

FY 2023



Targeted Community Conversation Data



April 13, Thursday ▶

- **Time:** 6:00-7:30 PM
- **School/Agency:** For the Children (Creole-speaking families)
- **Address:** 1718 Douglas St. S, Lake Worth, FL 33460

April 19, Wednesday ▶

- **Time:** 3:15-4:45 PM
- **School/Agency:** John I Leonard High School
- **Address:** 4701 10th Ave N, Greenacres, FL 33463

April 20, Thursday ▶

- **Time:** 6:30-8:00 PM
- **School/Agency:** Compass
- **Address:** 201 N Dixie Hwy, Lake Worth, FL 33460

April 25, Tuesday ▶

- **Time:** 11:12 AM-12:12 PM
- **School/Agency:** TOP Club at Palm Springs Middle School
- **Address:** 1560 Kirk Rd, Palm Springs, FL 33406

April 26, Wednesday ▶

- **Time:** 4:30-5:45 PM
- **School/Agency:** TOP Club at Carver Middle School in Delray
- **Address:** 101 Barwick Rd, Delray Beach, FL 33445

April 27, Thursday ▶

- **Time:** 9:25-10:20 AM
- **School/Agency:** TOP Club at Palm Beach Lakes High School
- **Address:** 3505 Shiloh Dr, West Palm Beach, FL 33407

April 29, Saturday ▶

- **Time:** 9:00 AM-4:00 PM
- **School/Agency:** Youth Summit 2023 Palm Beach Central H.S.
- **Address:** 8499 Forest Hill Blvd, Wellington, FL 33411

May 4, Thursday ▶

- **Time:** 6:00-7:30 PM
- **School/Agency:** For the Children (Spanish-speaking families)
- **Address:** 1718 Douglas St. S, Lake Worth, FL 33460

May 8, Monday ▶

- **Time:** 6:00-7:30 PM
- **School/Agency:** Achievement Center for Children & Families
- **Address:** 555 NW 4th St, Delray Beach, FL 33444

May 10, Wednesday ▶

- **Time:** 4:00-5:30 PM
- **School/Agency:** Boys & Girls Club Belle Glade Teen Center
- **Address:** 341 SW 12th St. Belle Glade, FL 33430

May 16, Tuesday ▶

- **Time:** 5:30-7:30 PM
- **School/Agency:** Choice to Change @ Department of Juvenile Justice Office
- **Address:** 1100 45th St Bldg A, West Palm Beach, FL 33407



Guide

FY 2023

In-Person

Targeted Community Conversations

Disaggregate Data:

- Slides 6 – 14

Family Feud Questions:

- Slides 15 – 24

Discussion:

- Slides 25 – 36

Conclusion:

- Slide 37



FY 2023 Community Conversations: Overview



11 IN-PERSON CONVERSATIONS

Youth: 222

Adults: 180

Total Attendees: 402

1: For the Children (Creole-speaking families)	4/13/2023	9 youth	30 total attendees
2: John I Leonard High School	4/19/2023	32 youth	38 total attendees
3: Compass Community Center	4/20/2023	16 youth	38 total attendees
4: TOPS Club at Palm Springs Middle School	4/25/2023	14 youth	28 total attendees
5: TOPS Club at Carver Middle School	4/25/2023	9 youth	18 total attendees

FY 2023 Community Conversations: Overview



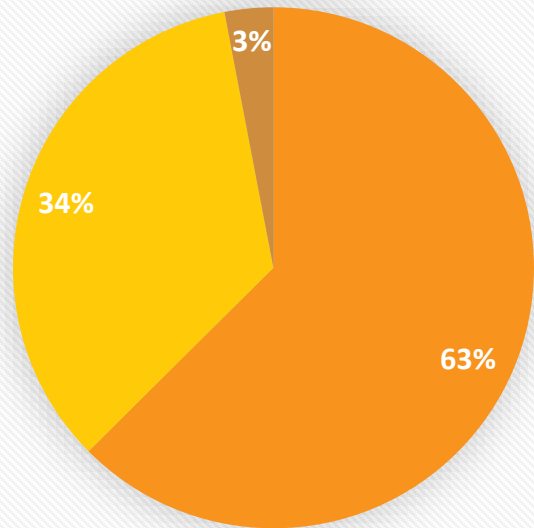
11 IN-PERSON CONVERSATIONS

6: TOPS Club at Palm Beach Lakes High School	4/25/2023	16 youth	21 total attendees
7: Youth Summit 2023	4/29/2023	41 youth	49 total attendees
8: For the Children (Spanish-speaking families)	5/4/2023	14 youth	45 total attendees
9: Achievement Center for Children & Families	5/8/2023	8 youth	34 total attendees
10: Boys & Girls Club Belle Glade Teen Center	5/10/2023	43 youth	60 total attendees
11: Choice to Change at the Department of Juvenile Justice	5/16/2023	20 youth	41 total attendees

FY 2023 – Targeted Conversations Attendee Totals

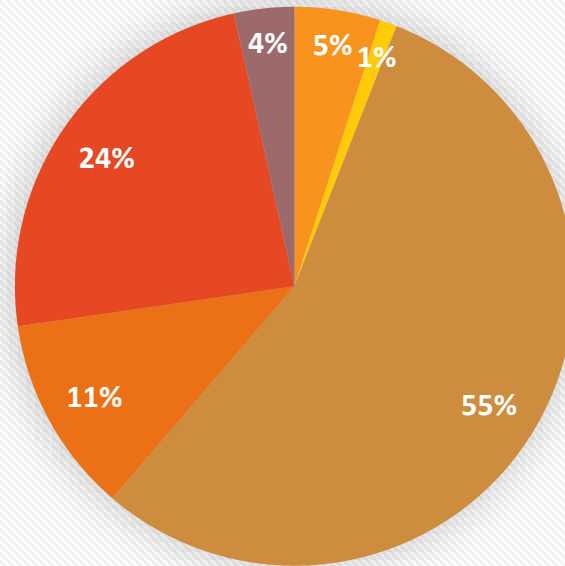


Gender



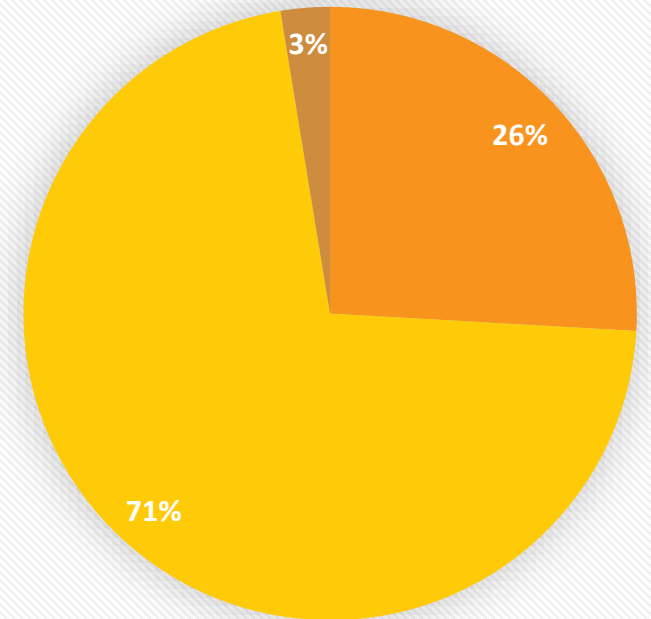
Female (249) Male (137) Other (12)

Race



Asian (20) Bi-Racial/ Multi-Racial (4)
Black (223) Other (46)
White (96) Did Not Report (14)

Ethnicity

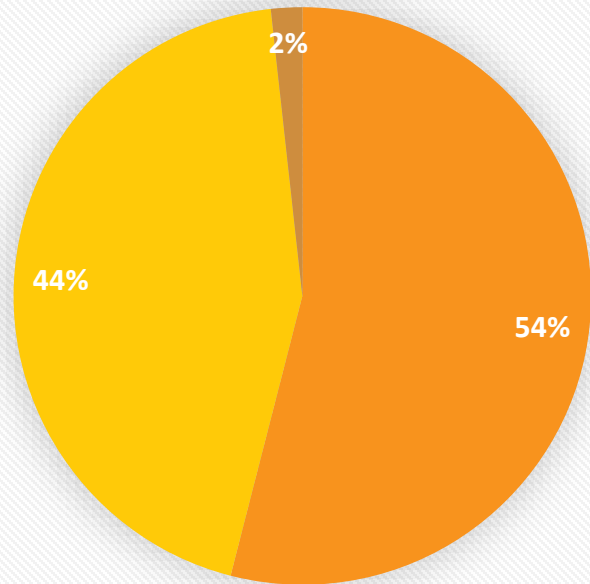


Hispanic (100) Non-Hispanic (276)
Did Not Report (10)

FY 2023 – Targeted Conversations Attendee Totals

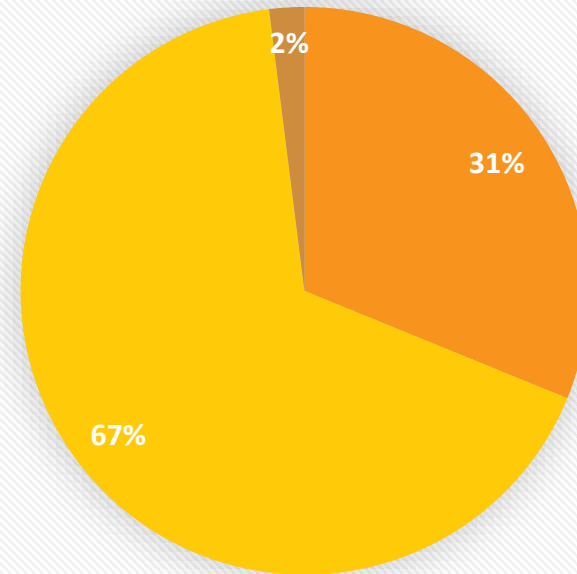


Are you 22 years of age or younger?



Yes (216) No (177) Did Not Report (7)

Are You a Parent?



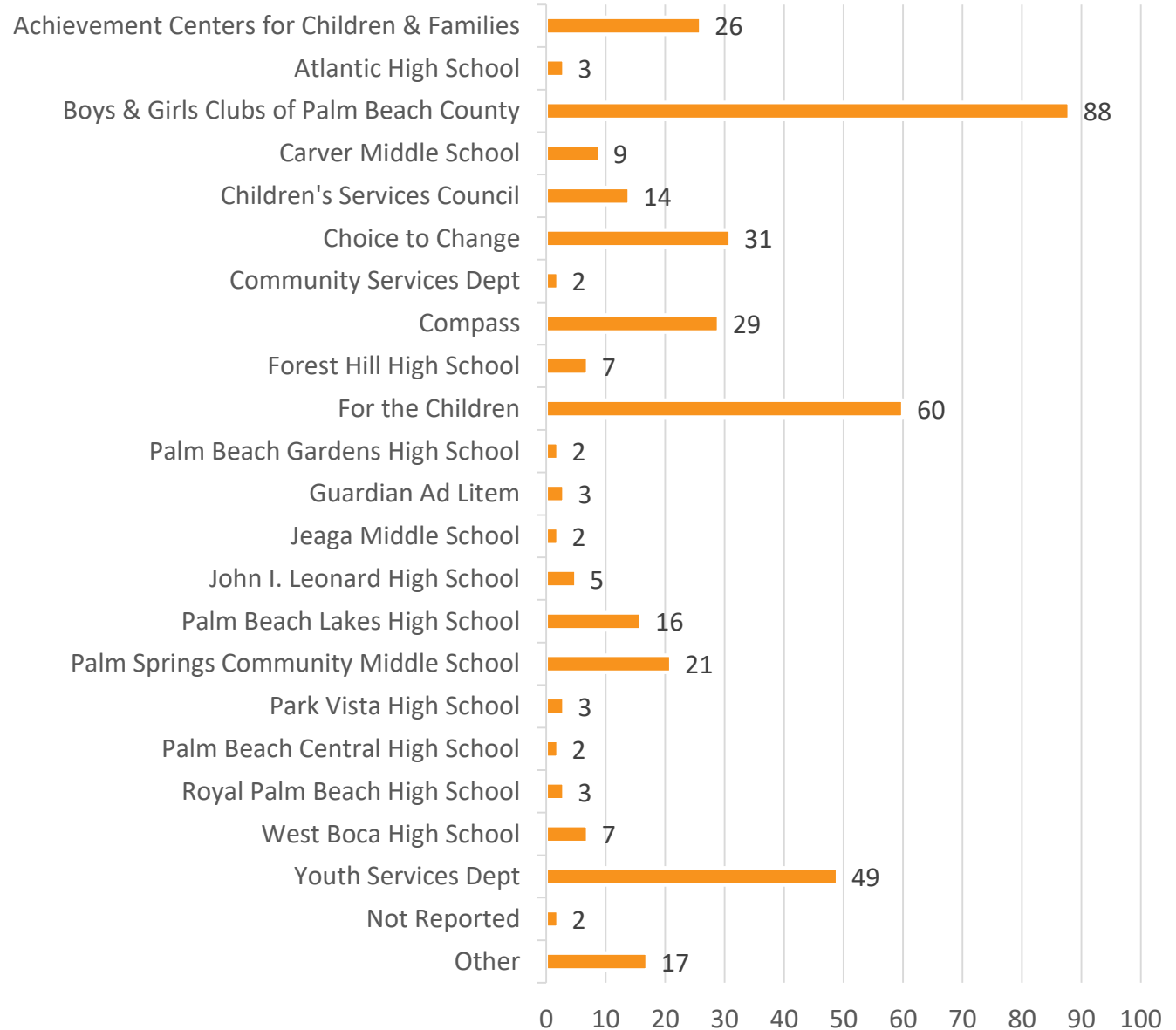
Yes (125) No (268) Did Not Report (8)

FY 2023 Targeted Conversations Agency Representation

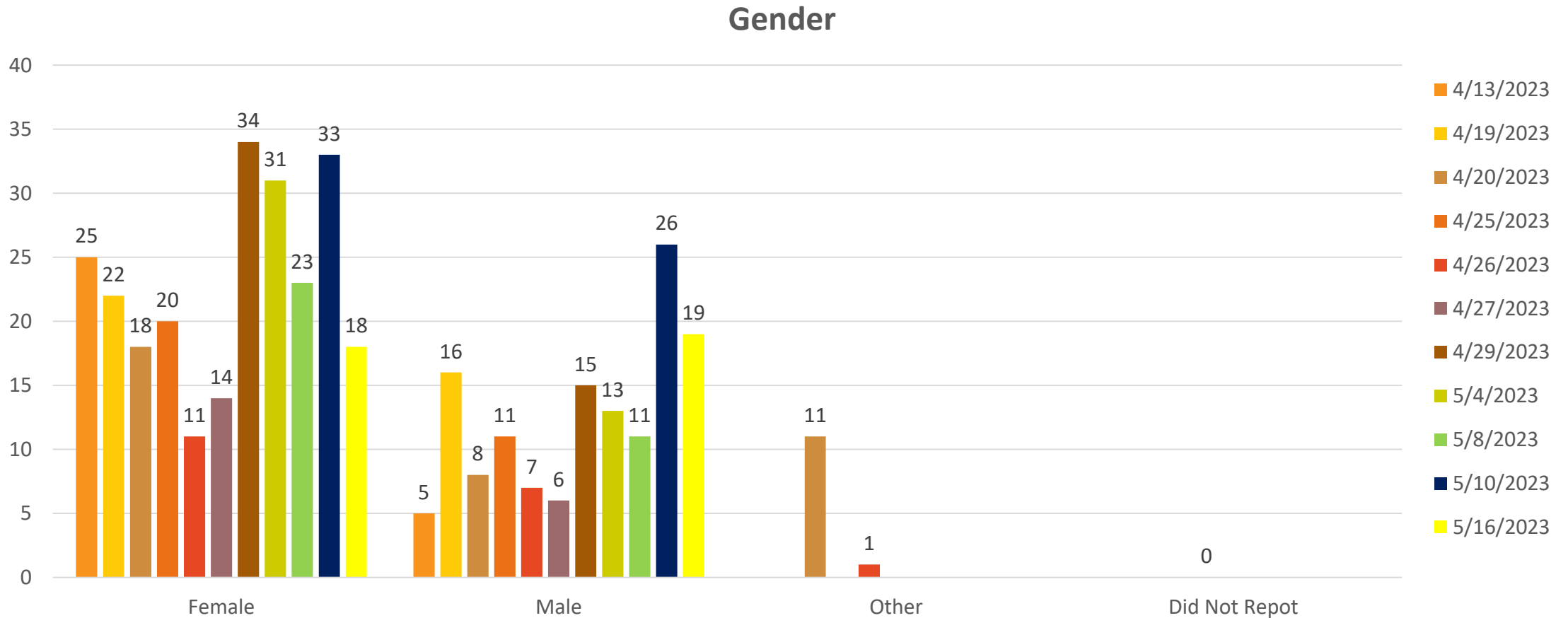
Other*:

- BeWell PBC
- City of Delray
- DJJ
- Dwyer High School
- Early Learning Coalition
- FAU
- Fuller Center
- Girls Coordinating Council
- MAD Academics
- Mavericks
- Oxbridge Academy
- PACE
- Palm Beach Central High School
- PBSO
- Poinciana
- Scholar Career Coaching
- Turning Points

*Agencies with one participant were captured under other



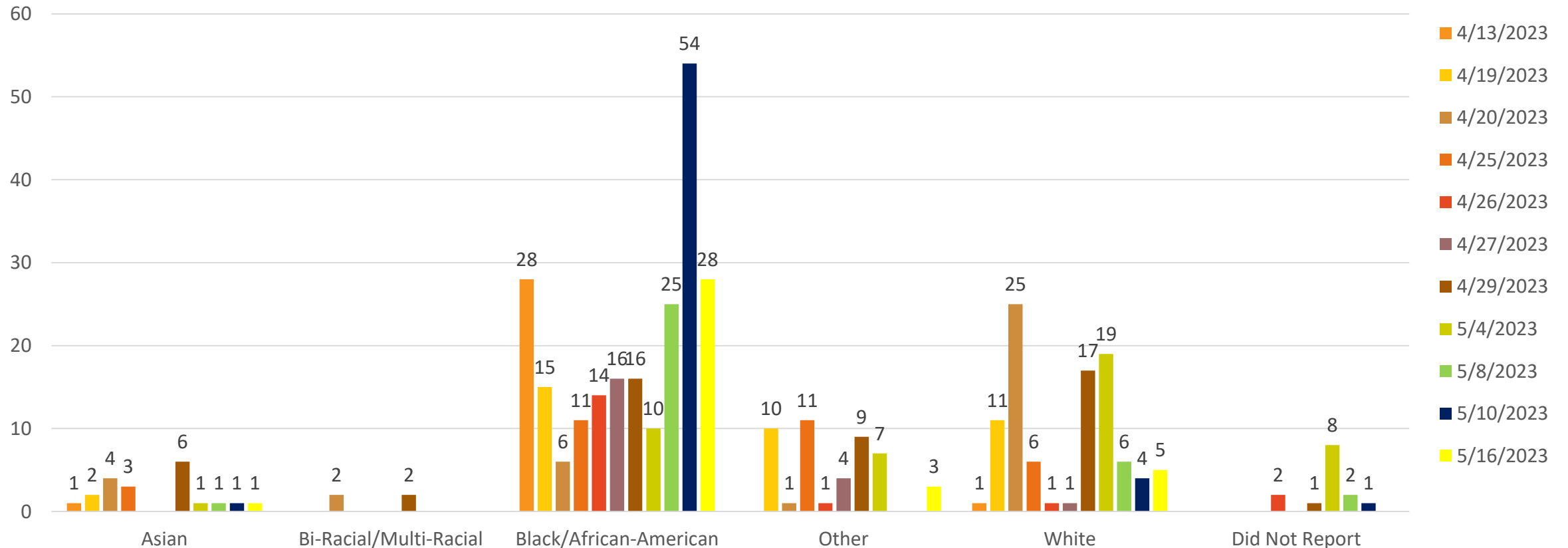
FY 2023 – Targeted Conversations Attendee Comparison by Event



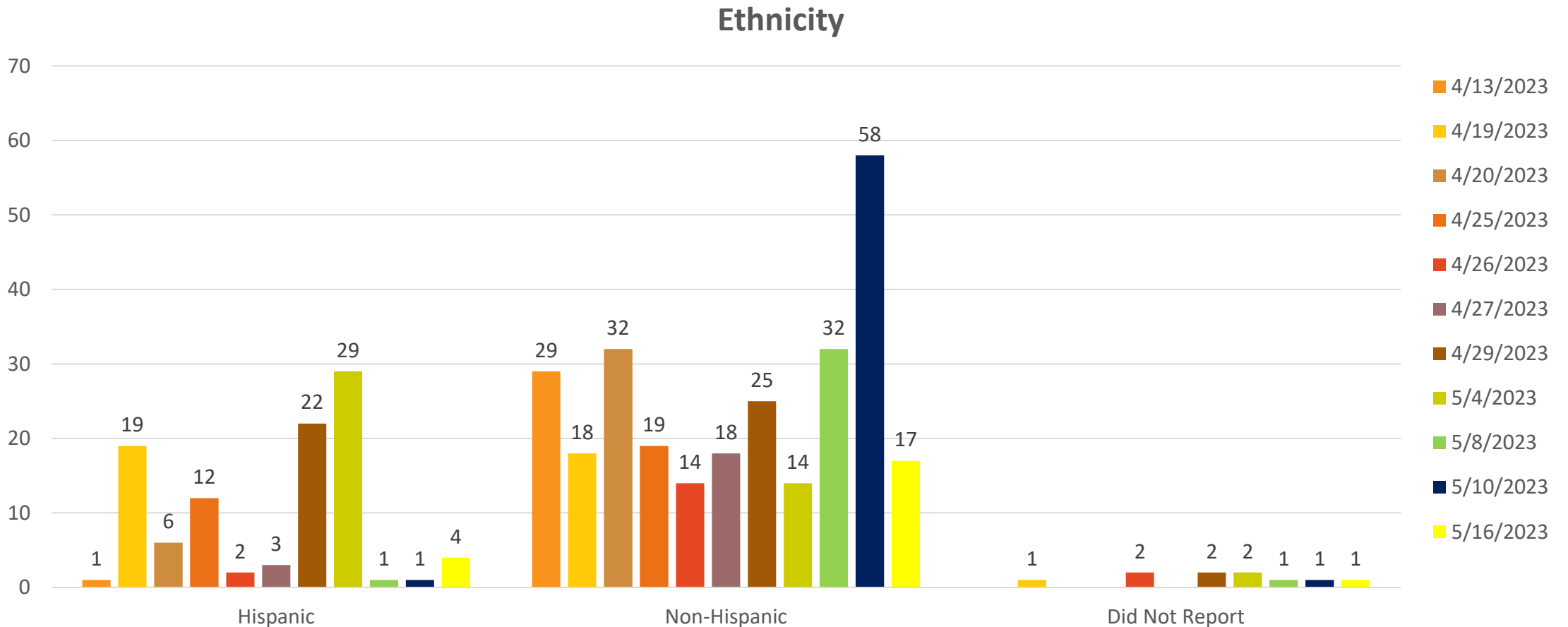
FY 2023 – Targeted Conversations Attendee Comparison by Event



Race



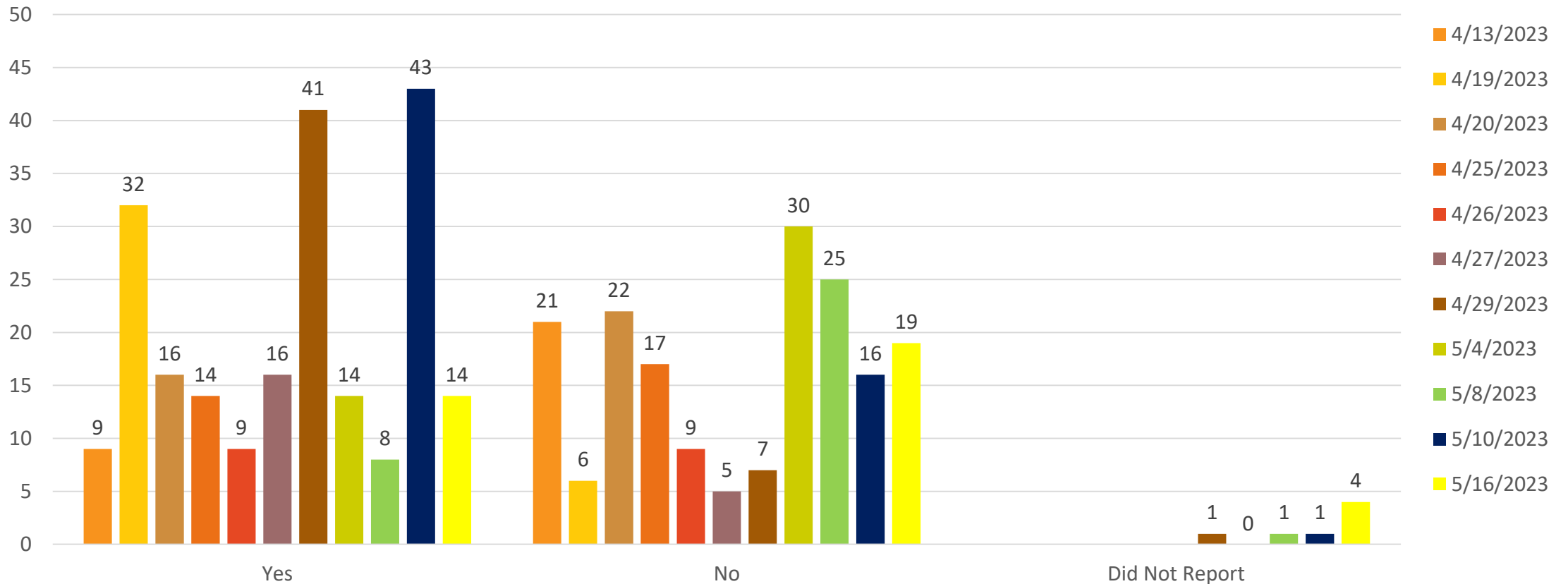
FY 2023 – Targeted Conversations Attendee Comparison by Event



FY 2022 – Virtual Conversations Attendee Comparison



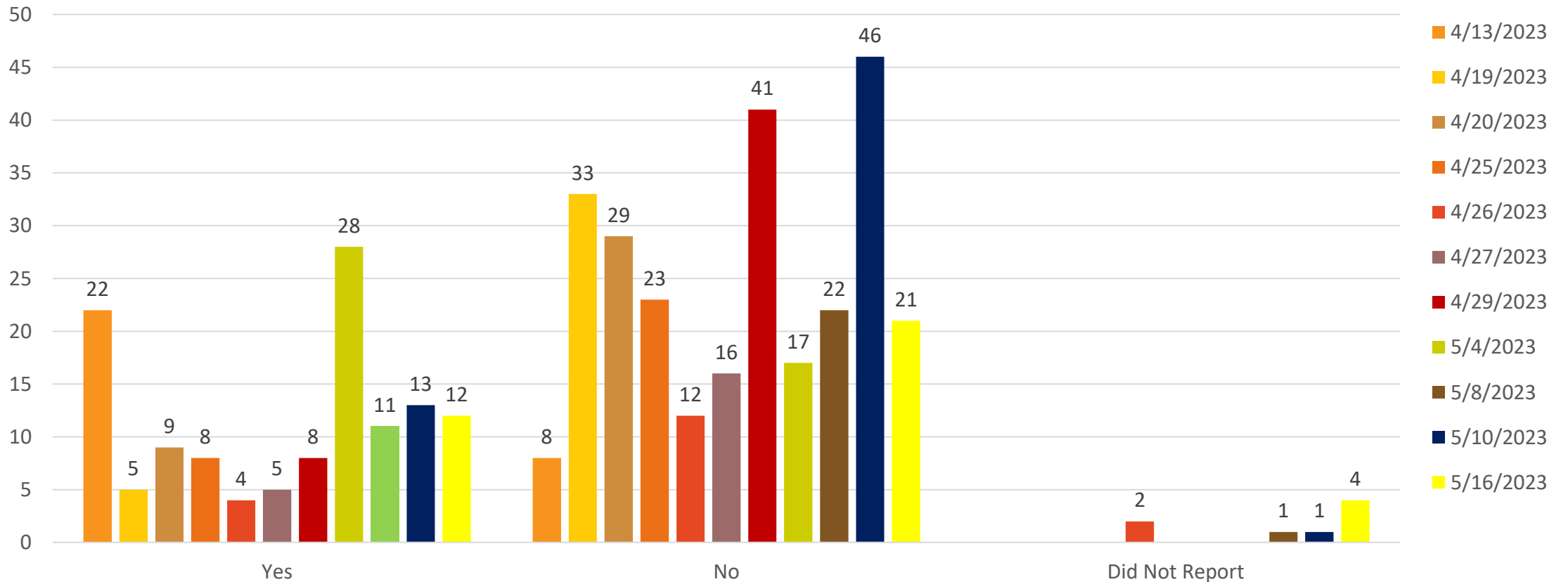
Are you 22 years of age or younger?



FY 2022 – Virtual Conversations Attendee Comparison



Are you a parent?



FY 2023 – Targeted Conversations Group Activity



Data was presented to the participants through a game of Family Feud.

Teams consisted of youth vs adults or youth vs youth.

Game questions were based on Palm Beach County data related to the 2022 Community Conversations or the three strategic priorities of mental health, education, and economics.



Rules:

- **One member from each team comes to the podium and facing off on the first question. The contestant who buzzes in first gets to provide the first answer. If that answer is the No. 1 survey response, his or her team gets control of the question. If not, the opposing contestant gets to try and provide a higher-ranking response to earn control for his or her team.**
- **The team who wins control of the question then provides more responses, one at a time. They are not permitted to consult with one another during this part of the game. If a given answer is not one of the most popular, the team gets a strike. If the team can guess all of the most popular answers on the board before getting three strikes, they win the round.**
- **If a team ends up with three strikes, control of the round goes to the opposing family. That team then has one chance to come up with one of the remaining responses on the board to win the round — if they fail, the other team gets the points.**

During the 4 Community Conversations in 2022, over 130 parents, youth, and community members answered the question:

What are the biggest concerns or issues in your community?

Round 2

FAMILY FEUD

Birth to 22 edition
United For Brighter Futures

XXX

Mental Health	30	Health	10
Education	25		
Economics	20		
Housing	15		

← →

SHOW QUESTION HIDE QUESTION

Win Lose Cheer Boo Silence

ⓧ

Mental Health

Round 3



XXX

According to 2,100 high school students were surveyed through the YRBS:

What are the leading causes of mental health struggles for high school students?

Relationship with parents	60	Feeling unsafe at school	20
No friends at school	50		
Feeling hopeless	40		
Bullying/cyberbullying	30		

Navigation: SHOW QUESTION, HIDE QUESTION, Win, Lose, Cheer, Boo, Silence, X

Mental Health

Round 3



XXX

According to 2,100 high school students were surveyed through the YRBS:

What are high risky /unhealthy behaviors seen in High School students:

Not being physical active	60	Drinking alcohol	20
Skipping meals	50		
Not wearing a seatbelt	40		
Having sexual intercourse	30		

Navigation: SHOW QUESTION, HIDE QUESTION, Win, Lose, Cheer, Boo, Silence, X

Education

Round 2



XXX

According to Palm Beach State College:

What do you need to be in the Dual Enrollment program to earn college credits while in high school?

Be in grades 10-12	30	
Min 3.0 GPA	25	
"College Ready" test scores (SAT/ACT/Pert)	20	
Maintain at least a "c" in the program	15	

Navigation: SHOW QUESTION, HIDE QUESTION, Win, Lose, Cheer, Boo, Silence, X

Education

Round 3



XXX

According to the School District of PBC:

Which School District of Palm Beach County high schools had the highest graduation rates in 2022?

Pahokee Middle Senior High	30	Dreyfoos	20
Village Academy	30	Suncoast	10
Olympic Heights	30		
Spanish River	30		

Navigation: Left Arrow, Right Arrow, SHOW QUESTION, HIDE QUESTION, Win, Lose, Cheer, Boo, Silence, X

Economics

Round 3



XXX

According to the 2021 census:

What Palm Beach County city has the highest percentage of children (ages 12-17) living in poverty?

Pahokee	60	Boynton Beach	20
West Palm Beach	50		
Belle Glade	40		
Lake Worth	30		

Navigation: Left Arrow, Right Arrow, SHOW QUESTION, HIDE QUESTION, Win, Lose, Cheer, Boo, Silence, X

Economics

Round 2



XXX

According to the 2018 census Palm Beach County has an unemployment rate of 4.5% for residents ages 16 and older.

What cities in PBC have a HIGHER unemployment rate than the county average?

Belle Glade	30	Lake Worth	10
Riviera Beach	25	Boca Raton	5
Boynton Beach/ Delray Beach	20	[Empty yellow box]	
West Palm Beach	15		

Navigation: Left arrow, Right arrow, SHOW QUESTION, HIDE QUESTION, Win, Lose, Cheer, Boo, Silence, X

Economics

Round 2



XXX

According to the Department of Juvenile Justice in 2021:

At what age, were the most youth arrested for school related offenses?

16 years old	30	13 years old	10
15 years old	25		
14 years old	20		
17 years old	15		

Navigation: Left Arrow, Right Arrow, SHOW QUESTION, HIDE QUESTION, Win, Lose, Cheer, Boo, Silence, X

Economics

Round 2



XXX

According to the Department of Juvenile Justice in 2021:

What Palm Beach County city has the highest number of juvenile arrests?

Belle Glade	30	Royal Palm Beach/ Wellington	10
Riviera Beach/ Mangonia Park	25		
Boynton Beach/ Delray Beach	20		
West Palm Beach	15		

Navigation: SHOW QUESTION, HIDE QUESTION, Win, Lose, Cheer, Boo, Silence, X



At each of the Community Conversation events participants shared their perspectives and experience by answering questions about these areas.

Note: Responses were compiled after being recorded by notetakers during the in-person events.

Mental Health



DEFINITION

'Emotional state, feeling comfortable and stable, connection between feeling mentally good and physically good'

STRESSORS & STRUGGLES

- Bullying
- Drugs
- Lack of security and people can walk onto the school campus
- Stressed trying to keep up with assignments, too much homework

STRESS RELIEF

- Sleep, eat, do something fun, TV, play games, motivational music, talk to somebody, play football, sports, get on Instagram, listen to music and dance
- Annoy my older sister when she sleeps, work out, and snuggle with your pet
- Participate in extracurricular activities, pep rallies

STATEMENTS

- "Parents make it worse, make it seem like I'm the victim. Tell me I'm not supposed to be anxious, I should be happy."
- "...don't really know the guidance counselor so I don't want to talk to them."
- "...parents don't think we have any problems because we're so young but we have so many concerns." To manage mental health we walk, play music, tiktok, sleep and cry. Everyone should have a safe teacher
- Hard to focus on mental health if basic needs are not met-instead thinking about spending time with kids, putting food on the table, paying bills

Economic Access



Pay Rate

- Want \$200/week from part-time jobs "enough to get by"

Child Care

- Need help paying for after school activities (swimming/soccer/summer camp)
- Child care (young children) too expensive
- Better options for enrollment and more transportation to child cares

Housing

- Rent Control
- Buying vs. Renting
- Renovation Loans

Careers

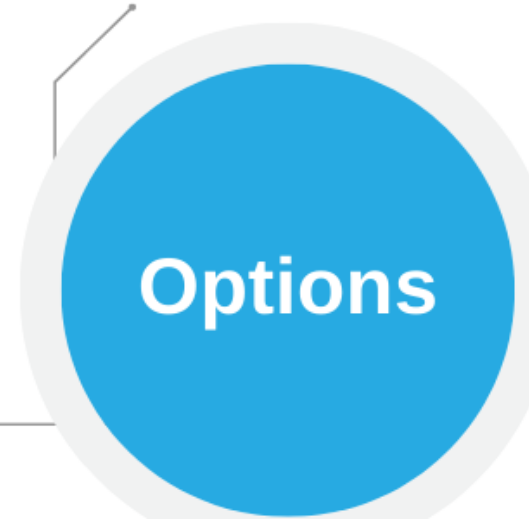


- Transportation, lack of experience



- Higher minimum wage (\$15-\$19/hour)
- \$25/hour
- Transporter of cane makes between \$25-\$40/hour
- \$25/hour bakery and dog sitter
- They want to get paid!!!
- Places use tips as an excuse not to pay workers

- Summer counselor options
- More activities that can expose new interests
- Want career information prior to high school
- "Career academy so I can experience new things."
- Scholarships to pay for education
- Diploma
- A steady job
- What comes after football?
- A determined mind
- Financial Aid
- Have a gameplan and stick to it



What Careers Are You Interested In?

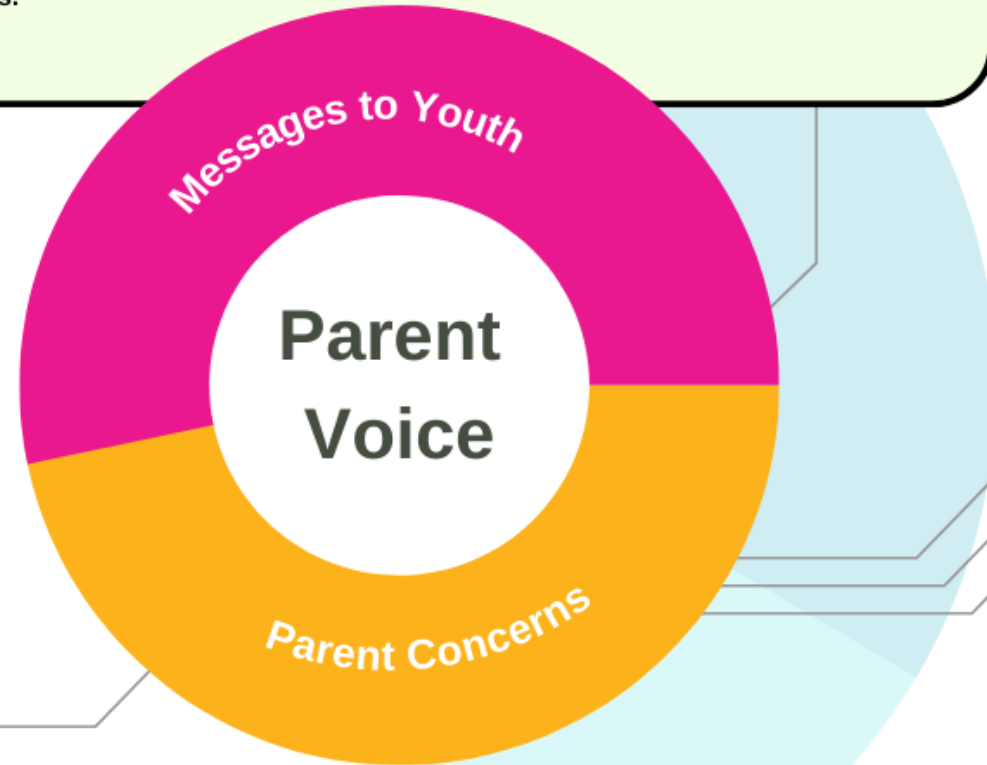


Parent/Child Relationship



- Staff/parent: We are hard on you because we care about you
- If I don't say anything it means we don't care.
- We adults are not always right. We are human. We make mistakes. We are real, too.
- We are doing this because of love.
- As a parent, sometimes we have to be hard on the kids to give them a chance to grow up.
- Kids need to remember, we were young once before ... we are here to give you wise advice.
- Parents never stop teaching... We are trying to help you to stay on top of your game.
- Parents don't get an instruction manual. We want you kids to know we love you no matter what... even if we make mistakes.

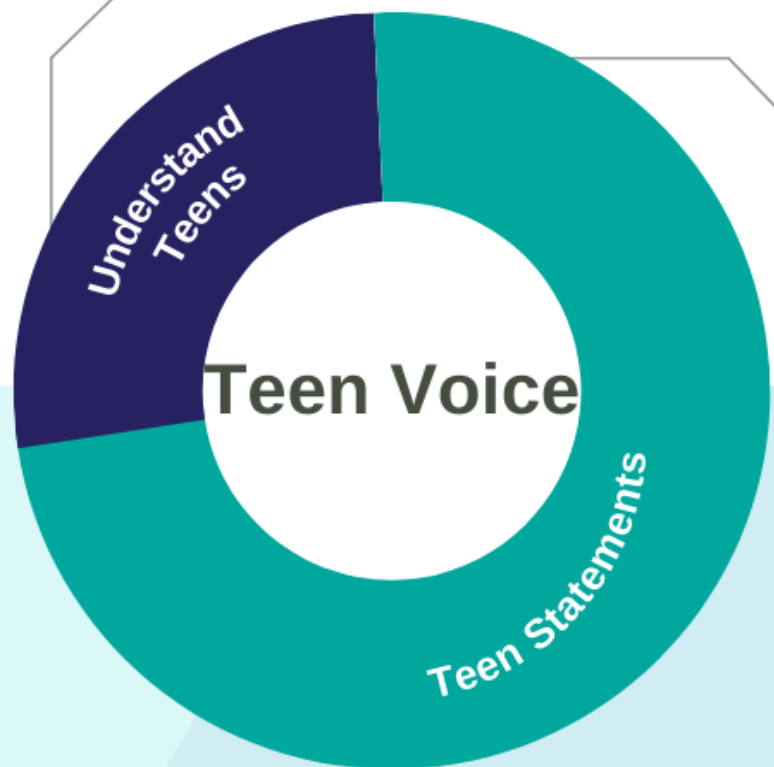
- Education is priority
- Learning how to be safe at home "Correction starts at home."
- "Parenting doesn't come with a handbook."
- "Not enough parents smack their kids."
- "Our brown and black kids have a gap in the education system, parents are not informed of directions that their children can take. Parents can't afford to put children in college or vocational schools."
- "Phones are breaking families, homes and marriages."
- "If you go to college," wants the mindset of "when you go to college."



Parent/Child Relationship



- Fun
- Don't need to be monitored 24/7
- Not perfect; teens make mistakes
- Parents want to be treated with respect, so do teens



- Some parents are “too friendly” and not guiding enough
- “If I were to do an 'I statement' my mom would feel disrespected.”
- Whenever we have a conversation she thinks I'm talking back
- Parents compare too often
- Feel like they can't approach parents, “I just lock myself in my room.” – one girl whispered “I don't even have a door anymore.”
- “People go at their own pace, adults don't understand.”
- “Parents don't listen.”
- Privacy, feel like they “need space” and to not be “invaded”
- That everything is not getting smart
- That parents don't know everything
- “Show each other mutual respect. If we are gonna respect you, then we need respect too.”

What Do You Need To Be More Successful?



"we should not have to wait for these kids to have a record before they get preventative services"

patience with people

more positive peers in our community to move each other forward

Confidence

more mentors

as a parent it
takes a village

the system has to be created that more of our brown and black kids are qualified

Leadership

business management

a better support system

apprenticeship

money

opportunities

trades education opportunities

a way to start your own business

perseverance

relationship
with god

parents are going to apply for services and the system is not set up to give it to them



School



STATED CONCERNS

- Teacher shortages
- Need for better surveillance
- Afterschool programs should include tutoring, counseling, mentorship
- More clubs (like BGA)
- Book bans a concern
- Teachers should be better trained in mental health
- Students feel how schools are reacting to traumatic events could make it worse than the actual event
- "You have to be failing in order to get help, need help sooner."
- "High school should follow college standards."
- Upset about banned book (Gay/ African-American Studies)
- More time needed outside
- "Tornado drills are dumb."
- More afterschool options (basketball/fishing/soccer/etc)
- More language options
- Want more practical things to learn "taxes, managing money"
- A lot of talk around bathroom safety (sexual assault, bullying, verbal abuse)
- More PSAT/SAT help
- Teachers are teaching to the test, not teaching life skills.
- "Food at school tastes like plastic."
- Don't feel like they get enough food at school? If you ask for more food at home you get it, at school you don't get it



PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

- Need less homework
- More options re: Dress code.
- Higher Quality of the classroom.
- WANTS to get rid of school uniforms.... Fabric is awful!
- Likes uniforms but still feels like they need more options.
- More flexibility around the rules. Eg restroom schedule. Body doesn't work like that!
- More resources
- More programs that kids can enjoy
- Wider range of classes and opportunities
- More teacher support... and encouragement
- Uniforms are good because some kids can't afford to buy the brand named.
- Less standardized tests
- "I'm old school. Couldn't wear skirts or pants too short. Took purses out of school, then put them back in."
- If they take out the SAT/ACT requirement, more kids will graduate. Not all kids are good testers. And they get discouraged and drop out.
- Need mental health in schools. Mandatory mental health class in schools.
- Better security in the schools, but not metal detectors. More police officers!
- Need multiple officers!



School Transition



- Around different kids and you don't know them.
- Starting new memories after having so many nice memories from elementary school.
- Getting used to being around new people and new kids.
- In elementary school you had parties but in middle school you gotta "suck it up" (!!!)
- Lots of teachers and rotate classes

**From
Elementary**

Advice

- To be more mature ... have to come up with new things to do to have fun
- Going into middle school the new kids need to know that they are not alone

- Transition to middle school was "terrible and scary"
- Concerns with switching teachers every class
- Felt nervous at new school cause didn't know where anything was
- Would like informational video
- More mentorship and able to talk to peers
- "I wish I could've stayed away from certain people."
- "Don't get into drugs. When I was in middle school I was good and not into drugs and then I got into them and now I'm at Turning Point."
- "Stay out of trouble with the law."
- "Follow your first mind. Don't let anyone influence you to do the wrong thing."

**Middle
School &
Beyond**

Safety & Justice



- More shootings than days schools have been in session
- People selling guns to kids



What's Needed To Help You Feel Safe At School?

- Security
- Teachers (their presence)
- More police officers.
- Install gate
- Highly trained police officers
- Want more metal detectors

- Police brutality and racism
- Say open carry "...is very scary, horrible bad," also "...it's a good thing."
- How will gun violence affect black and brown people? "You can shoot the police back." "We are already systemically oppressed. This law is made in poor places and lack of education...Guns are bad. Letting a child carry a gun with a mental health record is making shootings in schools worse." It's important to vote.
- More surveillance in public places
- More vigilant police
- Better crossing guards/ street lights in neighborhoods/ more speeds bumps

Social Concerns



DRUGS

- Pressure to do drugs
- Lots of drug use, "needles on the street"

INCLUSION

- Legal status-residency
- Taking children's opinions into consideration
- More equity as far as language, more Spanish No support for kids with IEPs/ 504 Plans
- Lots of language barriers (Spanish/ Creole/ Mayan language/ Kanjobal/ Quiché)

BULLYING

- Stand up for yourself
- Trust the adults
- If you see it, report it.
- More life skills classes and social skills. Classes to prepare you for life.
- Bullying and fighting
- Bullies need to be confronted, likely insecure and don't have anyone to talk to

STATEMENTS

- Kids entitled to say anything/ rude to teachers
- For stress relief: smoke weed, sleep, bake
- More teen clubs, not enough for high school students
- Want to lean on teachers and parents for support
- Dilapidated/abandoned houses where drugs addicts go to take refuge

Thank You

