




Youth and family voice

A survey of acrc members



ACRC recognizes that incorporating youth and family voice into our work in residential care is vital to successful programming and outcomes. Peer support programs can help connect families to one another, improve emotional functioning of parents who have children with disabilities, increase engagement of parents and youth in services, improve youth functioning at discharge, and increase successful completion of services.*

In response to this evidence, ACRC has convened a Family and Youth Voice committee. The committee's mission is to broaden representation and participation of youth and family with lived experience in all aspects of ACRC functioning.

This year, the committee sent out a survey in order to identify how prevalent youth and family voice is incorporated into member organizations' service provision, workforce, and general functioning. Here is what you told us. . .

*A.F. Hartman, M.B. Radin, and B. McConnell. "Parent-to-Parent Support: A Critical Component of Health Care Services for Families." *Issues in Comprehensive Nursing*, 15 (1992), 55-67.*

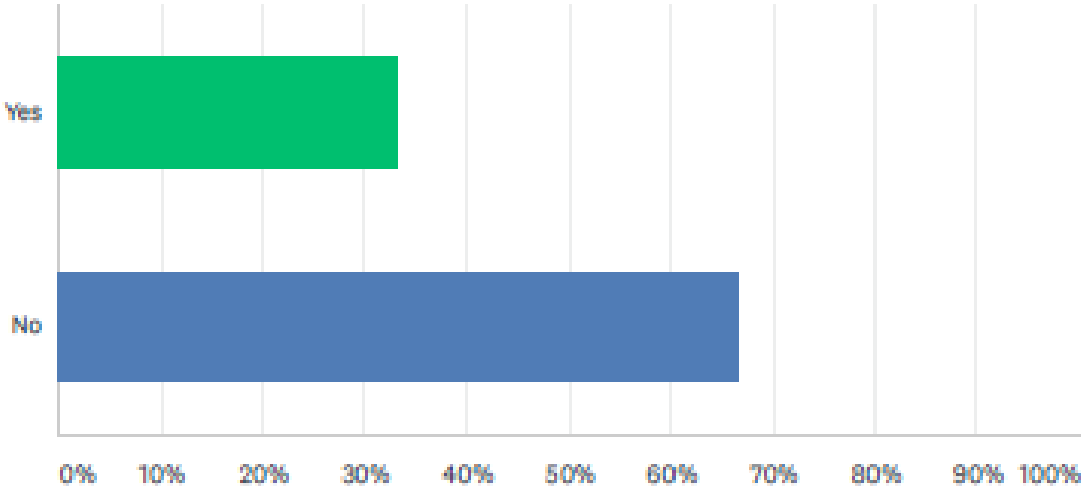
*L. Bickman, C. Heflinger, D. Northrup, S. Sonnichsen, and S. Schilling. "Long Term Outcomes to Family Caregiver Empowerment." *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 7, no. 3 (1998a), 269-282.*

*M.G. Resendez, R.M. Quist, and D.G.M. Matshazi. "A Longitudinal Analysis of Family Empowerment and Client Outcomes." *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 9, no. 4 (2000), 449-460.*

Youth and Family Survey

Q2 Does your agency employ peer youth (those with lived experience related to being in the mental health system) to deliver direct or indirect support to youth?

Answered: 60 Skipped: 14

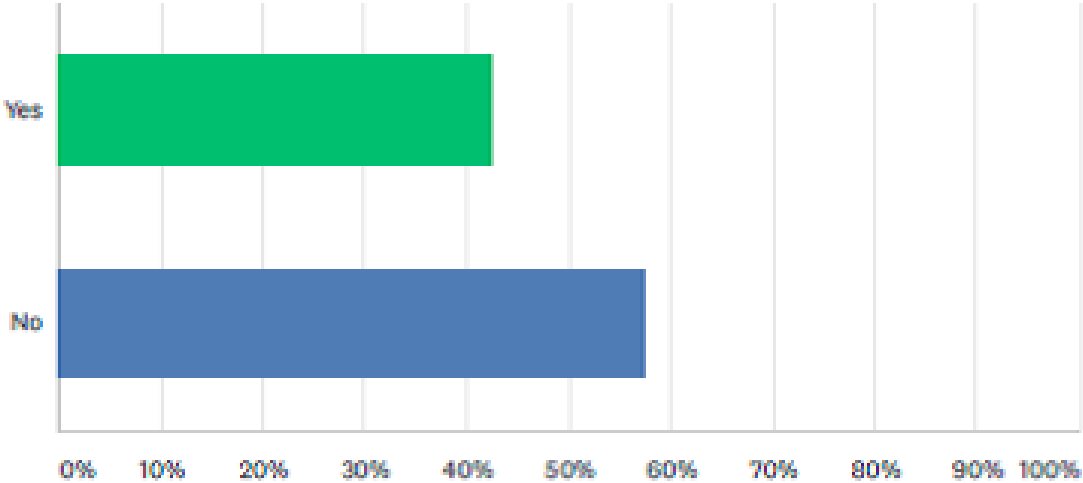


| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|----------------|-----------|----|
| Yes | 33.33% | 20 |
| No | 66.67% | 40 |
| TOTAL | | 60 |

Youth and Family Survey

Q3 Does your agency employ peer parents (those with lived experience related to having children in the mental health system) to deliver direct or indirect support to families?

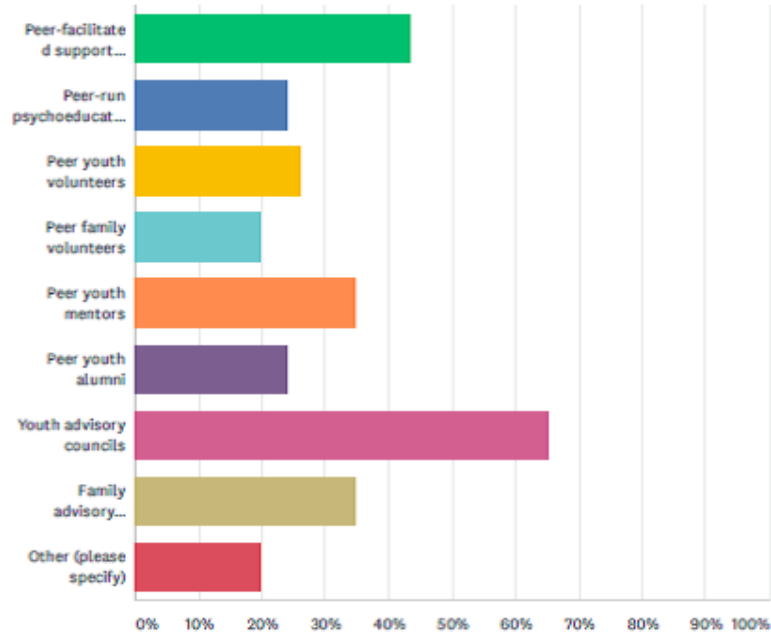
Answered: 59 Skipped: 15



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|----------------|-----------|----|
| Yes | 42.37% | 25 |
| No | 57.63% | 34 |
| TOTAL | | 59 |

Q4 Please mark any of the following support services that your agency offers to youth and family:

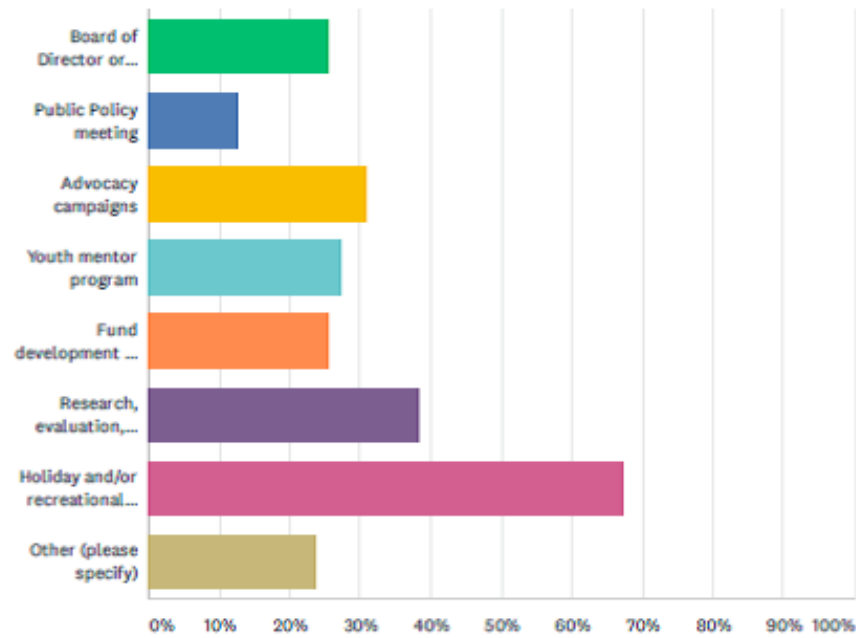
Answered: 46 Skipped: 28



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|---|-----------|----|
| Peer-facilitated support groups | 43.48% | 20 |
| Peer-run psychoeducation workshops or trainings | 23.91% | 11 |
| Peer youth volunteers | 26.09% | 12 |
| Peer family volunteers | 19.57% | 9 |
| Peer youth mentors | 34.78% | 16 |
| Peer youth alumni | 23.91% | 11 |
| Youth advisory councils | 65.22% | 30 |
| Family advisory councils | 34.78% | 16 |
| Other (please specify) | 19.57% | 9 |
| Total Respondents: 46 | | |

Q5 Please mark any of the following areas that youth and family actively contribute to and participate at your agency.

Answered: 55 Skipped: 19

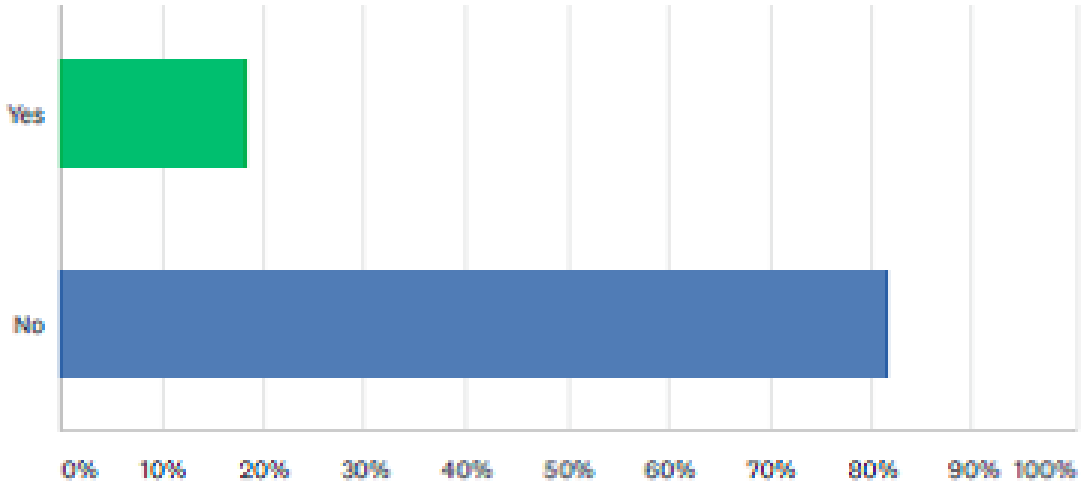


| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|---|-----------|----|
| Board of Director or Subcommittees | 25.45% | 14 |
| Public Policy meeting | 12.73% | 7 |
| Advocacy campaigns | 30.91% | 17 |
| Youth mentor program | 27.27% | 15 |
| Fund development or marketing campaigns | 25.45% | 14 |
| Research, evaluation, data collection | 38.18% | 21 |
| Holiday and/or recreational activities | 67.27% | 37 |
| Other (please specify) | 23.64% | 13 |
| Total Respondents: 55 | | |

Youth and Family Survey

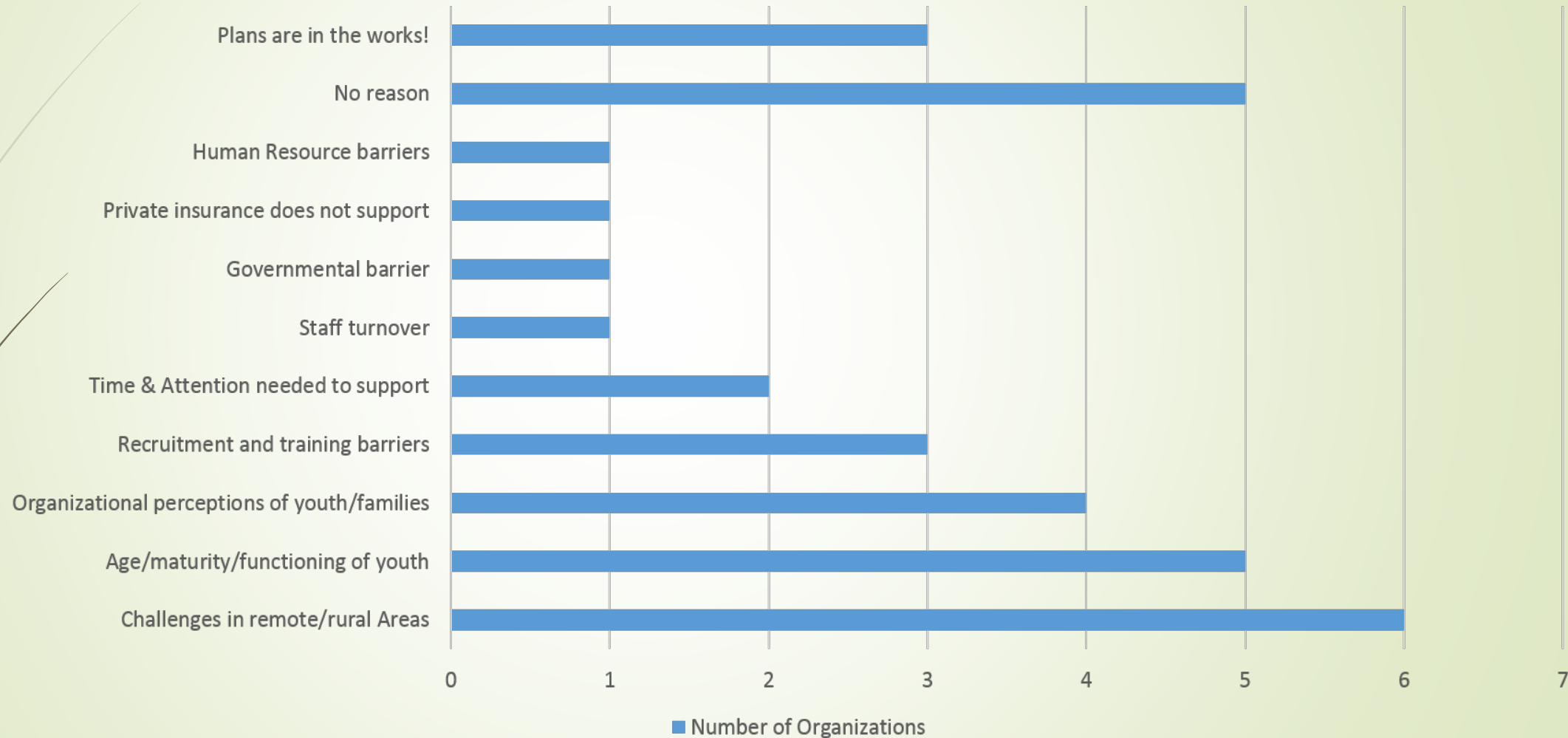
Q6 Does your agency contract with community-based peer youth or family run organizations to provide specialized support services?

Answered: 60 Skipped: 14



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES | |
|----------------|-----------|----|
| Yes | 18.33% | 11 |
| No | 81.67% | 49 |
| TOTAL | | 60 |

Q7: Other than financial reasons, what is the rationale for not hiring and integrating meaningful Youth and Family support services or practices at your agency?



- Would you like more information or support in the area of Youth and Family Voice from an ACRC representative or youth/family advocate?
- Would you like to participate in our Youth and Family Voice Committee?
- Would you like to participate in our Youth and Family Voice Affinity Group?

If you answered yes to any of the above, please reach out to our Committee Chair, Thomas McRae, at thomasmcraejr@gmail.com

