

**PROPOSITION 63  
PHASE 1  
CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH  
FAMILY  
SURVEY NARRATIVE RESPONSES**

*Following are narrative responses to the Phase 1 surveys that provide additional depth to the priorities provided in graphs. The first 4 categories support and reflect needs assessment and recommendations made by the Children's Prop 63 subcommittees related to **Probation, Child Welfare, Education, and Community** access gates. While not all of the many good ideas can be implemented, many of them can indeed be incorporated into our local planning.*

**What other Juvenile Justice services are needed?**

- More prevention for youth, 8-12, to avoid gangs, drugs, violence, sex.
- Safety to parents being abused by juveniles

**What other Foster Care / CPS services are needed?**

- Keep children safe from abusive family members
- Help with services through college age.
- Respite for Foster Parents. More input from Foster Parents & more funds for Foster Parents who take teens.
- Place kids with friends or relatives instead of foster care.
- I would rather see children placed in a safe foster care system than remain in abusive or potentially abusive environment. Parents that abuse their children do not deserve any visitation that isn't well supervised. Children shouldn't remain in abusive homes.

**What other Education Services are needed?**

- mas servicios depues de escuela (More services after school)
- Help with IEP - detecting children at risk sooner to give them a better chance of graduating.
- Mandatory individual & parent counseling for troubled families.

**What other Community Based services are needed?**

- Parenting classes & support.

***In addition, we've included responses to open-ended question about other ideas, wishes, observations that will be incorporated into our assessment and planning-- as well as feedback on how to better integrate cultural competency and dual diagnosis mental health/substance abuse issues throughout our services:***

**Are there any other mental health related services that you think are important and helpful to youth and families?**

- Make the process of entering Children's MH system easier. It's a very complicated and LONG process.
- Reconocer de donde vienen los problemas y que el tratamiento involucre a los padres. (Recognize the source of the problem and involve the parents more.)

- Ayudar a niños menores de 10 años a 3 a controlar su temperamento de impertinencia. (Help young kids control their bad attitudes.)
- Parenting education & support groups. More rehab centers for teenagers, educating judges, juvenile hall staff, etc on cultural sensitivity issues, MH issues and strength based approaches to support youth & families
- Don't tighten budget so tight that caregivers / counselors are overburdened with too many clients. Too many clients equals over stressed workers it isn't fair to anyone.
- In event that a parent is at risk because of substance abuse, alcohol or severe depression of hurting themselves or worse. Some sort of intervention should be done for the parent to prevent this - not to be taken lightly.
- Available counseling with schools.
- Other agencies should allow Parent Center to help when possible.
- Making services available at low cost so that lack of funds doesn't hinder families' ability to seek help.
- School counselors; parenting classes & support. Services for parents being emotionally/verbal abused by children. Services on location for troubled children who haven't got in trouble with the law yet still refuse counseling, abuse and control their parents. Parental support for parents living with troubled youth.
- Santa Cruz County needs more focus on youth assistance in MH care area. Please. Assessments, placements, and MH facilities.

#### **How could staff & programs be culturally sensitive? OPEN**

- Mas consejeros bilingües y bicultural acceso a persona con discapacidades. (More counselors who are bilingual and bicultural to give access for people with disabilities)
- Son sensibles al poner intérpretes y entienden el idioma cultural. (More sensitivity from interpreters who understand the culture.)
- They're great!
- Staff has done a superb job providing services while being sensitive.
- I think they're doing fine with the ideas but more programs relating to culture would be like crafts that are appropriate to culture.
- Staff could stop stereotyping Latino families as all being same; only looking at negative. If staff could be more empathetic, positive and supportive, this could inspire success. Believe in clients.
- At PVPSA they have bilingual therapist & they're culturally sensitive.
- Make more efforts for religion classes for families who regularly attend church.
- I've never had any problem.
- Diverse population providing services.

#### **How could we improve integration of mental health and drug and alcohol services?**

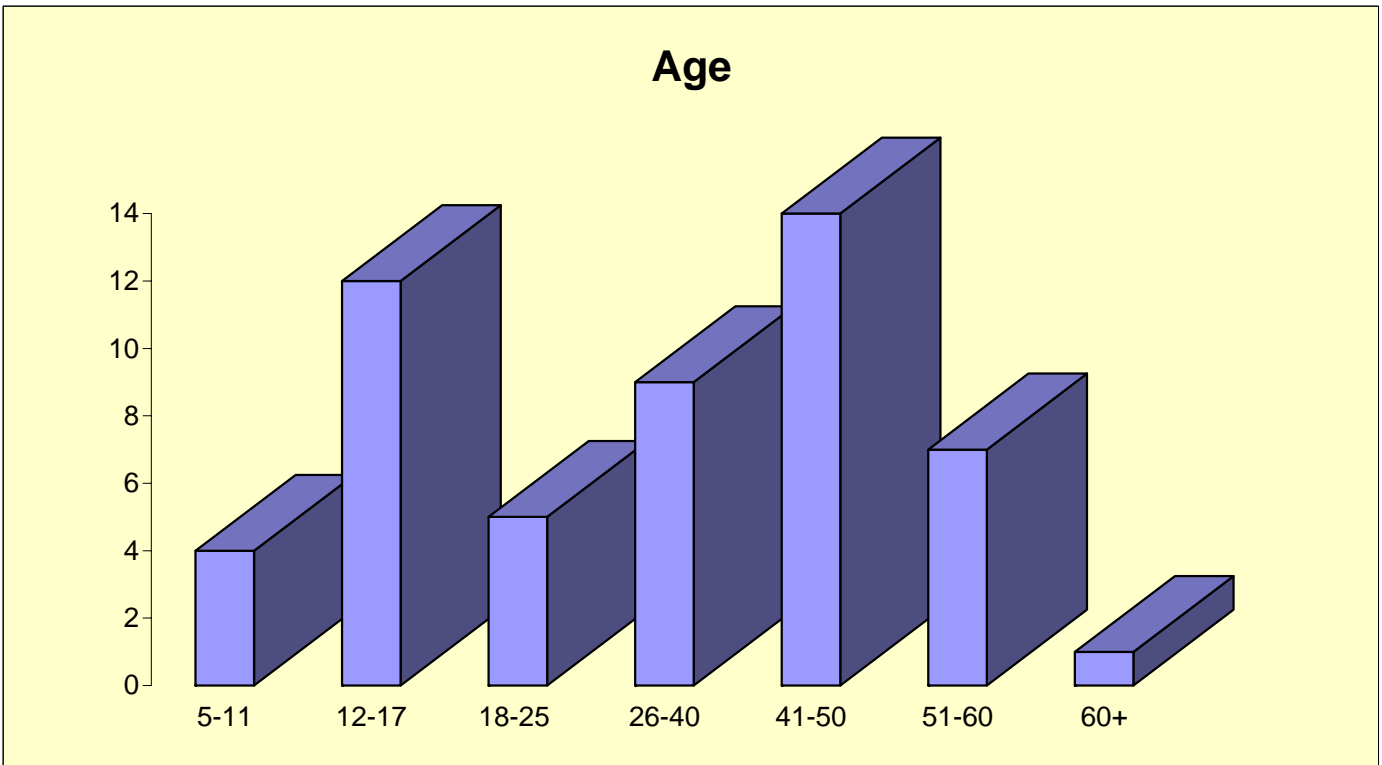
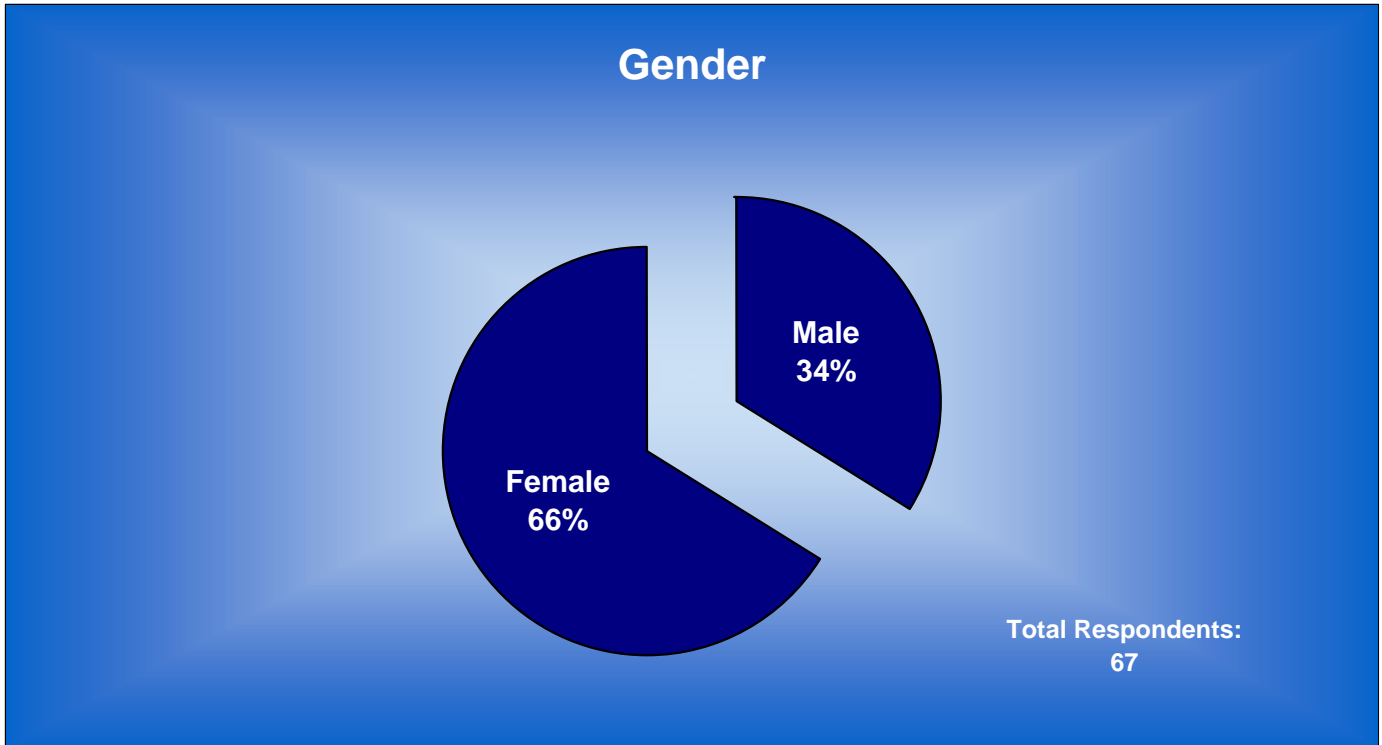
- no tengo mucha idea pero me gusta como trabajan asta ahora. (I don't know much about this, but what we have gotten is good so far.)
- Tyler house is the best. It's the bomb. The staff is so nice.
- These services could be better integrated by educating all staff on relationship between MH issues & Substance abuse issues. Also by realizing Substance Abuse is a disease and clients need treatment.
- In public school, at first signs of problems, there could be more info, counseling, drug treatment, and not just suspension!
- Work closely with CPS when children are involved and need support or children refuse visits from all agencies.
- I feel more is needed to improve working with both types of clients, i.e. self-medicating mental health issues with illegal drugs & understanding addiction.
- Expand services provided by agencies such as Y.E.S. School and Youth Services.
- Y.E.S. School made everything appear to be seamlessly integrated.

- We've been seeking help privately. This is our first experience with a county funded program. We had no idea that a program like this was available.
- Mandatory counseling with follow-up to services received.
- Please do introduce option for clients in early recovery to get mental health evaluation.

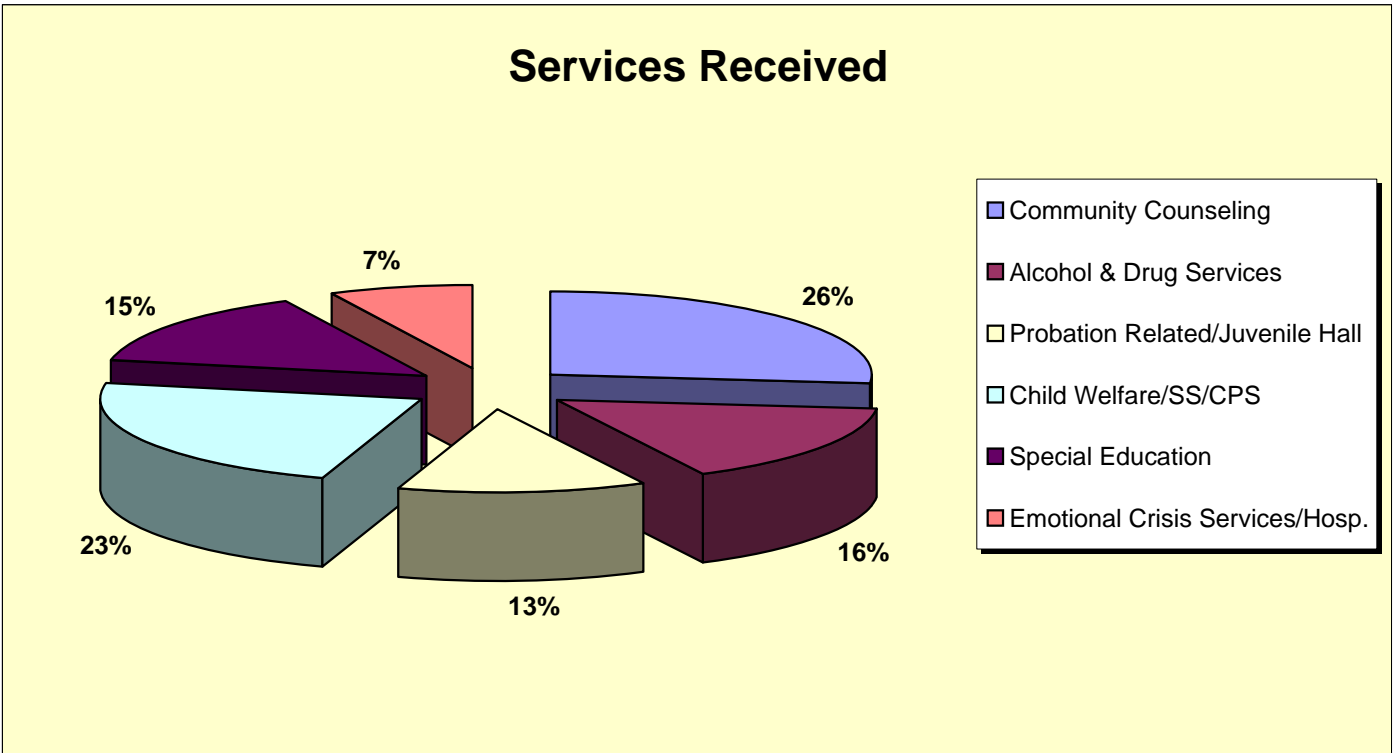
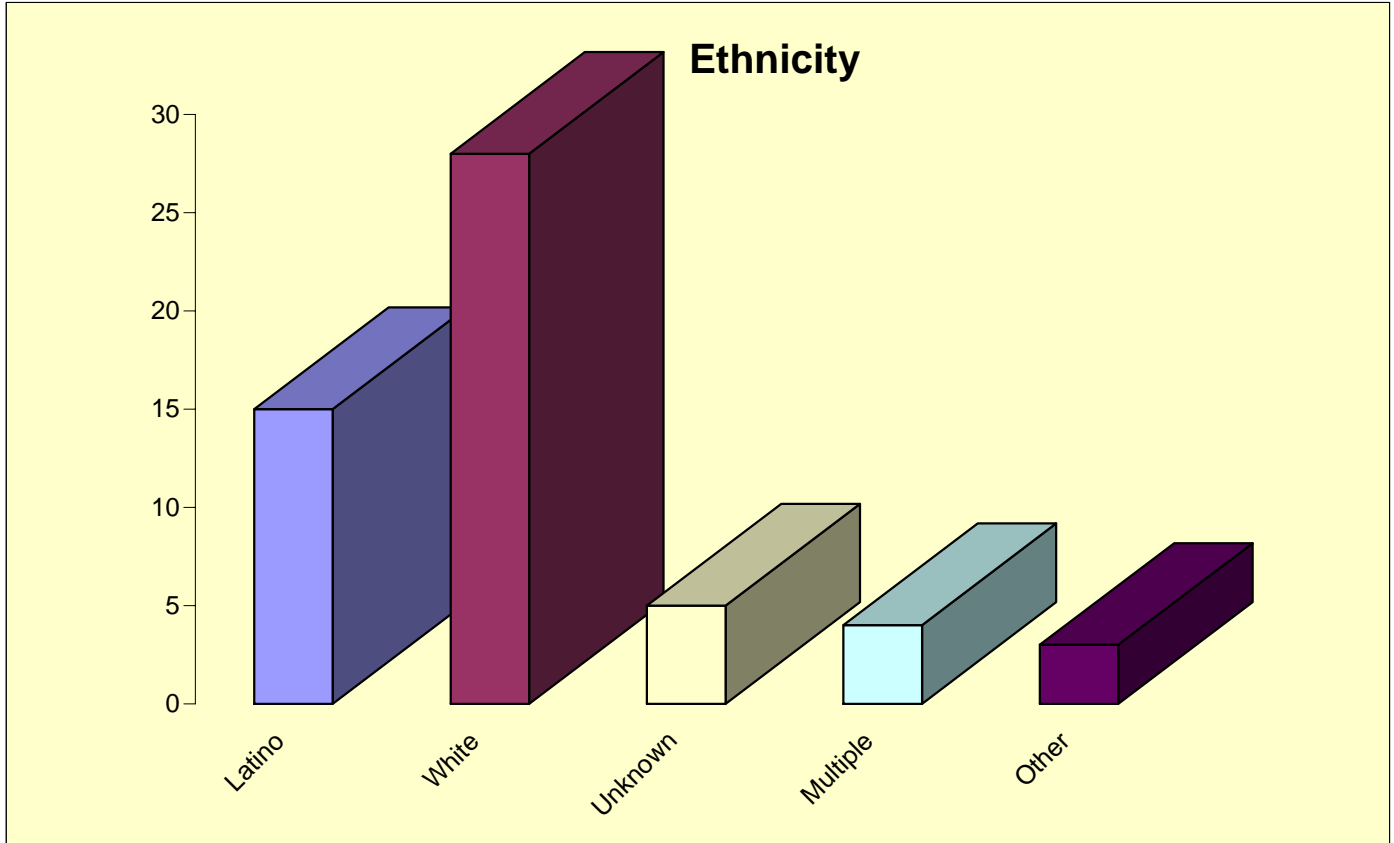
**How can staff better meet the needs of families and youths?**

- Necesitamos mas trabajadores que entiendan la cultura mas involucramiento o de los padres que los componentes de tratamiento sean profesional y adaptados a las familias. (Need more workers who understand the culture. More parent involvement. The components of treatment need to be professional and adaptive to the families.)
- Lo han hecho bien y tenemos buenos resultados en todos los aspectos. (They have done well and have had good results in all respects.)

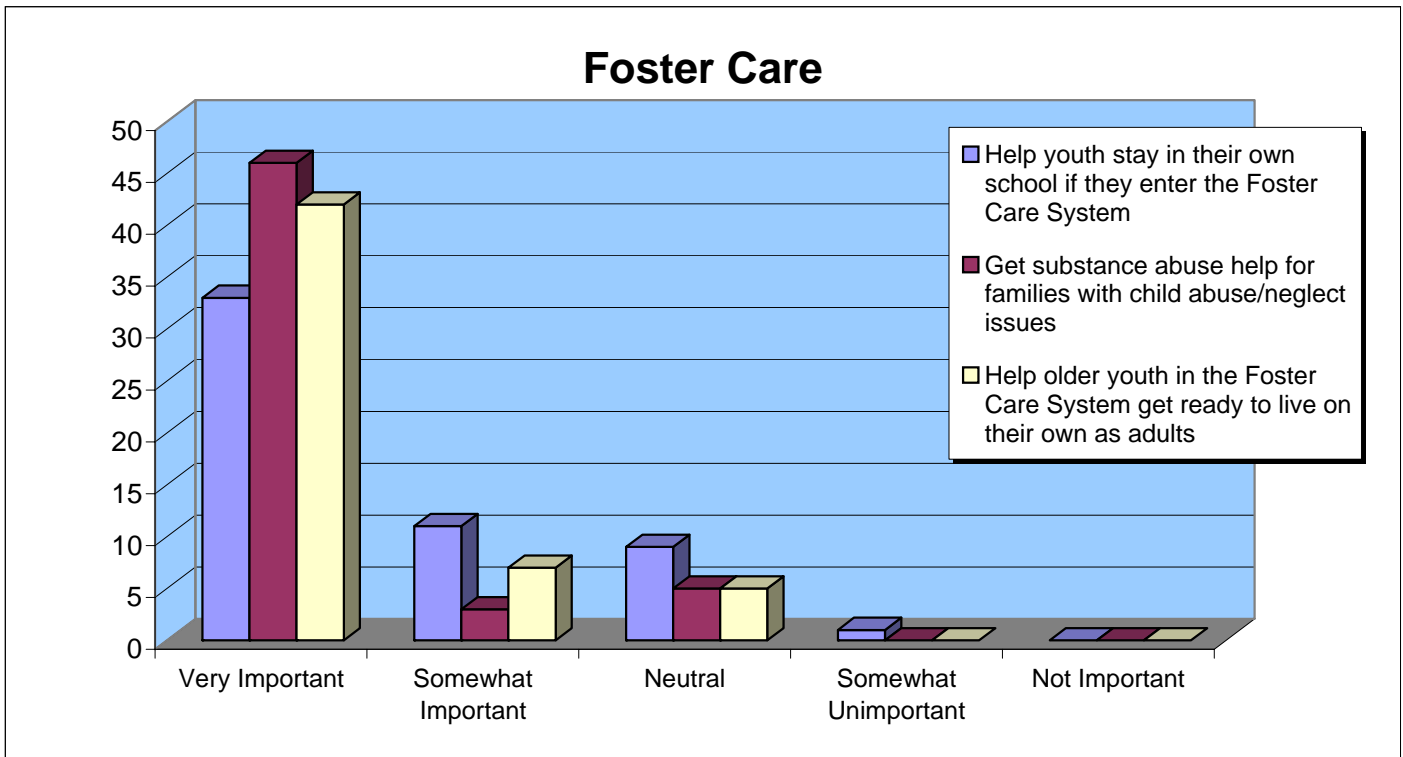
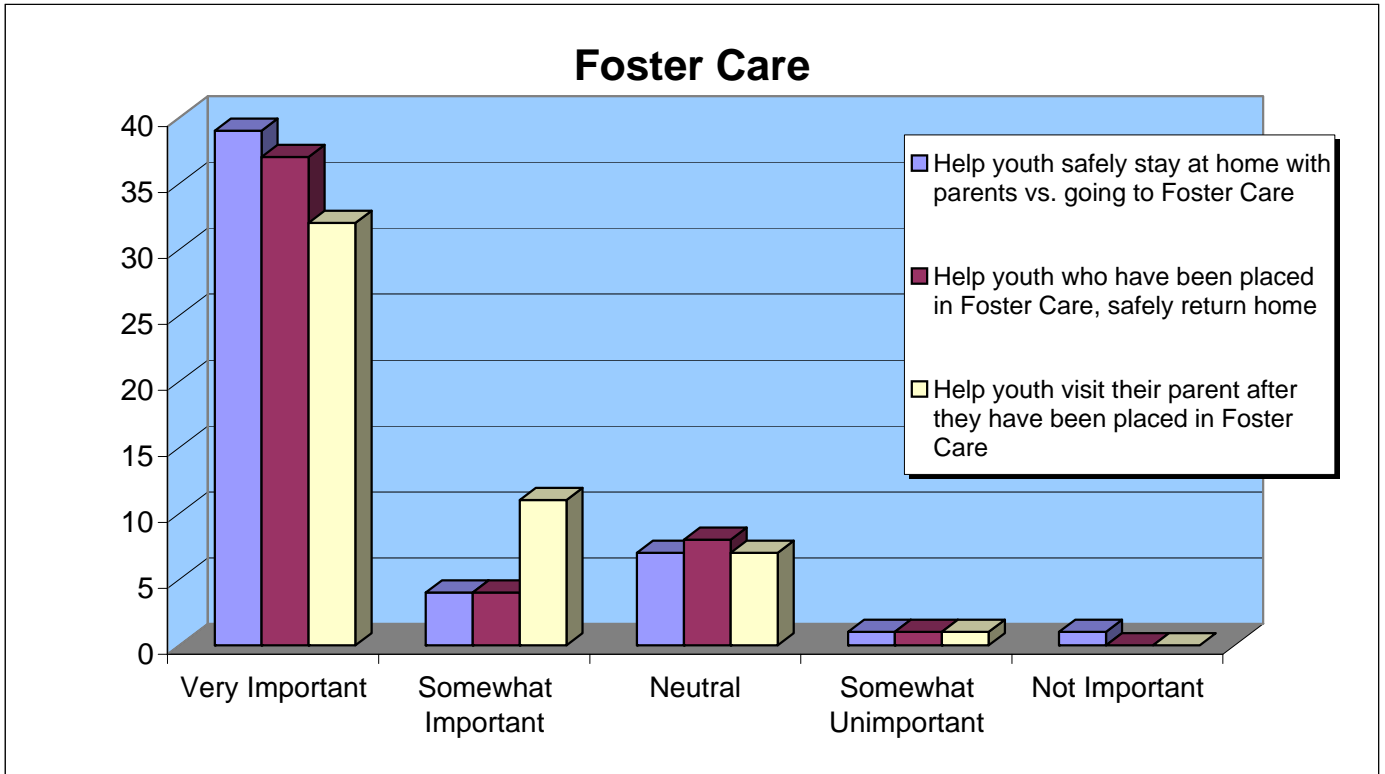
# Phase 1 - Family Survey Results Children's System of Care



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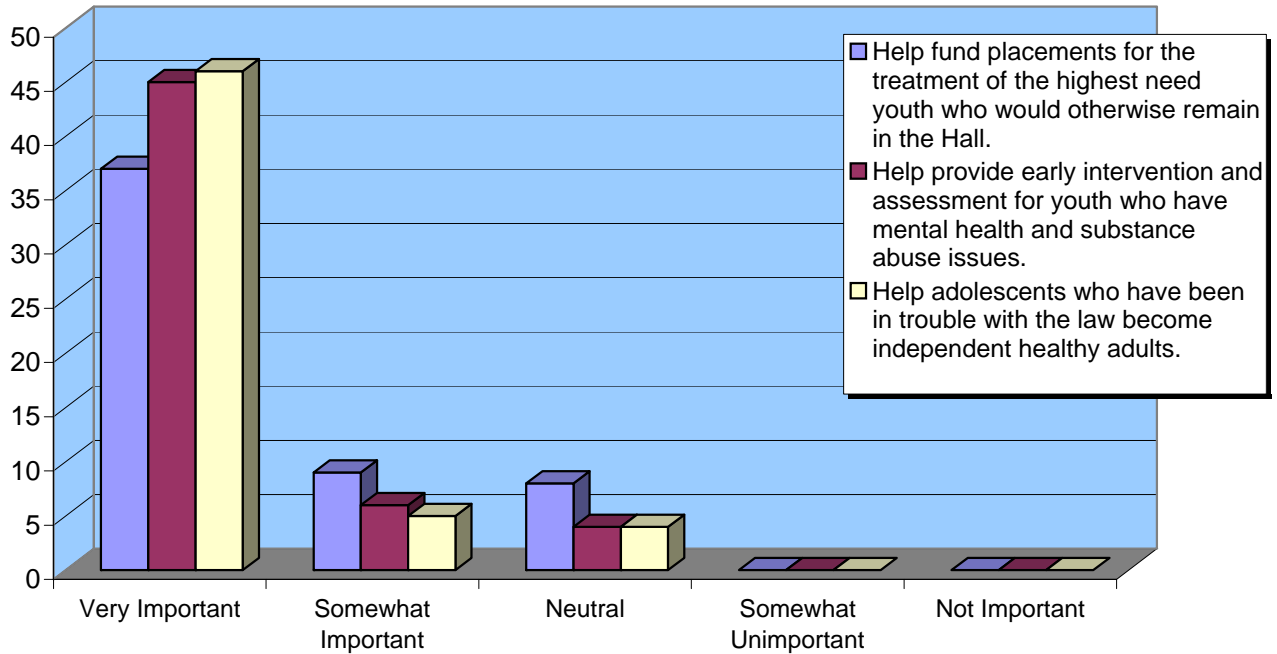


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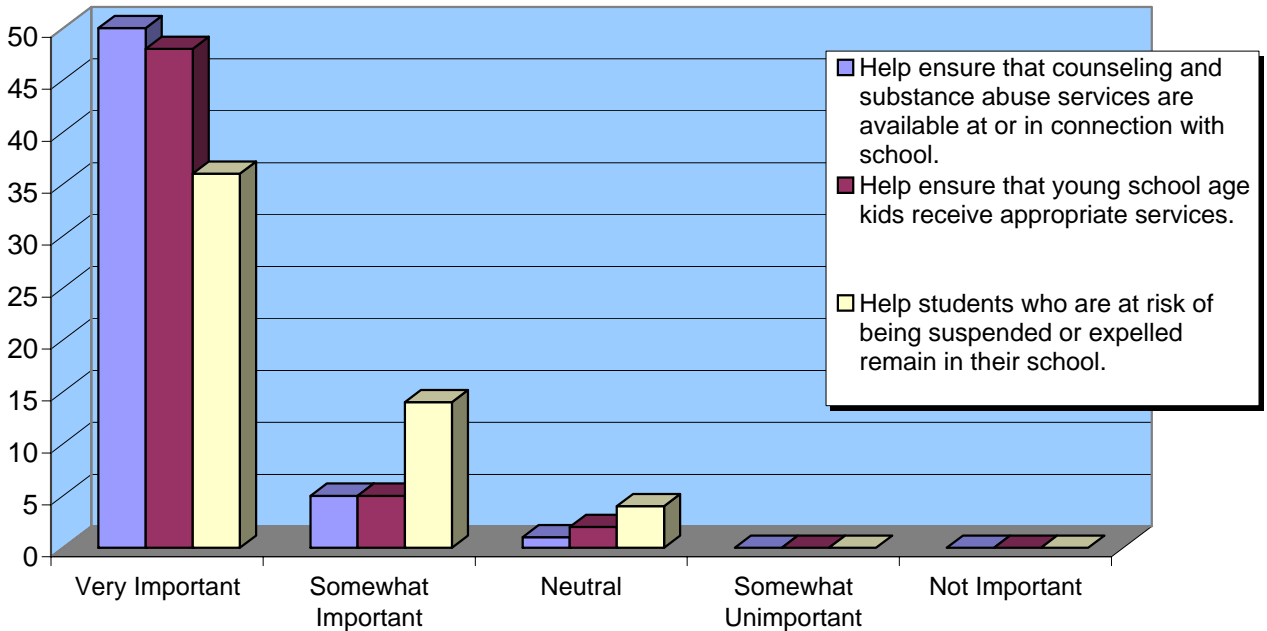


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## Youth Probation Related Services

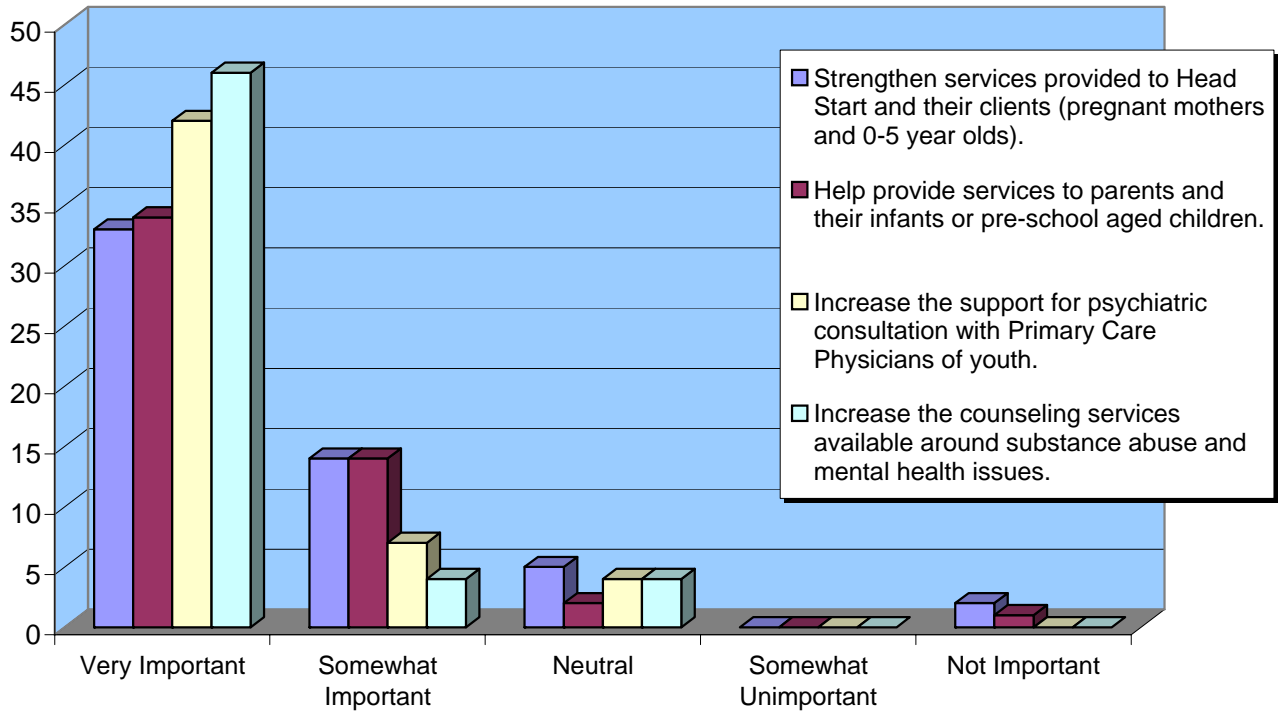


## Services Related to School



# Phase 1 - Family Survey Results Children's System of Care

## Community Based Services



### Cultural Sensitivity

### Dual Diagnosis

### Youth & Family Support

