

**PROPOSITION 63
PHASE 1
CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH
YOUTH
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?

- Help kids go home
- Help youth that have Mental illness without putting them in Hall
- Before even thinking about foster home or juvenile hall, try helping youth at home instead of being placed somewhere.

What other Foster Care / CPS services are needed?

- Help pregnant moms get ready to be responsible.
- Help youth get jobs
- Help youth get involved with Transitional Living Services
- Have a clean environments in foster homes.

What other school related services are needed?

- Acknowledgement of peer/peer abuse & offer help to cope with it.
- Better connection between school services & MH services
- Personal tutors or person helping students individually

What other community based services are needed.

- Home for young pregnant moms who are pregnant
- Help teen moms get financial help & services

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:

How do you think we could improve Mental Health Services?

- By providing quicker services with the psychiatrist and other counselors.
- By having more understanding counselors & docs and more of them. Also make commercials about services.
- More services after High School
- Peer-on-peer counseling. More youth interaction & resource hotlines
- Need counseling available to young people who need it on regular basis.
- Making depression meds more affordable.
- Help young people know it's normal to have MH issues. Most teens don't know or are afraid to use these services.

- More education
- By going out in public & asking other people their opinions
- By covering all people that need health coverage that need help in lives. Lowered costs for the economically challenged families.
- By picking up trash
- Have services less closely related to court system.
- Continue medication services.
- By putting more money toward it
- By giving more money back to community & by not giving the government more of our hard earned money.
- You can improve MH services by making them a little more fun and providing services places other than the office.
- More services in schools, more facilities.
- I guess just find a way to get more trust from people getting help. Like going with them during other activities
- Provide adequate service & alternatives instead of traditional methods.

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

- Steve Capasso deserves raise because he's so awesome
- More drug education
- Pre-addictive counseling
- Need to not put people in categories & stereotypes. It's important to have help available even for students that don't have female support.
- I think everything is great and really make difference. Because sometimes the smallest thing counts the most.
- Suicide Prevention; family counseling; help with self-infliction or pain (cutting)
- There are many important MH services but they need to be more available for youth to access.
- Help with depression
- Have clients stay with same therapist after 18yrs old.
- I think they youth need to get help with how to put up with bullies
- Help them in their social problems, drugs, family or suicide
- One central location to access available MH services & to obtain info about other available programs.
- More Pre-crisis intervention
- Drug & alcohol group to help youth stay clean.
- Just someone to be there for them.
- Give them movie passes take them to a park.

How could staff be more culturally sensitive?

- Juvenile Hall staff needs some attention
- Staff should find out about clients background
- By just respecting their religion & culture
- By not acknowledging race/ethnicity as a key point in someone's personality. For example, a person from India isn't particularly Hindu. They could be just like any other teen
- I think that the stereotypes Hispanics are given as only "field workers" is incorrect
- Reduce discrimination.
- Be more open minded
- More diversity in facility
- I think that racial talk should not be allowed.
- Allow me to do more Japanese stuff.

- They need to stop comparing other Hispanic people with me & others in same situations. Need to stop saying everything is going to be okay & say that they are going to help you. Do it not just say it. Actually let kids be with their parents & get them back to homes.
- Just to understand better where you're coming from.
- By not doing anything that will make us feel bad & always being there.

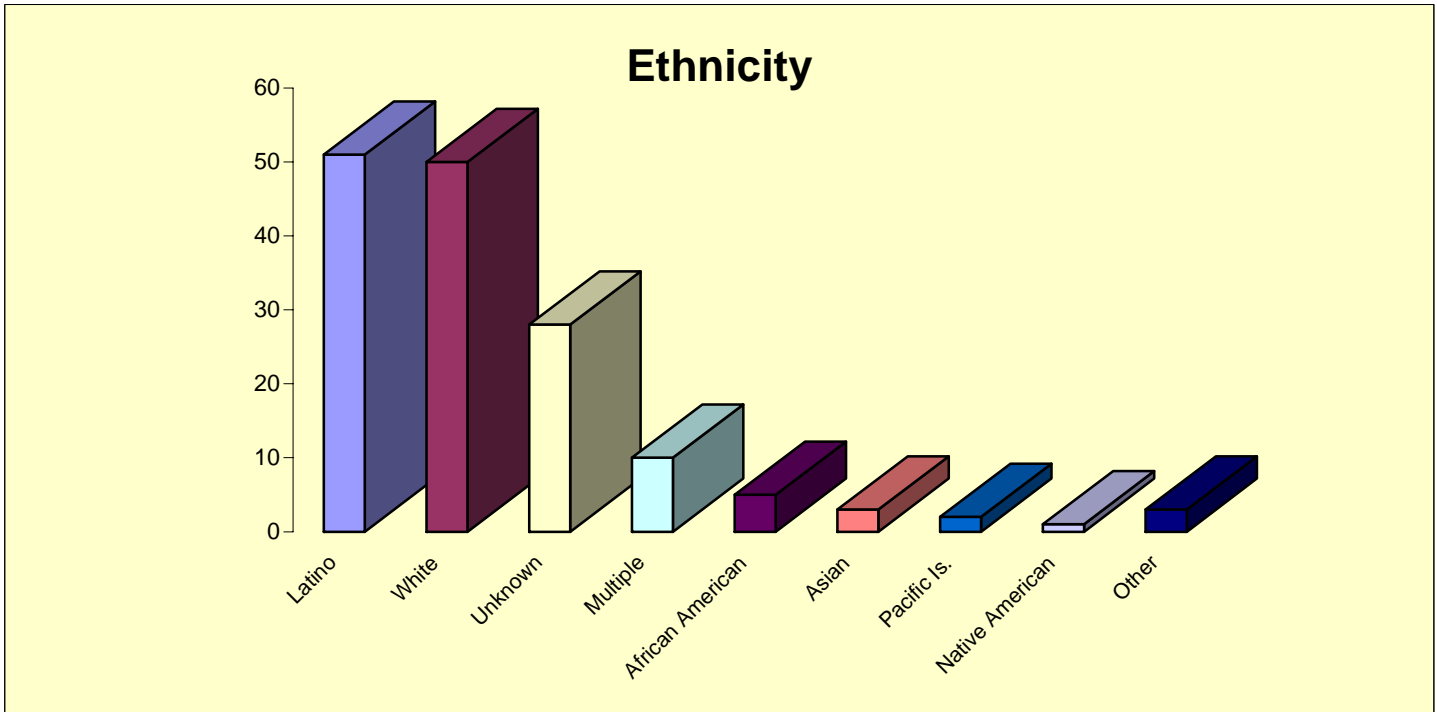
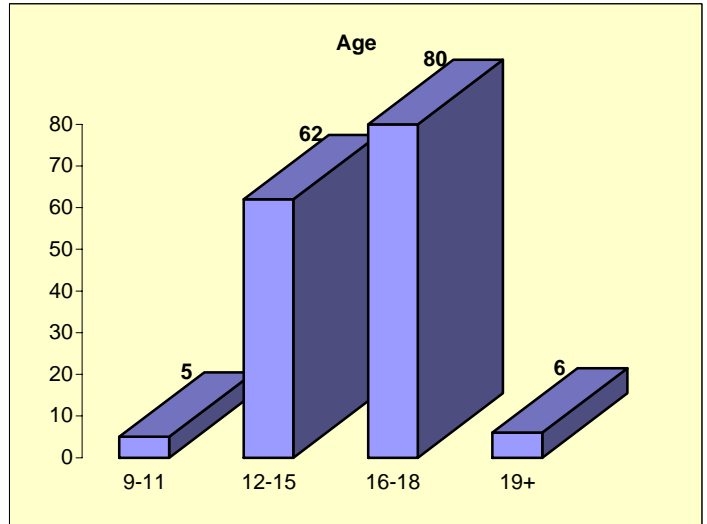
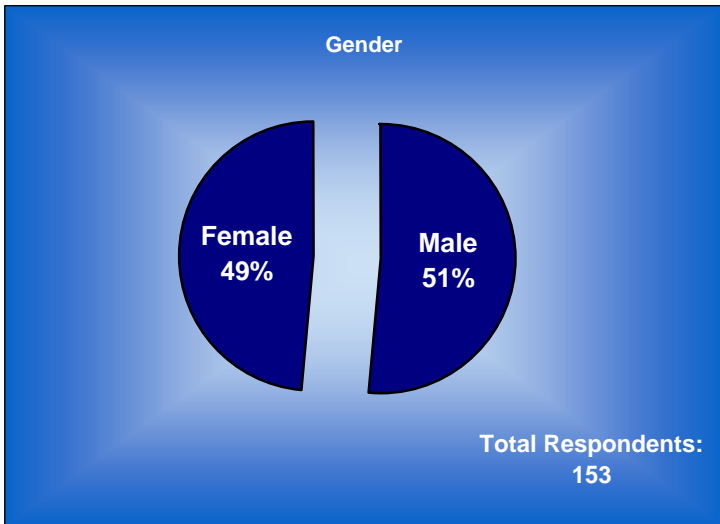
How could we improve cooperation between Substance Abuse and Mental Health?

- I work with a group that supports me a lot.
- All services should be more connected.
- Keep on mixing them
- They need to know what's up with every client.
- Stop over-focusing on the substance abuse & focus more on what caused it in first place
- Just acknowledge more collaboration
- I really think they're very helpful because it's kind of like an eye opener for those people.
- Make staff helpful for people who want help with drugs.
- At school, as well as home counselors
- Increase confidentiality.
- Form a program which addresses both
- Place their locations next to each other
- Get counseling more often
- By getting children away from parents
- Take them on a field trip: Go to beach, park. Pizza place that have VIP rm.
- By always being there when we need you or our parents.

How can programs do better at working with families and youth together?

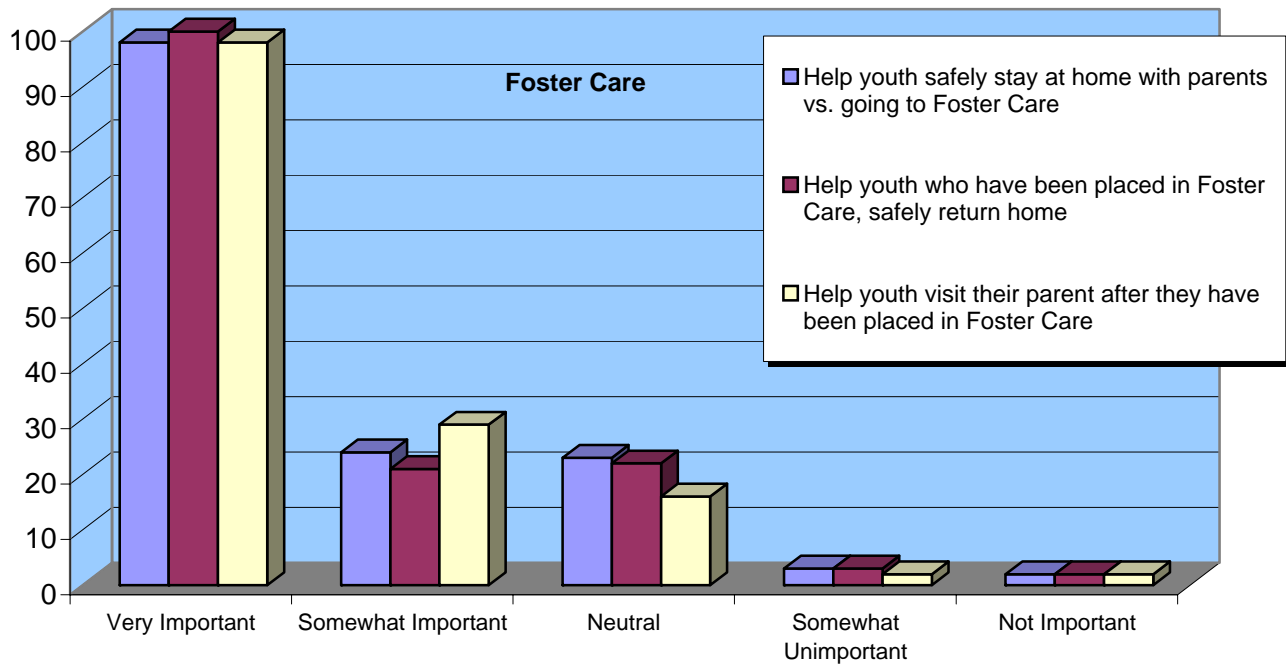
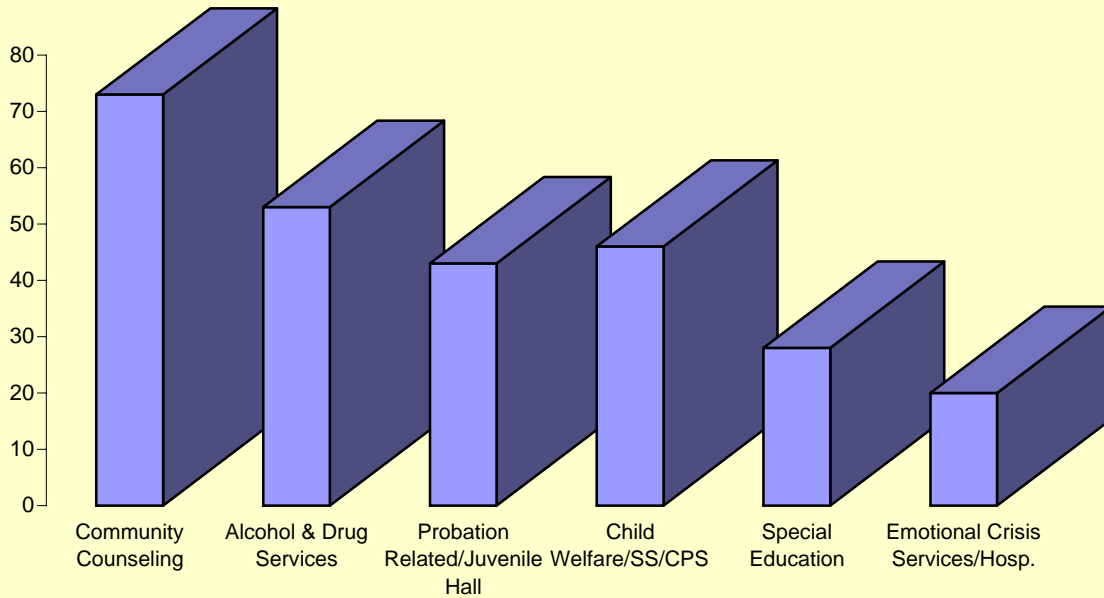
- Parent meetings, separate from client meeting
- Have 1-on-1 with parents only. Then family sessions.
- Visiting kids more & making them aware of services they qualify for.
- I was tested instead of asked about use. My counselor and I had no common ground, which is why I think teens counseling teens would be more productive
- Youth Services helped me get off probation
- Lower costs.
- At school, as well as home counselors.
- Counselors should know what they're talking about.
- Try talking about goals you & your parents want to reach;
- By understanding & not by making too much comments
- More inter-agency communication & cross-agency knowledge
- Not take on so many kids at one time.
- They could be more persistent to get whole family in counseling
- Go somewhere else than office: 1. Beach; 2. Park; 3. Mall
- By talking to students & parents
- By always talking to both about our needs & parents needs.

Phase 1 - Youth Survey Results Children's System of Care

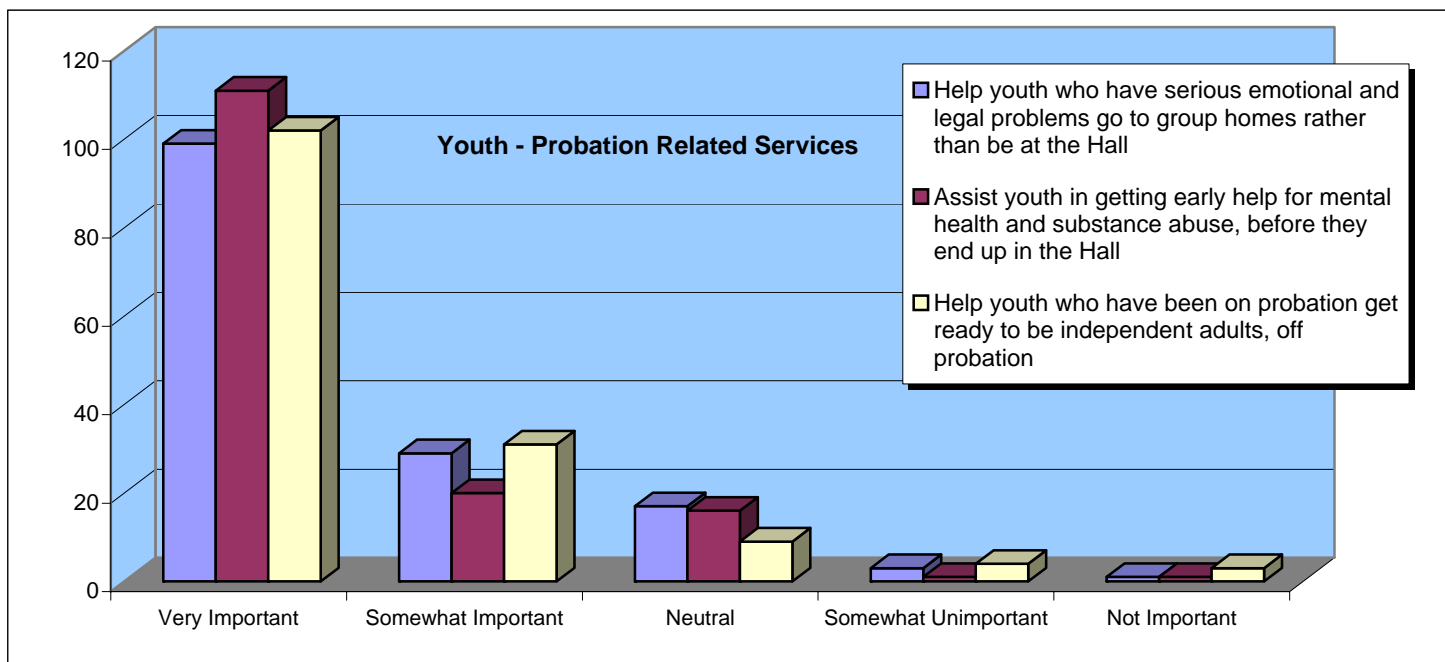
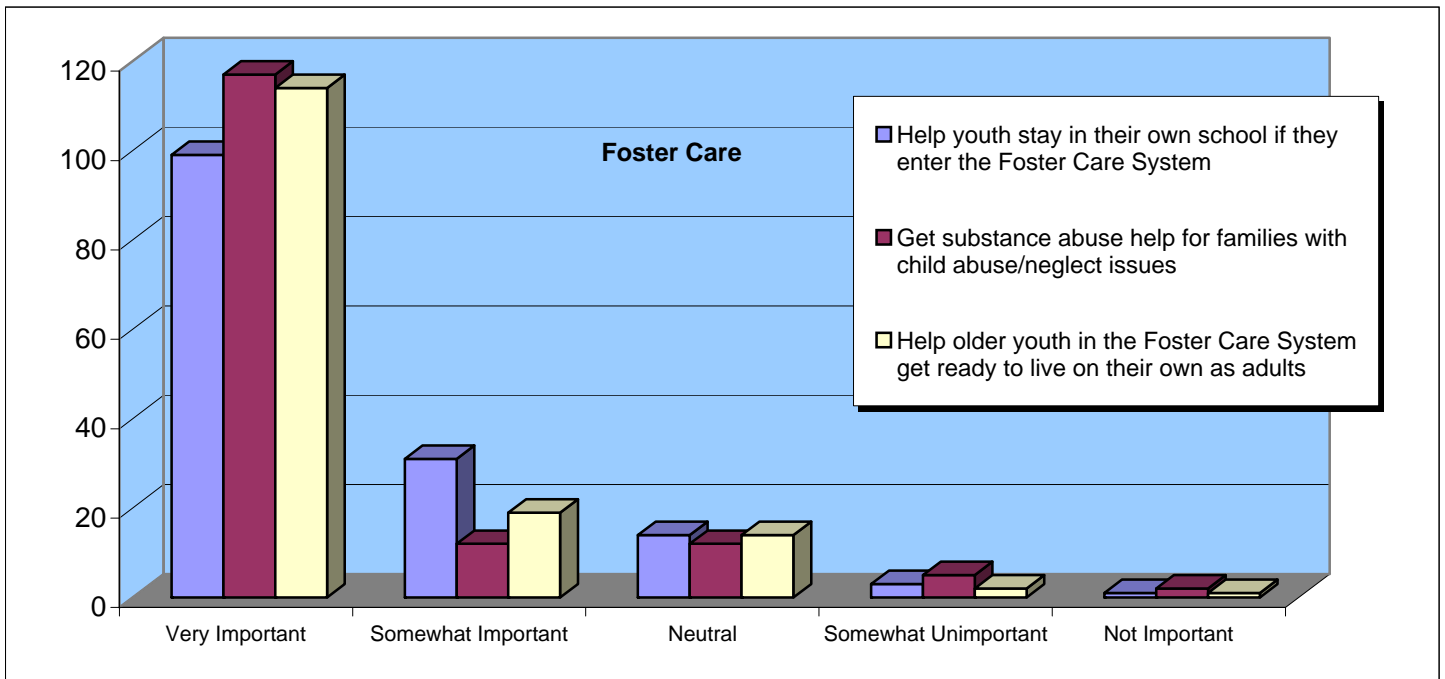


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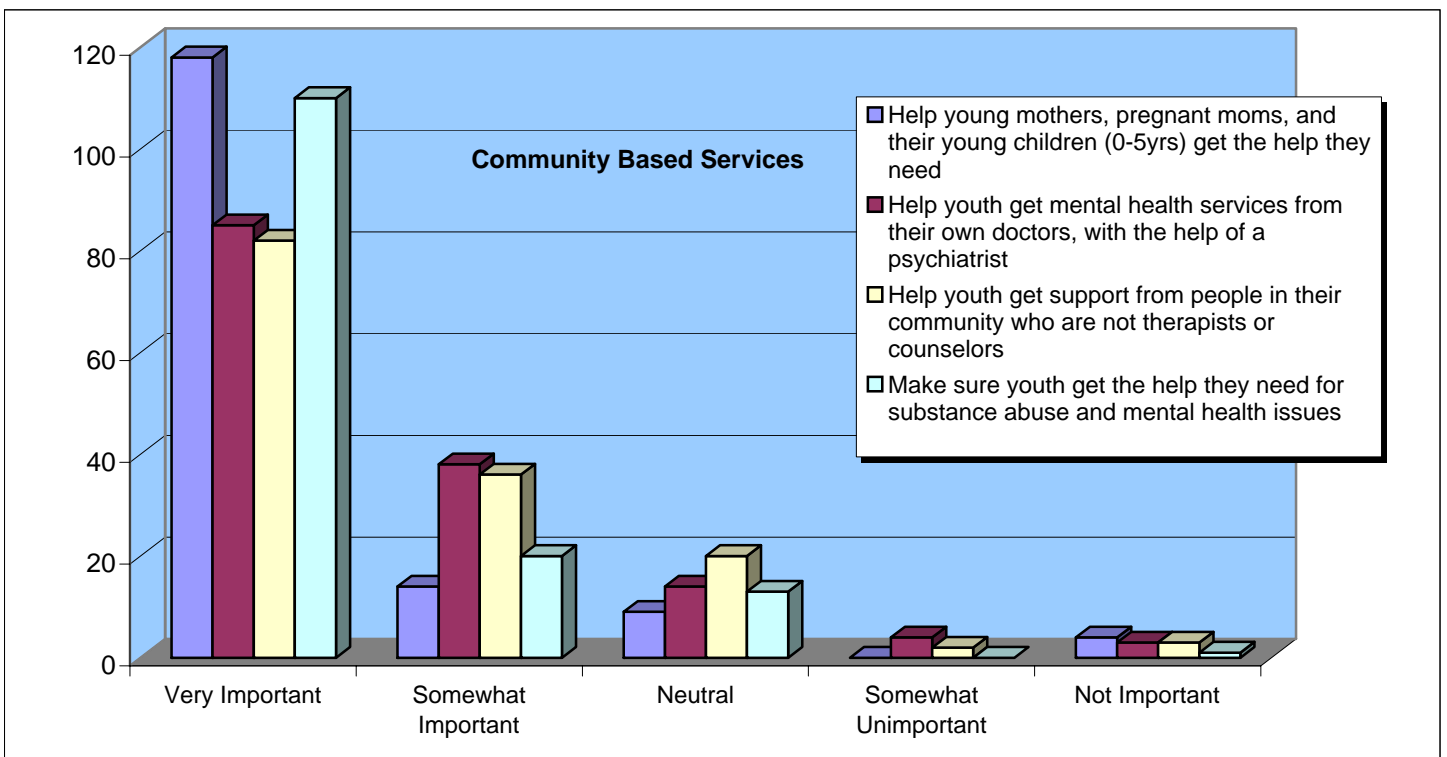
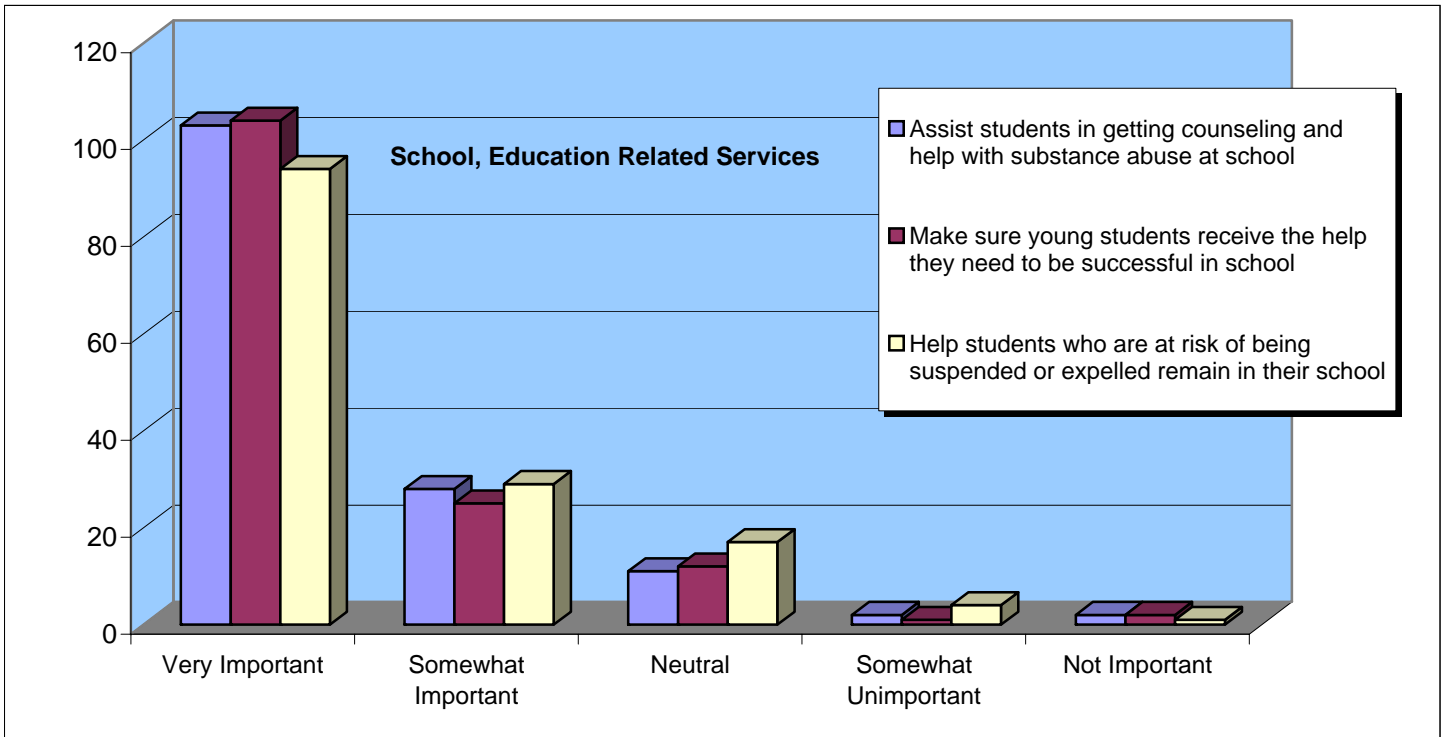
Services Received



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