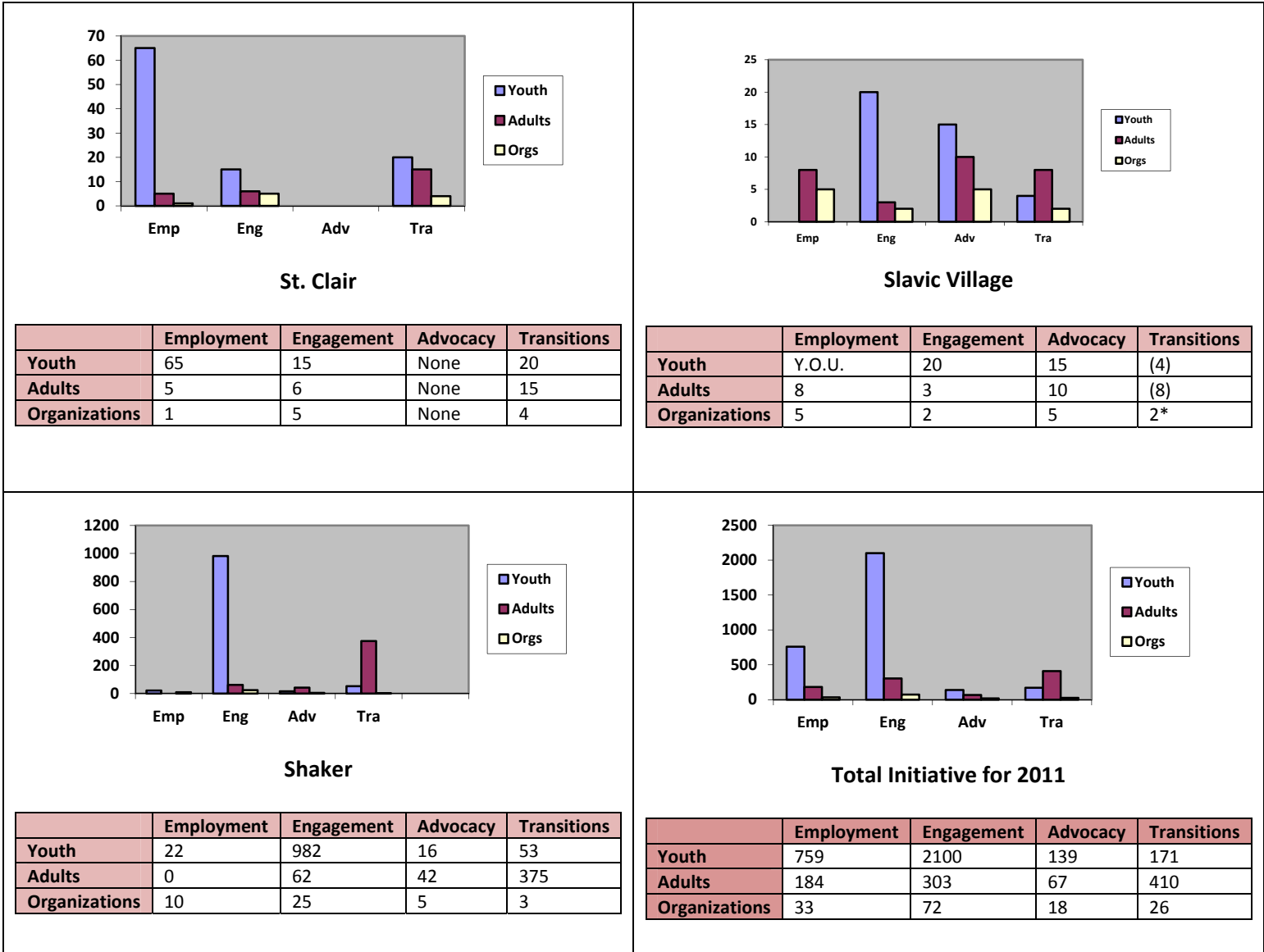
**Table 33. How many of the following would you have been able to engage over the past year, with increased MY COM dollars?**

Central		West Park	
<b>MY COM Infrastructure</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>MY COM Infrastructure</b>	<b>Number</b>
Youth	200	Youth	643
Adults	100	Adults	50
Organizations	30	Organizations	32
Shaker		Slavic Village	
<b>MY COM Infrastructure</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>MY COM Infrastructure</b>	<b>Number</b>
Youth	1,530	Youth	3,500
Adults	629	Adults	1,700
Organizations	50	Organizations	80
Parma		Mt. Pleasant	
<b>MY COM Infrastructure</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>MY COM Infrastructure</b>	<b>Number</b>
Youth	1500	Youth	650
Adults	400	Adults	150
Organizations	10	Organizations	8
St. Clair		Total Initiative for 2011	
<b>MY COM Infrastructure</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>MY COM Infrastructure</b>	<b>Number</b>
Youth	500	Youth	8,523
Adults	50	Adults	3,079
Organizations	15	Organizations	225

**Table 34. How many of the following have you been able to engage over the past year, in specific MY COM areas?**



**Table 35. How many of the following have you been able to engage over the past year, in specific MY COM areas?**





**Table 36. How many of the following would you have been able to engage over the past year, with increased MY COM dollars, in specific MY COM areas?**

Central					West Park				
	Employment	Engagement	Advocacy	Transitions		Employment	Engagement	Advocacy	Transitions
<b>Youth</b>	50	15	Unknown	Unknown	<b>Youth</b>	346	182	96	19
<b>Adults</b>	0	30	Unknown	Unknown	<b>Adults</b>	41	3	3	3
<b>Organizations</b>	3	25	Unknown	Unknown	<b>Organizations</b>	5	9	4	14
Shaker					Slavic Village				
	Employment	Engagement	Advocacy	Transitions		Employment	Engagement	Advocacy	Transitions
<b>Youth</b>	100	1300	25	106	<b>Youth</b>	300	30	Unknown	Unknown
<b>Adults</b>	0	102	60	545	<b>Adults</b>	16	6	Unknown	Unknown
<b>Organizations</b>	20	25	10	7	<b>Organizations</b>	10	4	Unknown	Unknown
Parma					Mt. Pleasant				
	Employment	Engagement	Advocacy	Transitions		Employment	Engagement	Advocacy	Transitions
<b>Youth</b>	300	1000	25	125	<b>Youth</b>	400	50	50	n/a
<b>Adults</b>	30	300	10	15	<b>Adults</b>	250	10	25	n/a
<b>Organizations</b>	15	10	10	7	<b>Organizations</b>	15	1	5	n/a
St. Clair					Total Initiative for 2011				
	Employment	Engagement	Advocacy	Transitions		Employment	Engagement	Advocacy	Transitions
<b>Youth</b>	200	20	n/a	n/a	<b>Youth</b>	1696	2597	196	250
<b>Adults</b>	20	5	n/a	n/a	<b>Adults</b>	357	456	98	563
<b>Organizations</b>	10	n/a	n/a	n/a	<b>Organizations</b>	78	74	29	28

**Table 37. How many of the following do you anticipate engaging over the next year, as a result of MYCOM dollars?**

<b>Central</b>		<b>West Park</b>	
<b>MY COM Infrastructure</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>MY COM Infrastructure</b>	<b>Number</b>
Youth	100	Youth	610
Adults	50	Adults	45
Organizations	30	Organizations	30
<b>Shaker</b>		<b>Slavic Village</b>	
<b>MY COM Infrastructure</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>MY COM Infrastructure</b>	<b>Number</b>
Youth	1308	Youth	3,500
Adults	485	Adults	1,700
Organizations	30	Organizations	80
<b>Parma</b>		<b>Mt. Pleasant</b>	
<b>MY COM Infrastructure</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>MY COM Infrastructure</b>	<b>Number</b>
Youth	350	Youth	350
Adults	20	Adults	150
Organizations	10	Organizations	16
<b>St. Clair</b>		<b>Total Initiative for 2011</b>	
<b>MY COM Infrastructure</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>MY COM Infrastructure</b>	<b>Number</b>
Youth	300	Youth	6,518
Adults	35	Adults	2,485
Organizations	15	Organizations	211

**Table 38. How many of the following do you anticipate engaging over the next year, in specific MY COM areas?**

Central					West Park				
	Employment	Engagement	Advocacy	Transitions		Employment	Engagement	Advocacy	Transitions
<b>Youth</b>	15	15	Unknown	Unknown	<b>Youth</b>	300	235	50	25
<b>Adults</b>	0	25	Unknown	Unknown	<b>Adults</b>	35	4	3	3
<b>Organizations</b>	1	30	Unknown	Unknown	<b>Organizations</b>	4	8	3	15
Shaker					Slavic Village				
	Employment	Engagement	Advocacy	Transitions		Employment	Engagement	Advocacy	Transitions
<b>Youth</b>	50	1183	20	55	<b>Youth</b>	Unknown	30	Unknown	Unknown
<b>Adults</b>	0	65	35	375	<b>Adults</b>	16	3	Unknown	Unknown
<b>Organizations</b>	12	25	6	5	<b>Organizations</b>	10	4	Unknown	Unknown
Parma					Mt. Pleasant				
	Employment	Engagement	Advocacy	Transitions		Employment	Engagement	Advocacy	Transitions
<b>Youth</b>	70	15	15	25	<b>Youth</b>	280	30	40	n/a
<b>Adults</b>	8	6	20	20	<b>Adults</b>	132	8	10	n/a
<b>Organizations</b>	2	5	6	4	<b>Organizations</b>	14	2	2	n/a
St. Clair					Total Initiative for 2011				
	Employment	Engagement	Advocacy	Transitions		Employment	Engagement	Advocacy	Transitions
<b>Youth</b>	250	350	50	125	<b>Youth</b>	965	1,858	175	230
<b>Adults</b>	20	158	6	15	<b>Adults</b>	211	269	74	413
<b>Organizations</b>	25	Unknown	6	7	<b>Organizations</b>	68	74	23	31