City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 10, 2011

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY YOUTHMAPPING IN THE WEST END OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 2010 SUMMARY REPORT

ISSUE: Receipt of the 2010 Community YouthMapping In The West End of Alexandria, Virginia Summary Report.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council receive this report and thank the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria (SAPCA) for their work on the behalf of the City.

DISCUSSION: During the summer of 2010, the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria (SAPCA) and its partners sponsored a Community YouthMapping (CYM) project. This project was the result of a broad partnership among SAPCA, City agencies, nonprofit organizations and various City boards and commissions. Alexandria teens, ages 15 to 18 from the *Job*Link *Teens*Work! youth employment program, received training in surveying and mapping programs and services available to youth. Supervised by adult team-leaders, they surveyed and mapped programs in the West End of Alexandria.

The report presents a description of the CYM project, including the mapping process, and an assessment of the services available to youth in the West End of Alexandria. The mappers collected data on the available community programs and services, opportunities for youth, and the organizations' perceptions of at-risk youth behaviors. It also identifies gaps in resources, and includes a description of lessons learned.

The report concludes that although Alexandria has been recognized as one of the 100 Best Communities for Young People by the America's Promise Alliance—which was characterized as "a noteworthy and well-deserved recognition"—the survey results show that many additional actions can be taken to provide programs and services to the youth in the West End. The report recommends: expanding job training and employment opportunities; increasing volunteer opportunities; and expanding day care and camps during non-school hours. It further recommends that resources and opportunities for youth in the West End be better publicized.

The report will be widely distributed to organizations and community members in an effort to garner support for the implementation of its recommendations. SAPCA also plans to map portions of the East End of Alexandria during the summer of 2012. Allen Lomax, SAPCA Chair, will make a presentation to City Council on the CYM Project and the report findings.

FISCAL IMPACT: At this stage there are no fiscal impacts. If and when specific proposals are made for new or expanded City activities, there may be fiscal impacts to consider.
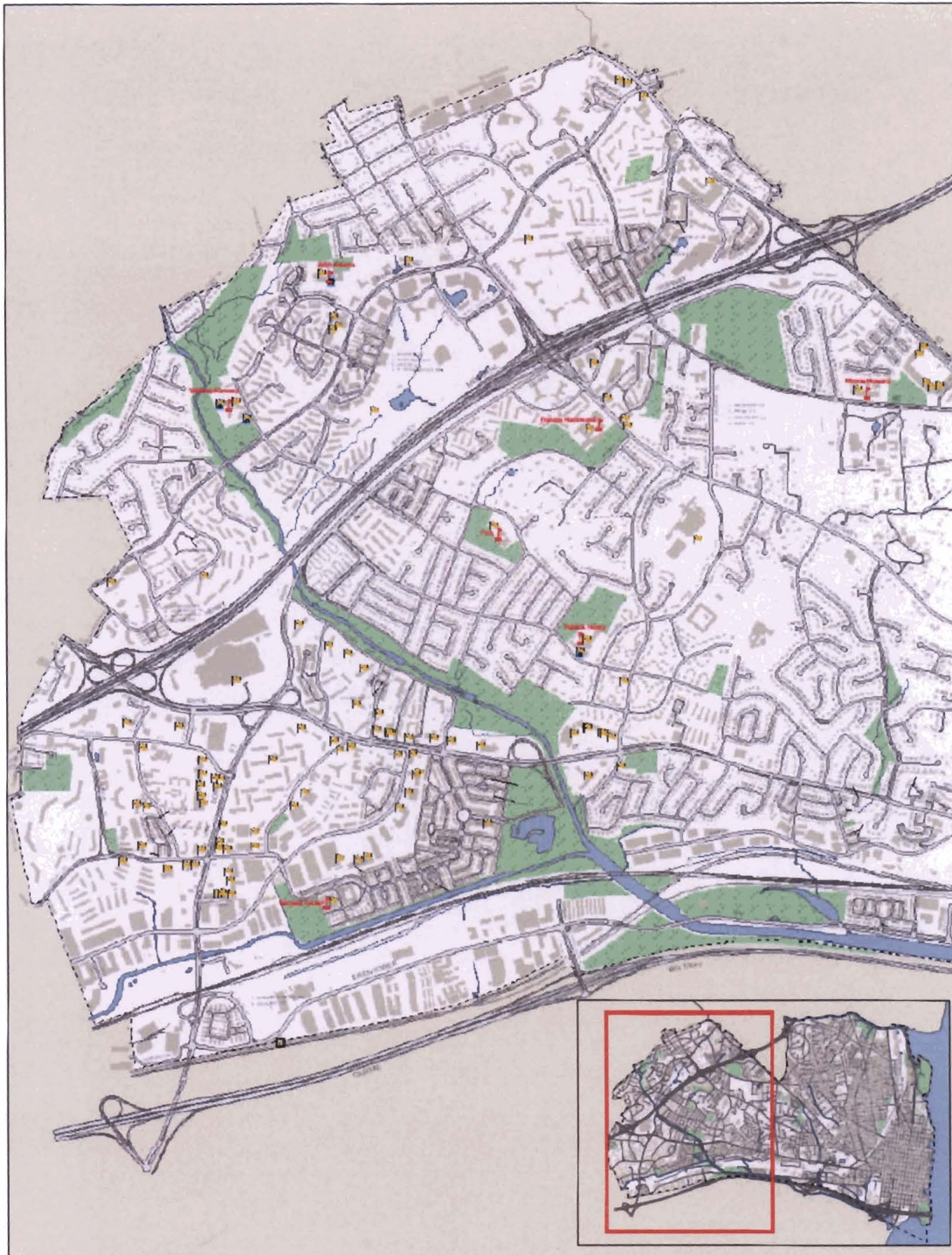
ATTACHMENTS:
Attachment 1: Community YouthMapping In The West End of Alexandria, Virginia 2010 Summary Report
Attachment 2: YouthMapping PowerPoint Presentation

STAFF:
Debra R. Collins, Assistant City Manager

Community YouthMapping in the West End of Alexandria, Virginia
2010 Summary Report
January 2011

Community Youth Mapping Program
Alexandria, Virginia
Map Produced: September 2010

Legend

CYM Sites	----- City Boundary	Rivers/Lakes
Public Schools	—— Metro Line	Streams
Recreation Center	++++ Rail Line	Parks
Metro Stops	Buildings	City of Alexandria

0   750   1,500   3,000 Feet

1:9,000

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Executive Summary

During the summer of 2010, the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria (SAPCA) and its partners sponsored a Community YouthMapping (CYM) project. This project was the result of a broad partnership among SAPCA, City agencies, nonprofit organizations, and various City boards and commissions. From July 6 through August 13, 2010, teams of trained "mappers"—16 Alexandria teens, ages 15 to 18, supervised by adult team-leaders, surveyed and mapped the programs and services available to youth in the West End of Alexandria. The data the mappers collected highlighted gaps in programs and services in the West End as well. Mappers were recruited through TeensWork!, the City of Alexandria's youth employment program through JobLink. Candidates applied and completed an assessment in math and reading before they were offered the position of Alexandria YouthMapper. Once selected for their positions, the youth were trained by a consultant in the CYM process and learned how to conduct the surveys and input the data into a data-entry system.

This report presents a description of CYM, the mapping process, and an assessment of the services available to youth in the West End of Alexandria. It summarizes the resources, gaps in resources, and organizations' perceptions of youth identified during this project. The report includes a description of lessons learned and recommendations for potential CYM projects.

One hundred fifty-nine businesses, schools, faith-based and other organizations were surveyed; mappers surveyed 157 and two surveys were completed after the summer mapping period. The findings should be considered qualitatively, rather than quantitatively because this research was exploratory in nature. We found that 44 percent (69) of the organizations offered part-time and 19 percent (30) offered full-time employment to youth. Additionally, 15 percent (24) of the organizations offered internships, 14 percent (22) offered volunteering, and 8 (12) percent offered mentoring opportunities. Forty-two percent (66) of organizations provided goods or services to youth, usually at a cost. Six percent (10) of organizations offered at least one after school program, and 4 percent (7) offered at least one sport or recreation program.

Most organizations did not offer youth employment, volunteer opportunities, scholarships, mentoring opportunities or community programs or services for youth. The majority of organizations provided goods or service to youth; because most were for profit, youth had to pay for services.

Regarding the surveyed organizations' perceptions of youth risk behavior, 44 percent of participating organizations thought that tobacco and drug use were major problems in their neighborhood. Close to one-third said that teen pregnancy and gangs were problems in their neighborhood. Organizations said more parental involvement was necessary to reduce the number of youth engaging in risky behaviors in the City.

Although Alexandria has been recognized as one of the 100 Best Communities for Young People by the America's Promise Alliance—a noteworthy and well-deserved recognition—our survey results show that there remain many more actions that can be taken to provide programs and services to the youth in the West End in particular. Such actions include: expanding job training and employment opportunities, increasing volunteer opportunities, and expanding day care and camps during non-school hours. Additionally, there are resources and opportunities for youth in the West End that should be better publicized.

This report is a starting point to facilitate partnerships between youth and organizations in the community. The results and work of the CYM project will be widely distributed to organizations and community members in an effort to support CYM partners with the implementation of the recommendations contained in this report.

Additionally, SAPCA and its partners intend to continue the CYM process in the summer of 2012, by mapping portions of the East End of Alexandria.

For questions or to request more information, contact SAPCA's Coordinator, Noraine Buttar, at 703-746-3670 or noraine.buttar@alexandriava.gov.

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Community YouthMapping (CYM)

Community YouthMapping (CYM), coordinated by local public/private/nonprofit partnerships, brings together youth and adults as they discover community resources and opportunities for children, youth, and families. Youth, accompanied by adults, go door-to-door in communities, surveying businesses and organizations. This strategy helps identify a variety of resources that may not be commonly known to the general community. The CYM program involves youth, called mappers, who use a survey tool to gather baseline information on the resources available in the community. The CYM survey tool was developed by the Academy for Educational Development (AED) and is used in numerous communities. The survey was customized for Alexandria to ensure stakeholders' questions were answered (see Appendix A).

Alexandria CYM was a special project of the Substance Abuse Coalition of Alexandria (SAPCA) and its partners: The Office on Women and the Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy; Alexandria Community Services Board; Alexandria Libraries; Alexandria Police Department; Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities; Alexandria Sheriff's Office; Alexandria Youth Council; Community Lodgings; JobLink; Northern Virginia Urban League; and the Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria. This project was possible due to the partnership of these key Alexandria government and community organizations and their ability to define the common goals of the project and combine limited resources.

AED served as a consultant for the CYM project. AED staff provided technical assistance that included: guiding the development of the mapping team; facilitating development of survey tools and timelines; developing an online data management system; conducting on-site training of mappers, supervisors, and the coordinator; and advising how to make use of the collected data.

The Alexandria CYM process occurred during summer 2010 and focused on Alexandria's West End. CYM project partners chose to map this area because of the perception that it has the fewest resources compared to other areas in Alexandria. Alexandria's West End is the most typically suburban part of Alexandria, with winding roads and cul-de-sacs. The Duke Street section in the West End is a high-density residential area known to locals as "Landmark" and for its concentration of both strip and enclosed shopping malls. In the past 15 years, parts of Alexandria's West End have seen an influx of immigrants from Ethiopia, Eritrea, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Central and South America who have settled in the areas surrounding Seminary Road west of I-395. See Appendix D for a more detailed description of the West End.

The map below shows the areas the mappers covered. The yellow flags represent locations that were mapped. The programs and services each location offers are provided on the National Community YouthMapping site, www.communityyouthmapping.org. Select Alexandria, and then click on the program or service.

West End Map:

Mappers were recruited via TeensWork!, the City of Alexandria's youth employment program through JobLink. JobLink provides a variety of employment services for the citizens of Alexandria. Candidates applied and completed an assessment in math and reading before they were offered the position of Alexandria YouthMapper. An AED consultant trained the mappers and six adult supervisors in the CYM process. Mappers learned how to conduct the surveys and how to input the data in the data-entry system. Adult supervisors were selected by the sponsoring organizations, and most were employees of these organizations. They included employees of the Sheriff's Office, the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, the Office on Women, and the Alexandria Health Department, as well as a volunteer college intern from the Alexandria Community Services Board.

From July 6 to August 13, 16 City of Alexandria teens between the ages of 15 and 18 participated in CYM. They surveyed business and organization owners and managers, asking about resources, opportunities, and perceptions about risky behaviors among youth in their neighborhoods.

Prior to the start of the mapping process, the SAPCA project coordinators visited or called the intended locations to pass out flyers, describe the mapping process to organization leaders, and receive permission for the youth to conduct the survey.

Project mappers and coordinators asked 254 businesses and organizations to complete the survey. Of these, 159 completed the survey and 95 declined to participate. Of the 95 businesses or organizations that declined, some stated they did not have time, others said they were not interested, and some said they could not allow youth into the building because it would compromise client confidentiality or potentially make clients uncomfortable.

Data Analysis and Summary

It should be noted that this research was exploratory and qualitative in nature, and as such sought to develop insight and direction, rather than obtain quantitatively precise measures.

The information that follows provides a summary of the data collected through the survey element of the mapping process. Specifically, it provides information on the:

- Available community programs and services
- Types of organizations surveyed
- Current opportunities for youth
- Number of youth employed and applying for employment
- Number of organizations interested in providing opportunities
- Number of youth served by various organizations
- Organizations' perceptions of at-risk behaviors

Community Programs or Services

Organizations and businesses were asked if they offered specific community programs or services for community members at their location. Responses are summarized in Table 1. The names of organizations that offer programs or services are listed in Appendix B. It is important to keep in mind that of the 15 percent of organizations that provided "Places," 71 percent (17) were condos and a hotel that did not provide access to all youth, only the ones that lived or stayed in their establishments. Many organizations only provided one program or service for community members. Of note is that 38 percent (6) of the organizations that provided other services or resources were for-profit. Organizations self-identified as having these resources. Some organizations that provide resources may not be on the list because they did not participate in the survey; either because they declined, or no one was available to speak to the mappers when they visited the organization. Among the organizations surveyed, none of the respondents indicated they had: a movie theatre, an amusement park, ice-skating, or museums. Also, no respondents indicated they offered legal services for runaway youth, discrimination, domestic violence, incest, rape or sexual assault, or other crimes. This research does not include programs or services that provide outreach to young people on the West End, and are based elsewhere in the City.

Table 1: Summary of Community Programs or Services

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Community Program/Service	Description of Program/Service	# of Locations Offering One or More Service	Percent of Locations Offering One or More Service
Places	Includes baseball fields, basketball courts, bike trails, football field, ice skating, jogging trails, a library, parks, playgrounds, public and private swimming pools, tennis courts, and recreation centers	26	16%
Other Services/Resources	Includes advocacy for children, youth, and adults; cultural arts and activities; employment information and referral; employment vocational and career training; event organizing,; Internet access, boy and girl scouts; leadership opportunities, training and development; religious services and education, self help and support groups; and sponsorship of special events and activities	18	11%
Health and Counseling Services	Includes counseling in career, child abuse, college prep, domestic violence, eating disorders, incest, loss, other, peer, sexual assault, substance abuse, and suicide. Includes health services: AIDS/HIV, Dental, Family Health, Hospital, Mental Health, Pediatric, and Substance abuse treatment	17	11%
Basic Needs and Emergency Services	Includes conflict mediation/resolution services; crisis intervention; emergency clothing, food, and transportation; WIC housing referrals and payment assistance, and transportation assistance	16	10%
Education Services/Resources	Includes alternative high schools, college and financial aid, computer training, ESL, GED, Head Start, Literacy instruction, Safety, Sexuality, Special Education, Substance Abuse, Testing & Referral, Tutoring	12	8%

Non-School Hours Day Care and Camps	Includes after-school programs involving art and music, day and summer camps, and day care for infants through school-age children	12	8%
Family Services	Includes services for adoption, family support, foster care, preventative services for children, and senior citizens; parenting assistance and training; and respite care	11	7%
Sports and Recreation Programs	Includes lessons and competitions for baseball, basketball, bowling, field hockey, football, lacrosse, soccer, swimming, tennis, track and field, and volleyball	7	4%
Legal and Victim Services	Includes child abuse and neglect services	2	1%

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Types of Organizations

As shown in Graph 1, of the 159 organizations in the West End surveyed, 70 percent (110) were businesses, which included grocery chains, hair salons, and smaller shops. Fourteen percent (22) were restaurants and 4 percent (6) were health organizations.

Graph 1: Types of businesses and organizations
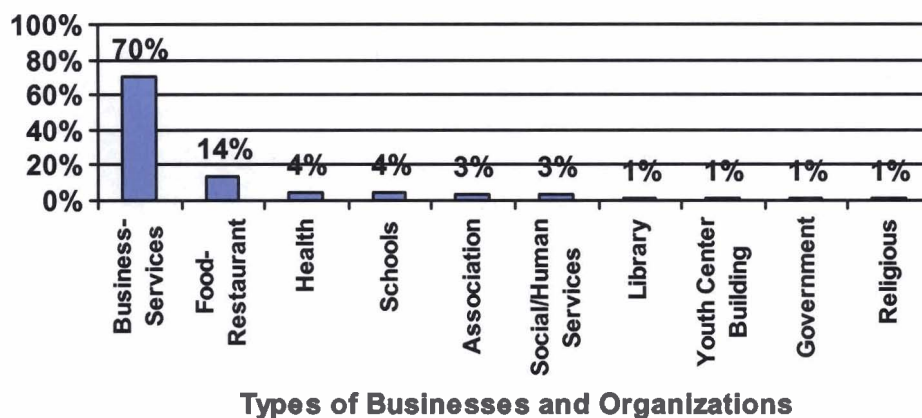
The majority of the organizations, 87 percent,(139), were for profit; 13 percent (20) were nonprofit.

Current Opportunities for Youth

The majority of the organizations did not offer many opportunities for youth. As shown in Graph 2, only 44 percent (69) of the organizations surveyed offered part-time employment, 19 percent (30) offered full-time employment, and 18 percent (28) offered seasonal employment.[1] Many businesses and organizations in the West End reported that they did not hire youth because they said the young people lacked the skills and experience necessary to fill vacant positions. Opportunities for internships, volunteering, scholarships or mentoring were minimal.

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[1] Organizations could offer multiple opportunities; data reflect overlap of responses.

Graph 2: Current opportunities offered to youth by organizations

Bar chart showing percentages by Types of Opportunities:
- Part Time: 44%
- Full Time: 19%
- Seasonal: 18%
- Internships: 16%
- Volunteering: 15%
- Scholarships: 5%
- Mentoring: 8%

Types of Opportunities
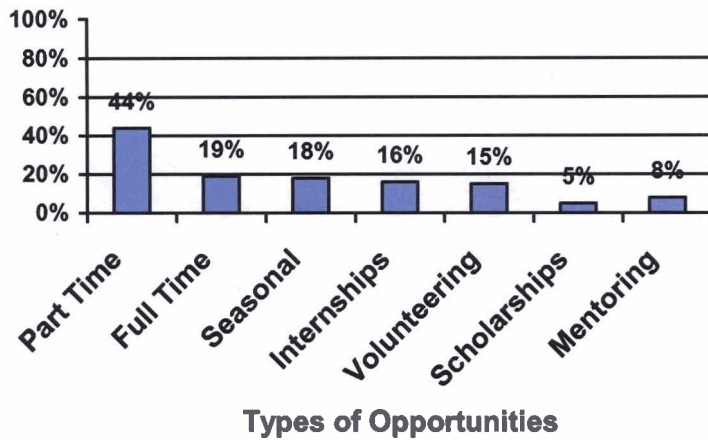
Number of Youth Employed and Applying for Employment

Although many businesses and organizations thought that employment opportunities would help to reduce substance use/abuse and gang activity in the city, they were unable to provide these employment opportunities. Graph 3 shows that 57 percent (91) of organizations did not employ youth, while 13 percent (20) percent employed three to five youth and 10 percent (16) employed one to two youth within the past year. Six percent (10) employed six to ten youth, 4 percent (6) employed 11 to 15 youth, and 3 percent (4) employed between 16 and 20 youth. Only 3 percent (5) of organizations employed 26 or more youth within the past year.

Many respondents stated that the age of applicants and the lack of skills necessary to fulfill job requirements were major factors in the lack of employment opportunities for youth. A few employers said that teens lacked the maturity required for certain jobs. Many mappers commented on their difficulty finding a job. One stated, "If it weren't for CYM, I wouldn't be making any money this summer."

Bar chart showing percentages by Number of Youth:
- 0: 57%
- 1 to 2: 10%
- 3 to 5: 13%
- 6 to 10: 6%
- 11 to 15: 4%
- 16 to 20: 3%
- 21 to 25: 0%
- 26+: 3%

Number of Youth

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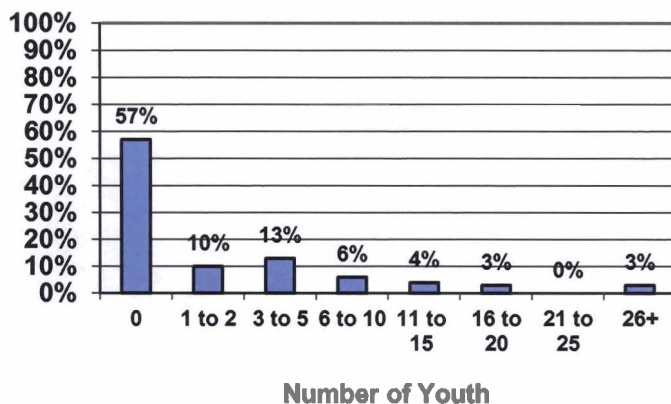
Graph 3: Number of youth employed at businesses and organizations

As shown in graph 4, 64 percent (101) of the organizations said they did not have youth who had applied or were unable to hire the youth that did apply. Eight percent (13) organizations were unable to hire the 26 or more youth who had applied for positions.

Graph 4: Number of youth that had applied/walked in, or filled out applications that businesses were not able to hire

Number of Youth
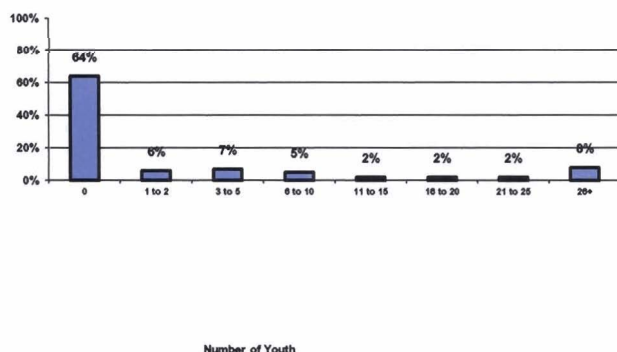
Organizations Interested in Providing Opportunities

Some organizations were interested in providing opportunities to youth, as shown in Graph 5. Specifically, 36 percent (58) of organizations surveyed were interested in providing youth with job training, 35 percent (56) with employment, 25 percent (39) with volunteer opportunities, and 24 percent (38) with internship and mentoring. Only 27 percent (42) of the organizations surveyed were not interested in providing youth with any opportunities.

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Graph 5: Organizations interested in providing youth with various opportunities

Types of Opportunities
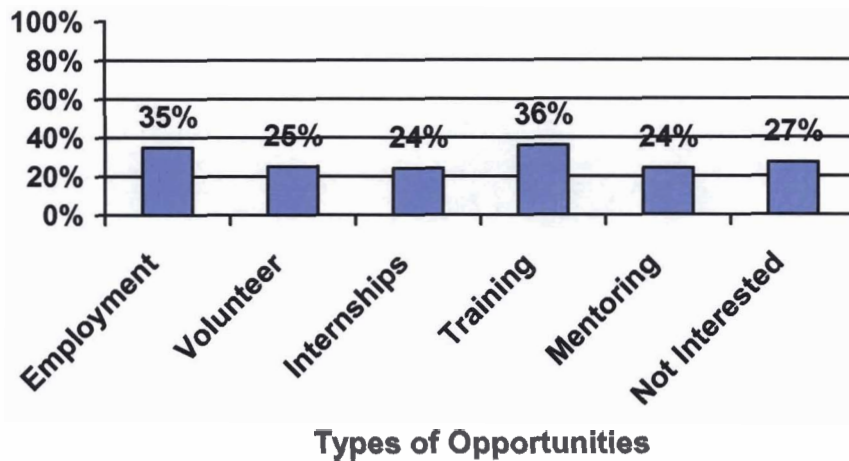
Number of Youth Served

Graph six shows, 42 percent (66) of locations served over 50 youth on a monthly basis, while 26 percent (41) of locations did not serve youth. For the purposes of this survey, "served" means provided goods or services to youth. Because most of the locations were for profit, they charge youth for services. Of those organizations that did not serve youth, reasons included: they served alcohol or they were geared towards adults, such as hotels, check cashing organizations, leasing offices, and car dealerships.

Graph 6: Total number of youth served

Number of youth
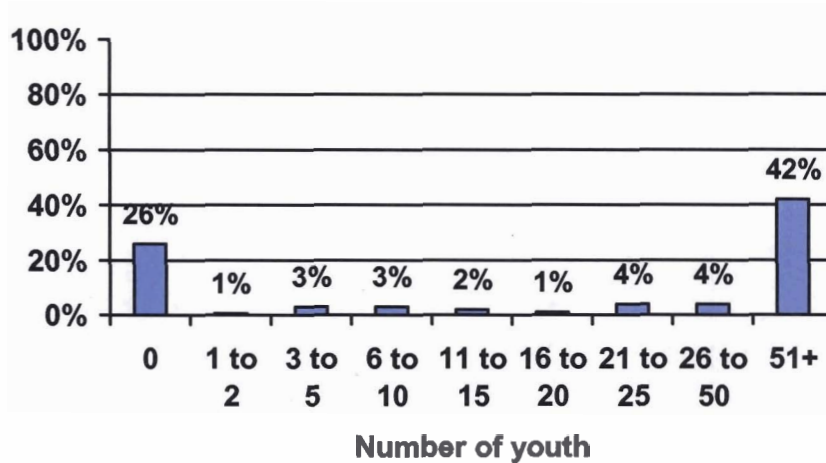
Gathering Places for Youth

When asked where they saw youth congregating, some organization owners responded:

- Bus stops
- Brent Place Apartments
- Anywhere in the streets
- Landmark Plaza
- Parking lots of shopping malls
- 7-Eleven (Various neighborhoods)
- McDonalds (Various neighborhoods)
- Skateboarding in parks and public places

It became clear, from survey responses that respondents saw youth congregate in public places not equipped with youth programs. Only one respondent said he/she saw youth gather at a library or a recreation center. One of the respondents who said he/she has seen youth gather at 7-Eleven stated, "It is hard to say because they congregate everywhere." When discussing the survey responses, a mapper who lived in the West End asked, "Where else are we supposed to go?"

As shown in Graph 7, the majority of locations (116) did not have available meeting space for youth programs. Most locations were small and did not have meeting space for any outside organizations. Only a small percentage (13) offered free space for meetings; they are listed in Appendix C.

Graph 7: Percentage of organizations with space available for meetings with or without a fee

8%
18%
74%

■ Fee
■ No Fee
■ Don't have space available
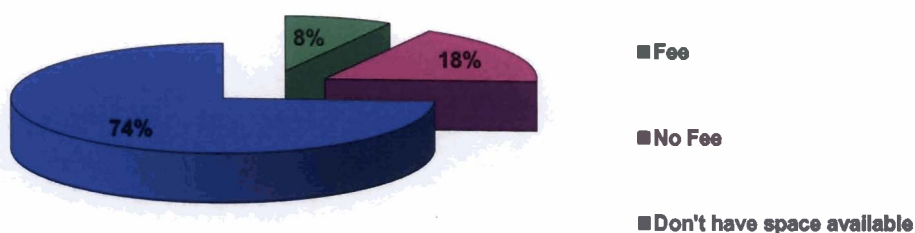
Content Related to Youth Risk Behaviors

As shown in Graph 8, percent of organizations (69) surveyed said tobacco and drug use were major problems among Alexandria youth in their neighborhood.[1] They were also concerned about alcohol use, teen pregnancy, and gang activity.

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Graph 8: Organizations that felt alcohol, tobacco, and drug use, teen pregnancy, and gangs were a problem in their neighborhood
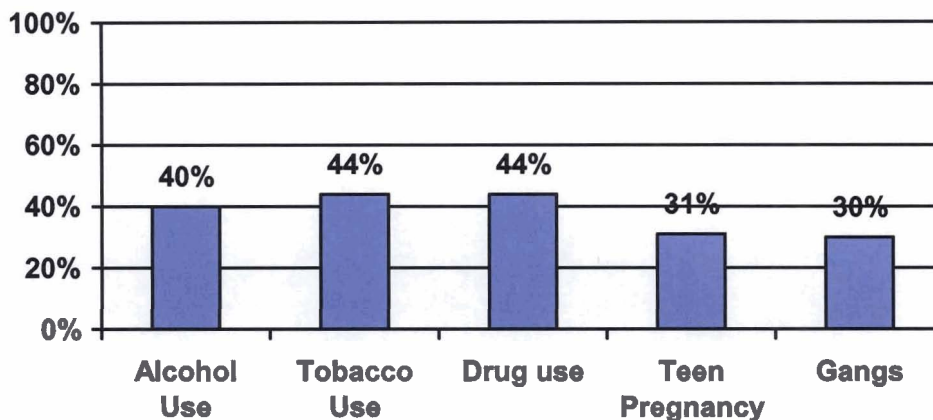
Respondents were asked where they saw youth using drugs and alcohol. Places mentioned more than once were:

- By almost any 7-Eleven
- Foxchase Shopping Center parking lot and general area
- Brent Place Apartments, inside and outside
- Crestview Apartments
- On playgrounds
- Along Duke Street
- Along Van Dorn Street

The mappers stated that a few business owners said they were reluctant to share their honest opinions about gang activity because of a fear of retaliation. When asked if and where gang activity took place, respondents who shared this information gave limited information. Some stated the problem was a City-wide issue, and provided few specific details about where they observed gang activity.

As shown in Graph 9, when asked what would help reduce youth substance use and abuse in the City, 57 percent of organizations (90) said more parental involvement, 39 percent (61) said more out of school activities, 36 percent (57) identified youth oriented programs, and 32 percent (50) indicated jobs for youth.[1]

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Graph 9: Organizations' perception of important needs in their neighborhood in terms of preventing youth substance use/abuse.
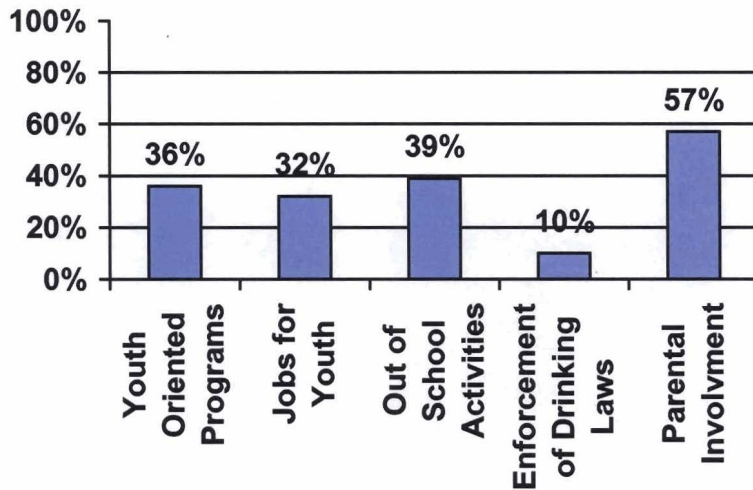
As shown in Graph 10, when asked if the manager or leader wanted prevention information about youth substance abuse, gang involvement or teen pregnancy, 59 percent (93) of the organizations surveyed did not want any information. However, 40 percent (63) of the organizations wanted information about youth substance use, 33 percent (52) wanted information on gang involvement and 32 percent (51) wanted information on youth pregnancy.[1]

SAPCA, ACAP, and the Gang Prevention and Intervention Task Force have collaboratively followed up with these organizations.

Graph 10: Organizations that want information from groups in the City that work to prevent substance use and abuse, teen pregnancy, and gang involvement.

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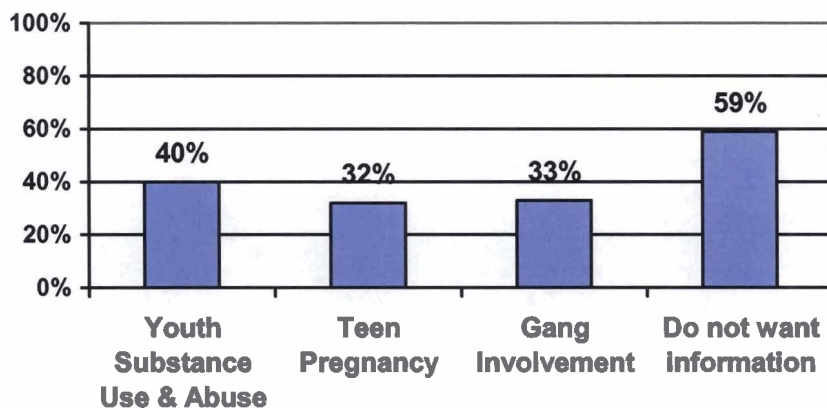
Benefits to Youth Involved in CYM Project

The CYM project enabled the youth involved in the project to develop a variety of personal and work skills. For example, mappers developed stronger people skills and learned to refrain from reacting negatively when organization owners declined to participate in the survey. Overall, mappers said they developed self-confidence through the CYM process. They also tapped into leadership skills they did not know they possessed. Mappers said they now feel much more comfortable approaching adults and asking for assistance.

Mappers gained additional valuable skills. They learned data-entry and team-building skills. Mappers learned how to interpret data, create charts and present a PowerPoint presentation about their mapping experiences. They worked collaboratively in groups to create, edit and meet all of their presentation deadlines. Two of the four groups were selected to present at the TeensWork! closing ceremony.

Lessons Learned from the CYM Project

Mappers learned that dealing with the public requires a high level of patience. Although businesses were informed in advance that mappers would be coming into their neighborhoods, and agreed to do the surveys, some were less than polite or declined to be interviewed when the mappers arrived.

Adult supervisors learned that youth need to take frequent breaks to debrief, discuss what they have learned, bolster enthusiasm and raise morale. Supervisors also realized that it was important to have all youth serve as interviewers and avoid situations where one mapper recorded survey answers while their partner conducted the interviews. CYM coordinators learned that it is important to have a contingency plan for bad weather. They learned it is better to overestimate the number of businesses that will decline, and provide mapping teams with numerous locations to visit during the mapping process.

Conclusion

In general, Alexandria offers a wide range of programs and services for our youth. In 2010, for the third time, Alexandria was named one of the 100 Best Communities for Young People by the America's Promise Alliance. Alexandria was selected because of its strong investment in its young people's success and support of their opinions and presence in programs that serve and affect them most. This is a well-deserved achievement.

However, the Community YouthMapping Project demonstrated that there is an unevenness among those programs within our community and that we can do more to provide our youth the opportunities they need to be successful in life. A lack of resources is one of the major risk factors in alcohol and drug abuse, teen pregnancy, and gang involvement.

Specifically, there are too few youth-oriented organizations in the West End of Alexandria. Seventy percent of organizations surveyed were businesses, mostly retail. Only 11 percent (17) of organizations offered at least one health and counseling services, eight percent (12) offered after-school programs, and four percent (7) offered sports and recreation programs. Eighty-seven percent (139) of organizations were for profit.

Additionally, the West End lacks employment opportunities for youth—44 percent (69) of the organizations surveyed offered part-time and 19 percent (30) offered full-time employment. Most locations said they did not think youth had the skills to work in their organization. However, only 36 percent (58) were interested in providing youth with the appropriate job training to fill a position. Fifty-seven percent (91) of organizations said they did not employ youth. Eight percent (13) of organizations said they had turned down at least 26 youth that applied for positions.

Organizations provided varied responses when asked where youth were congregating. One possible reason youth congregate in public locations such as parking lots and 7-Elevens is because they have nowhere else to meet in the West End. Seventy-four percent of organizations said they did not have available meeting space for youth. Only eight percent offered to provide free meeting space.

Over 40 percent of the organizations surveyed indicated that tobacco and drug use were major problems in their neighborhoods. They also thought alcohol, teen pregnancy and gang activity were prevalent. Organizations said youth needed more parental involvement and more access to out-of-school activities to prevent substance use and abuse. Almost a third reported that employment opportunities would help reduce substance use/abuse and gang activity in the city, and yet the majority was unable to provide these employment opportunities.

Recommendations

The mappers and CYM sponsors recommend the following actions:

- Hold town forums to discuss and brainstorm possible solutions and options for the West End regarding issues that pertain to youth
- Develop and provide more recreation programs for older youth in the West End
- Network and partner with businesses, JobLink, and the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce to provide and promote more job training and job opportunities for youth
- Develop and expand and promote more after-school activities and programs
- Work with Volunteer Alexandria and other youth-serving organizations to provide more volunteer opportunities for the youth in the West End
- Work with the Alexandria City Public Schools in the Community School planning effort to identify and close gaps in programs and services in the West End

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Recommendations for Future CYM Projects

Mappers made the following recommendations to improve the CYM process:

- Provide more supplies for mappers, such as bags to hold business cards and a backpack for supplies
- Have a central location to meet and debrief daily
- Provide access to a lab with an adequate number of computers to complete daily data entry

Next Steps

CYM sponsoring organizations will share data with community partners and stakeholders. CYM sponsors will seek out opportunities to form partnerships between youth-serving groups and other organizations and businesses in the City. They will conduct outreach efforts to the City Council, the Alexandria School Board, the Youth Policy Commission and the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, to name a few. Sponsors will promote identified resources, such as employment opportunities, to increase the number of youth taking advantage of existing resources. Interested organizations can use the data to advocate for more resources in the West End. SAPCA will lead the CYM process again in the summer of 2012, in the East End of Alexandria. In collaboration with other sponsoring organizations, they will survey other areas of Alexandria in subsequent years to gain a better understanding of services offered in Alexandria, and gaps in services.

Organizations that were unable to participate in the survey, but would like the programs and services they offer included on the website, and organizations that want to update the information provided at www.communityyouthmapping.org should contact Noraine at noraine.buttar@alexandriava.org.

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APPENDICES

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Appendix A

COMMUNITY YOUTHMAPPING SURVEY

Young people are going door to door to all the organizations, businesses, churches, schools, government offices and agencies in our area to learn about the services and supports that are available for children and youth.

The information the youth collect will be made available through the Community YouthMapping website (www.communityyouthmapping.org) and will be used by Youth Providers and others to make decisions about what additional services are needed by children and youth and to identify resources available in our community. On behalf of the children, youth and families of this community we hope you will take a few minutes to help us complete this very important survey. It will take about 10 minutes to complete.

The questions we are going to ask are about the services or resources available at this location. If your organization also offers services in other parts of the area, do not answer for them. YouthMappers will also go to those locations and ask about their services. Are you the best person to ask about services available at this location or is there someone else who is here now that we would talk to?

Survey Code_____

Organization Name			
Parent/Umbrella Organization			
Street Number		Street Name	
City	State	County	Zip Code
Phone ( )		Fax ( )	TDD# ( )
E-Mail Address		Web Site	

| Type of Organization: *(Please select ONE that best applies)* | ☐ Business-Service
☐ Religious
☐ Entertainment
☐ Government
☐ Other _____ | ☐ Business-Food/Restaurant
☐ Health
☐ Library
☐ Association | ☐ Education/School
☐ Agriculture
☐ Social/Human Services
☐ Youth Center Building |

(Circle One)
Non-Profit: | Yes   No |

Person responsible for organization: Name and Title
Contact Person for Organization: Name and Title

Name of Person Interviewed_____ Title: _____

Name of YouthMapper: _____ Date: _____

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Number of years at address: [ ] **Additional location at another address:** [Yes   No]

(Circle One)
Closest Public Transportation Type: [N/A or Bus] **Route/Line:** [ ]

(Circle all that apply)
Time of year Open:

| Year Round | School Year | Spring | Summer | Fall | Winter |

(Circle all that apply)
Normal Days of Operation:

| Everyday | Monday - Friday | Weekends | Monday | Tuesday |
| Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |

(Circle all that apply)
General Hours of Operation:

Business Hours (9am – 5pm)   School Hours (7am – 3pm)   After School (3pm – 7pm)
Evening (6 – 10pm)   After 10pm   24 Hours   By appointment

(Circle all that apply)
Ages Served:

All Ages   (0 – 4)   (5 – 9)   (10 – 13)   (14 – 15)   (16 – 18)   (19 – 21)   Adults   Sr. Citizens

(Circle all that apply)
Eligibility Criteria:

Gender   Income   School   Religion   Other (explain) _____
Age   Application   Skill Level   Geographic Boundary

(Circle all that apply)
Fee for Services:

(1) - Yes   (2) - No   (3)-Some Programs/Services | **Services for Youth with Disabilities** Yes No |

(Circle all that apply)
Languages other than English?

Amharic   Arabic

Korean   Spanish
Other_____

(Circle one)
Facility Barrier Free (ramps, restrooms, elevators, doors, & doorways, etc.) | Yes   No   Partial |

(Circle all that apply)
Opportunities Available For Youth (18 years of age and under)

☐ Employment-P/T   ☐ Employment- F/T   ☐ Employment- Seasonal
☐Employment-Projects   ☐Entrepreneurial   ☐Internships/Apprenticeships
☐Membership   ☐Mentoring   ☐Scholarships/Awards
☐Student Exchanges   ☐Study Groups   ☐Volunteer
☐Youth Council   ☐Youth on Boards   ☐Other: _____

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Other Community Programs/Services Offered at this location *(Please check the programs/services that apply)*

Non School Hrs, Day Care & Camps
[ ] After-school Programs
[ ] Art & Music - Equipment
[ ] Art & Music - Lessons
[ ] Art & Music - Performances
[ ] Camp - Day (Summer)
[ ] Camp - Overnight (Summer)
[ ] Day Care - Infant & Toddler
[ ] Day Care - Licensed Home Prov.
[ ] Day Care - Preschool
[ ] Day Care - School Age

Health & Counseling Services
[ ] Counseling - Career
[ ] Counseling - Child Abuse
[ ] Counseling - College Prep
[ ] Counseling - Domestic Violence
[ ] Counseling - Eating Disorders
[ ] Counseling - Incest
[ ] Counseling - Loss & Bereavement
[ ] Counseling - Other
[ ] Counseling - Peer
[ ] Counseling - Sexual Assault
[ ] Counseling - Substance Abuse
[ ] Counseling - Suicide
[ ] Family Planning
[ ] Health - AIDS/HIV Services
[ ] Health - Dental Clinic
[ ] Health - Family Health Clinic
[ ] Health - Hospital
[ ] Health - Mental Health Services
[ ] Health - Pediatric care
[ ] Health - Pre-Natal Care
[ ] Health - Substance Abuse Treatment

Education Services/Resources
[ ] Education - Alternative High Schools
[ ] Education - College & Fin. Aid
[ ] Education - Computer Training
[ ] Education - ESL
[ ] Education - GED
[ ] Education - Head Start
[ ] Education - Literacy Instruction
[ ] Education - Safety
[ ] Education - Sexuality
[ ] Education - Special Early Childhood
[ ] Education - Special Education
[ ] Education - Substance Abuse
[ ] Education - Testing & Referral
[ ] Education - Tutoring

Basic Needs & Emergency Services
[ ] Conflict Mediation/Resolution Svces
[ ] Crisis Intervention
[ ] Emergency - Clothing
[ ] Emergency - Food
[ ] Emergency - Maternity Shelter
[ ] Emergency - Shelter
[ ] Emergency - Transportation
[ ] Food - Infants & Children (i.e., WIC)
[ ] Housing - Referrals & Placement
[ ] Housing - Payment Assistance
[ ] Transportation Assistance

Places
[ ] Places - Amusement Park
[ ] Places - Baseball/Softball Field
[ ] Places - Basketball Court
[ ] Places - Basketball Court w/ Lights
[ ] Places - Beach
[ ] Places - Bike Trail
[ ] Places - Bowling Alley
[ ] Places - Field Hockey Field
[ ] Places - Football Field
[ ] Places - Ice Skating
[ ] Places - Jogging/Hiking Trail
[ ] Places - Library
[ ] Places - Meeting Space
[ ] Places - Miniature Golf
[ ] Places - Movie Theater
[ ] Places - Museum/Cultural Centers
[ ] Places - Neighborhood Family Center
[ ] Places - Paddleball/Handball Court
[ ] Places - Park
[ ] Places - Playground
[ ] Places - Private Indoor Pool
[ ] Places - Private Outdoor Pool
[ ] Places - Public Food Court
[ ] Places - Public Indoor Pool
[ ] Places - Public Outdoor Pool
[ ] Places - Public Performances
[ ] Places - Public Recreation Center
[ ] Places - Racquetball Courts
[ ] Places - Roller-skating/blading area
[ ] Places - Soccer Field
[ ] Places - Tennis Courts
[ ] Places - Theatre Productions
[ ] Places - Volleyball Courts
[ ] Places - Youth Center

Sports & Recreation Programs
[ ] Sports - Baseball/Softball Lessons
[ ] Sports - Baseball/Softball Teams
[ ] Sports - Basketball Lessons
[ ] Sports - Basketball Teams
[ ] Sports - Bowling League
[ ] Sports - Bowling Lessons
[ ] Sports - Field Hockey Lessons
[ ] Sports - Field Hockey Teams
[ ] Sports - Football Lessons
[ ] Sports - Football Teams
[ ] Sports - Gymnastics Competition
[ ] Sports - Gymnastics Lessons
[ ] Sports - Horseback Riding
[ ] Sports - Ice Skating Competition
[ ] Sports - Ice Skating Lessons
[ ] Sports - Lacrosse Teams
[ ] Sports - Lacrosse Training
[ ] Sports - Soccer Lessons
[ ] Sports - Soccer Teams
[ ] Sports - Swimming Competition
[ ] Sports - Swimming Lessons
[ ] Sports - Tennis Competitions
[ ] Sports - Tennis Lessons
[ ] Sports - Track & Field Competition
[ ] Sports - Track & Field Lessons
[ ] Sports - Volleyball Lessons
[ ] Sports - Volleyball Teams

Legal & Victim Services
[ ] Child Abuse & Neglect Services
[ ] Legal Services - Teen Court
[ ] Legal Services - General
[ ] Runaway/Homeless Youth Services
[ ] Victim Services - Discrimination
[ ] Victim Services - Domestic Violence
[ ] Victim Services - Incest
[ ] Victim Services - Other Crimes
[ ] Victim Services - Rape/Sexual Assault

Family Services
[ ] Adoption Services
[ ] Family Support Services
[ ] Foster Care Services
[ ] Parenting - Assistance
[ ] Parenting - Training
[ ] Preventive Services for Children
[ ] Respite Care
[ ] Senior Citizens Services

Other Services/Resources
[ ] Advocacy - Child/Youth
[ ] Advocacy - Other
[ ] Cultural - Arts & Activities
[ ] Cultural - Rites of Passage
[ ] Employment - Info & Referral
[ ] Employment - Voc. & Career Training
[ ] Event Organizing
[ ] Gay/Lesbian Services
[ ] Immigration Services
[ ] Independent Living Programs
[ ] Inter-Generational Activities
[ ] Internet Access
[ ] Leadership - Boy Scouts
[ ] Leadership - Girl Scouts
[ ] Leadership - Opportunities
[ ] Leadership - Training & Development
[ ] Neighborhood Improvement
[ ] Public Officials & Offices
[ ] Religious Services & Education
[ ] Self Help/Support Groups
[ ] Sponsor - Special Events/Activities

Other:
[ ] Community Service
[ ] Field Trips
[ ] Job Shadowing
_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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1. Do you think the following is a problem in this neighborhood? (Check all that apply)
⬚ youth alcohol use   ⬚ youth tobacco use   ⬚ youth drug use   ⬚ teen pregnancy   ⬚ gangs

2. What do you see as the most important needs in this neighborhood in terms of preventing youth substance use/abuse? (Check your top two choices)
⬚ Need youth oriented programs   ⬚ Need more jobs for youth   ⬚ Need more out of school activities
⬚ Need more enforcement of underage drinking laws   ⬚ Need more parental involvement

3. Where in this neighborhood have you observed youth using alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, inhalants (such as paint, glue, household chemicals) other drugs:

_____
_____
_____
_____

4. Please name some public areas where you have seen youth (ages 12-18) congregate in this neighborhood:
1.
2.
3.

5. Have you seen or heard of any gang activity in the City of Alexandria? If so, where?

_____
_____
_____

6. Would you be interested in providing Alexandria youth with:
⬚ Employment opportunities   ⬚ Volunteer opportunities   ⬚ Internship opportunities
⬚ Training   ⬚ Mentoring   ⬚ Not Interested

7. What is the total number of youth employed at this location within the last year?
⬚ 0   ⬚ 1-2   ⬚ 3-5   ⬚ 6-10   ⬚ 11-15   ⬚ 16-20
⬚ 21-25   ⬚ 26+

8. How many youth who apply/walk in, or filled applications were you not able to hire?
⬚ 0   ⬚ 1-2   ⬚ 3-5   ⬚ 6-10   ⬚ 11-15   ⬚ 16-20
⬚ 21-25   ⬚ 26+

9. Why didn't you hire these youth?

_____
_____

10. What is the total number of children and youth **served** at this location monthly?
⬚ 0   ⬚ 1-2   ⬚ 3-5   ⬚ 6-10   ⬚ 11-15   ⬚ 16-20
⬚ 21-25   ⬚ 26-50   ⬚ 51+

11. If you are not able to serve all the children and youth that apply/walk in for services, what number are you unable to serve? _____

12. Why are you not able to serve those youth?

_____
_____
_____

13. If you have space for meetings or events is there a fee for youth programs to use the space?
⬚ Fee   ⬚ No Fee   ⬚ Don't have space available

14. If your organization has interest in developing new or expanded services/activities/programs for youth, what are they?

_____
_____

15. Would you like information from groups in Alexandria that work to prevent:
⬚ youth substance use & abuse   ⬚ teen pregnancy   ⬚ gang involvement   ⬚ Do not want information

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Appendix B

List of Organizations Offering Programs/Services

Basic Needs & Emergency Services
Casey Health Center
City of Alexandria Fire Department
Claridge House
Davita Dialysis Center
Fair Price International
Francis C Hammond Middle School
Harris Teeter
JobLink
John Adams Elementary School
Kabul Kabob House
Parc View Condos
Quiznos
REP Rehabilitation Equipment Professionals
Samuel Tucker Elementary School
The Encore Apts
Wiygul Automotive Clinic

Health and Counseling Services
Brent Place Apartments
C2 Education
Casey Health Center
Claridge House
Comprehensive Family Dentistry
David M. Goldberg, O.D., D.C.
Francis C Hammond Middle School
Hispanic American Pediatrics Association
JobLink
John Adams Elementary
L&M Management
Patrick Henry Recreation Center
Paul V. Stasiewicz Dental Office
Samuel Tucker Elementary
William Ramsay Elementary
William Ramsay Recreation Center

Education Services/Resources
BB&T Bank
Brent Place Apts
Burke Branch Library
C2 Education
City of Alexandria Fire Department

Francis C Hammond Middle School
Harris Teeter
JobLink
John Adams Elementary
William Ramsay Elementary
Samuel Tucker Elementary

Family Services
Claridge House
Family Dentistry
Francis C. Hammond Middle School
Hispanic American Pediatrics Associates
John Adams Elementary
Samuel Tucker Elementary
Stop Child Abuse Now
United Methodist Family Services
William Ramsey Elementary
William Ramsay Recreation Center

Sports and Recreation Programs
Foxchase of Alexandria
Patrick Henry Recreation Center
Place One Condominiums
The Fountains Condominiums
Washington Sports Club
William Ramsey Elementary
William Ramsay Recreation Center

Legal & Victim Services
Stop Child Abuse Now
Casey Health Center

Non School Hrs. Day Care & Camps
Brent Place Apts
Bright Start
C2 Education
EOS Apts
John Adams Elementary
Martial Arts
Patrick Henry Recreation Center
Samuel Tucker Elementary
William Ramsey Elementary
William Ramsay Recreation Center
Winkler Botanical Preserve

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Places
Beatley Central Library
Brent Place Apts
Burke Branch Library
Courtyard Marriott
Enterprise Rent-A-Car
EOS Apartments
First Owner Association
Foxchase of Alexandria Apartments
Francis C. Hammond Middle School
Hermitage Hill Apartments
High Pointe Condominium
John Adams Elementary
Landmark Terrace Apartments
London Park Towers Apartments
Parc View Condominium
Patrick Henry Recreation Center
Pavilion on the Park Apartments
Place One Condominium
Samuel Tucker Elementary
South Port Apartments
The Encore Apartments
The Fountains Condominium
The Summit Apartments
The Templeton of Alexandria Condominiums
William Ramsey Elementary
William Ramsay Recreation Center

Other Services/Resources
BB&T Bank
Beatley Central Library
Best Buy
Brent Place Apts
Burke Branch Library
Harris Teeter
Jerome "Buddie" Ford Nature Center
JobLink
John Adams Elementary
Place One Condominiums
Martial Arts
M&T Bank
Samuel Tucker Elementary
Stop Child Abuse Now of Northern Virginia
William Ramsey Elementary
William Ramsay Recreation Center
United Methodist Family Services

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Appendix C

List of Organizations Offering Free Meeting Spaces for Youth

City of Alexandria Fire Department
Good Times Chinese Restaurant
John Adams Elementary School
High Pointe Condominium
Home Depot
Jerome "Buddie" Ford Nature Center
Kabul Kabob House
Nation Wide Insurance
NTB
Pavilion on the Park
Ramparts Restaurant
The Fountains Condominium
United Methodist Family Services

APPENDIX D

Description of the West End

The West End is composed of four main areas. All are west of Quaker Lane, the main north-south artery through Alexandria:

- *Seminary Hill*, a mostly residential, single-family dwelling area near the Virginia Theological Seminary and the Episcopal and St. Stephen's & St. Agnes Schools off of Seminary Road, ending in the area just west of the Inova Alexandria Hospital. This area includes the T.C. Williams Minnie Howard Campus.

- *Lower Alexandria*, south of the Duke Street corridor, includes communities of small homes, rowhouses, townhomes along with commercial and retail real estate, including the Foxchase Shopping Center. The section between Wheeler Avenue and Jordan Street is also known as the "Block." In the 1960s and '70s, this section of Alexandria was recognized for the Shirley Duke complex of 2,214 low-priced rental apartments, which became the Foxchase development in the early 1980s. There are areas of industrial businesses south of Duke Street, primarily off Wheeler Avenue, South Pickett Street, and South Van Dorn Street. In the very southern part of this area is the Eisenhower Avenue corridor running parallel to the Capital Beltway (I-95/I-495) and west of Telegraph Road, which is primarily industrial and commercial. Lower Alexandria includes Patrick Henry Elementary School, Patrick Henry Recreation Center, and James K Polk Elementary School.

- The *Landmark* area includes Seminary Valley, which is made up of largely garden style apartments; Cameron Station; and the Charles E. Beatley Central Library. Landmark Mall, developed in the mid-1960s and redeveloped in the 1980s, had been Alexandria's primary retail area for decades. It is now anchored by Sears and Macy's department stores. Samuel Tucker Elementary school is in this area.

- The *Seminary West* neighborhoods are the communities west of I-395, but within the city limits of Alexandria. Beauregard Street is the primary artery running north & south to a mix of development from town home communities, single family neighborhoods, three large senior citizen living centers, garden and hi-rise apartments and condominiums. The Mark Center office development is a large commercial area in this community, which also includes the Alexandria Campus of the Northern Virginia Community College. Under construction, and due to open in September 2011, is a one million square foot office tower complex developed for the US Dept of Defense and its BRAC initiative. The complex will officially be an annex of the US Army post Fort Belvoir and 6,300 federal office workers are expected to occupy the buildings. Francis C. Hammond Middle School, John Adams and William Ramsay elementary schools and the William Ramsay Recreation Center are in this area.

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Community YouthMapping (CYM)

The West End of the City of Alexandria
July 6 – August 13, 2010

Purpose of CYM in Alexandria

- Identify and provide baseline data on current resources for youth and adults in the West End

- Identify gaps in available resources

- Provide a meaningful youth development activity for youth and adults

- Provide information about organizations' perceptions of at-risk behaviors

What is CYM?

Involves young people going door-to-door surveying organizations

- Identifies resources for children, youth, and families

- Coordinated by a local public/private/non-profit partnership

- A program of the Academy for Educational Development (AED)

CYM Sponsors

- **Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy**
- **Alexandria Department of Community and Human Services**
- **Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities**
- **Alexandria Libraries**
- **Alexandria Police Department**
- **Alexandria Sheriff's Department**
- **Alexandria Youth Council**
- **Community Lodgings**
- **Job-Link**
- **Northern Virginia Urban League**
- **The Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria**
- **Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria**
- **AED (consultant)**

CYM Adult Supervisors

YouthMappers
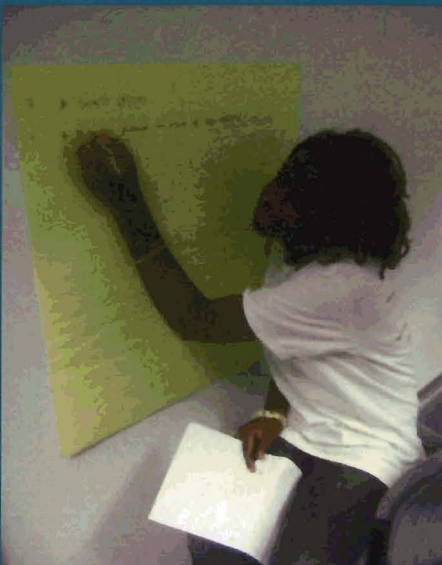
CYM Process in Alexandria

- **SAPCA project coordinators visited organizations before the mapping process to gain permission for the youth to conduct the surveys**

- **Sixteen YouthMappers, supervised by adults, visited Alexandria's West End to conduct formal interviews with managers and leaders of businesses**

- **Mappers entered data daily into a data entry system and developed presentations with the findings of their research**

Survey Questions

- **Are relevant to the objectives and initiatives of sponsoring organizations, and include:**

  - **Types of goods and services that are offered to the youth and community members**

  - **Basic information such as contact information and hours of operation**

  - **Organizations' perceptions about problems with youth alcohol, tobacco, and drug use, teen pregnancy, and gangs**
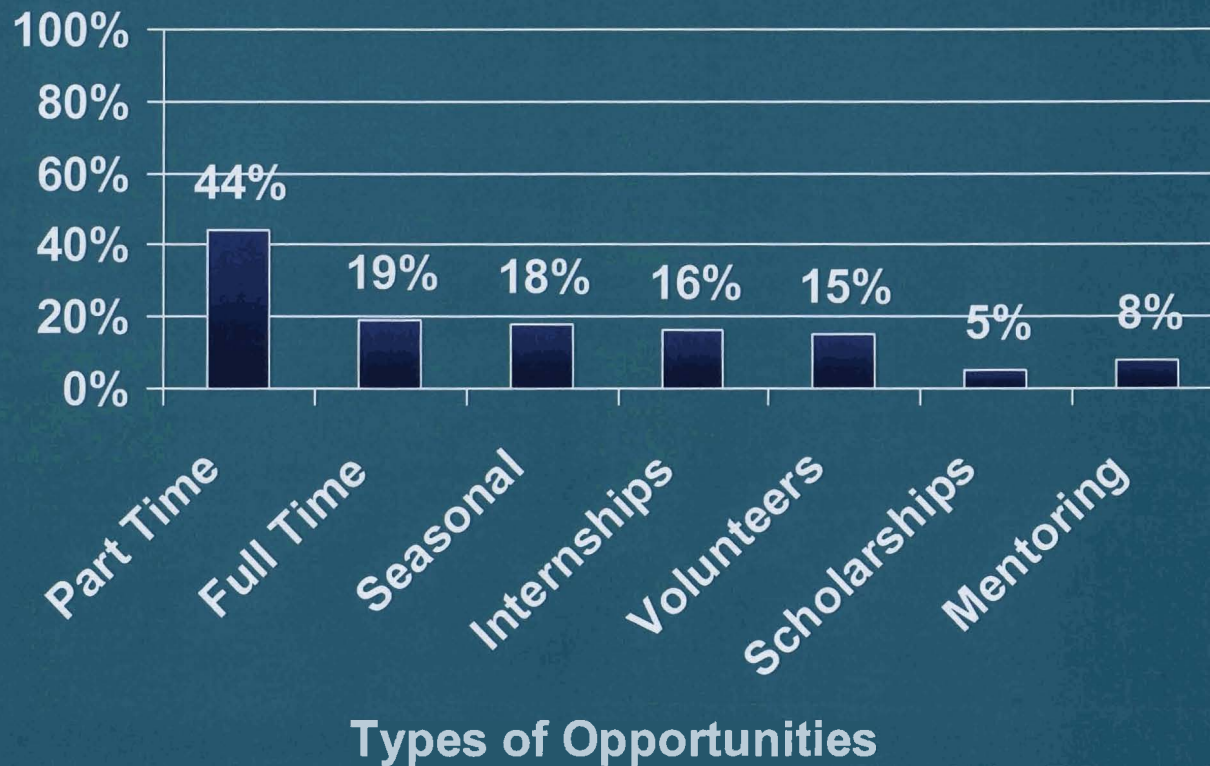
Number of Organizations Surveyed

- **254 organizations were approached to participate**

- **Mappers surveyed 159 organizations, mostly retail**

- **95 declined to be surveyed**
  - **Too busy**
  - **Not interested**
  - **Did not want to compromise client confidentiality**
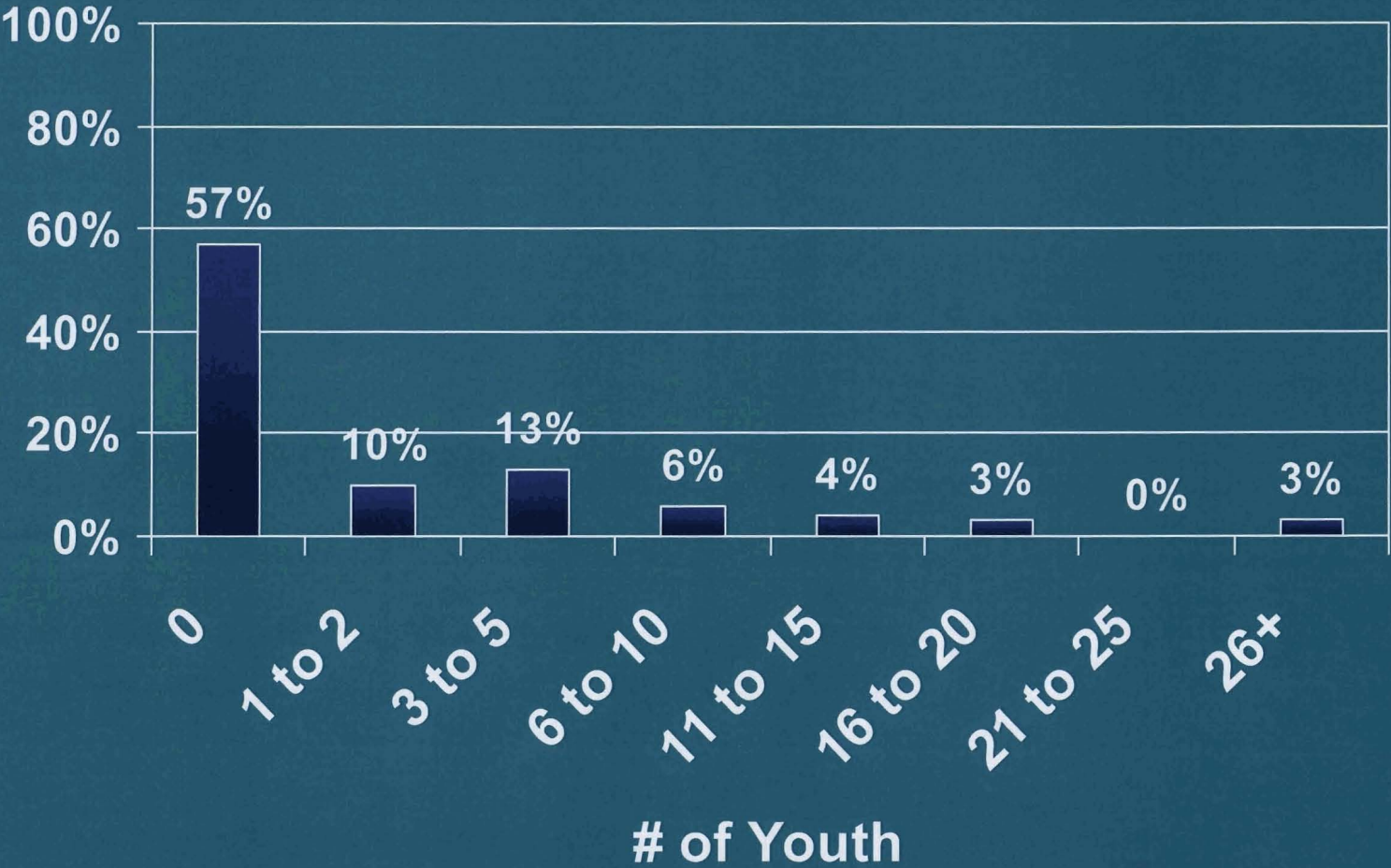
Types of Organizations Surveyed
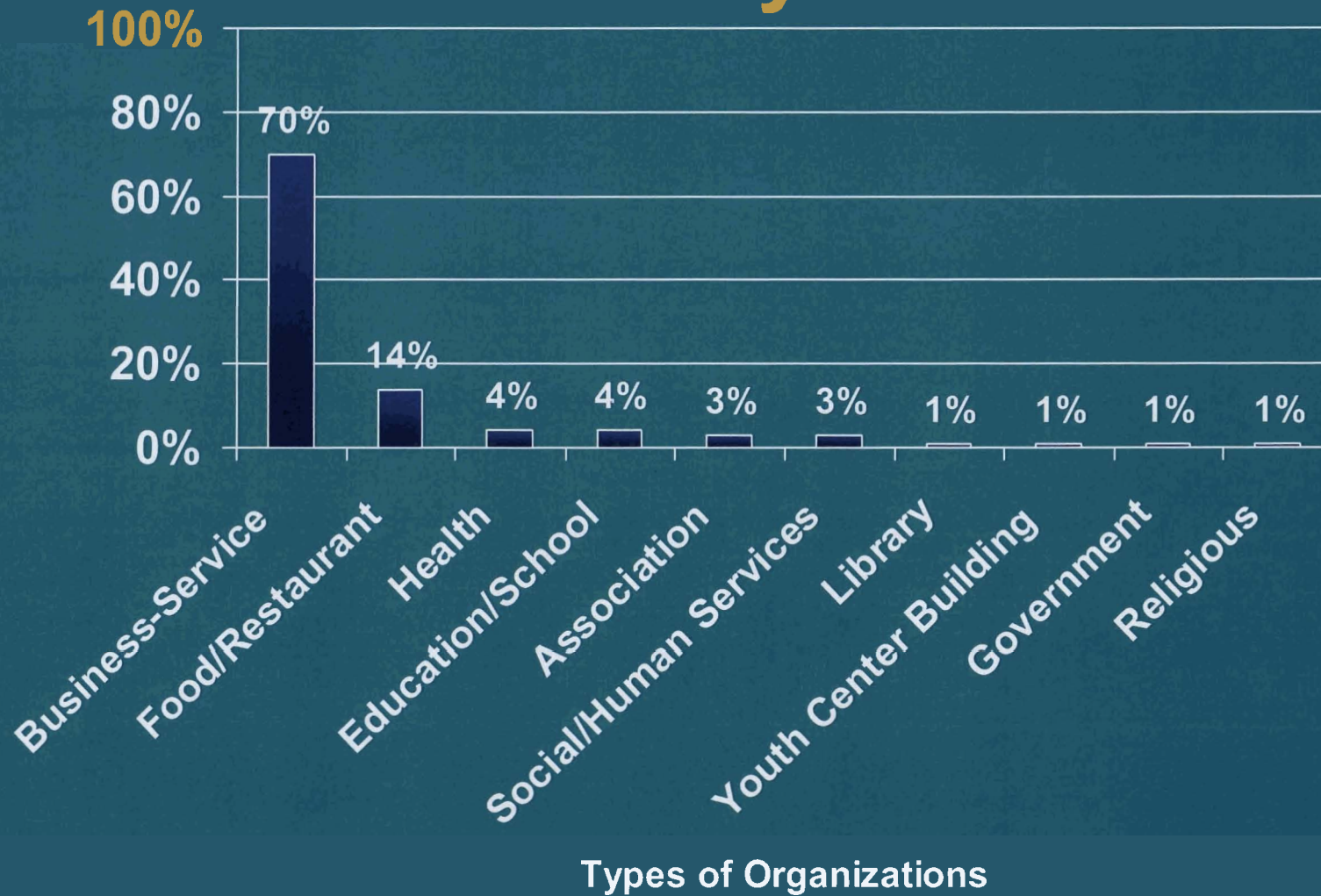
Business-service organizations were mostly retail
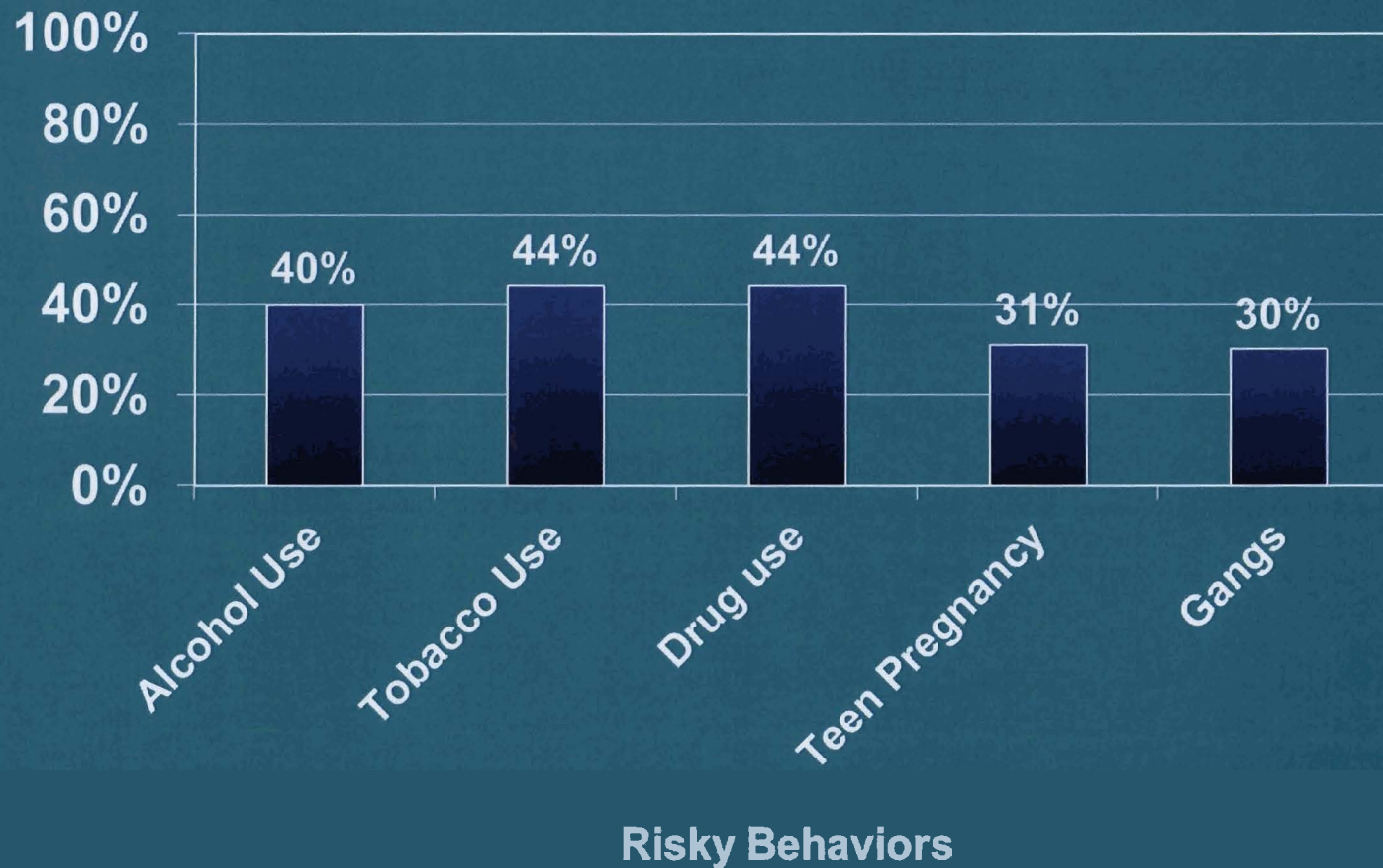
10

Current Opportunities for Youth

Types of Opportunities

Organizations could indicate more then one response

Organizations Perceptions' of Important Needs in Their Neighborhood

Important Needs to Prevent Substance Use/Abuse
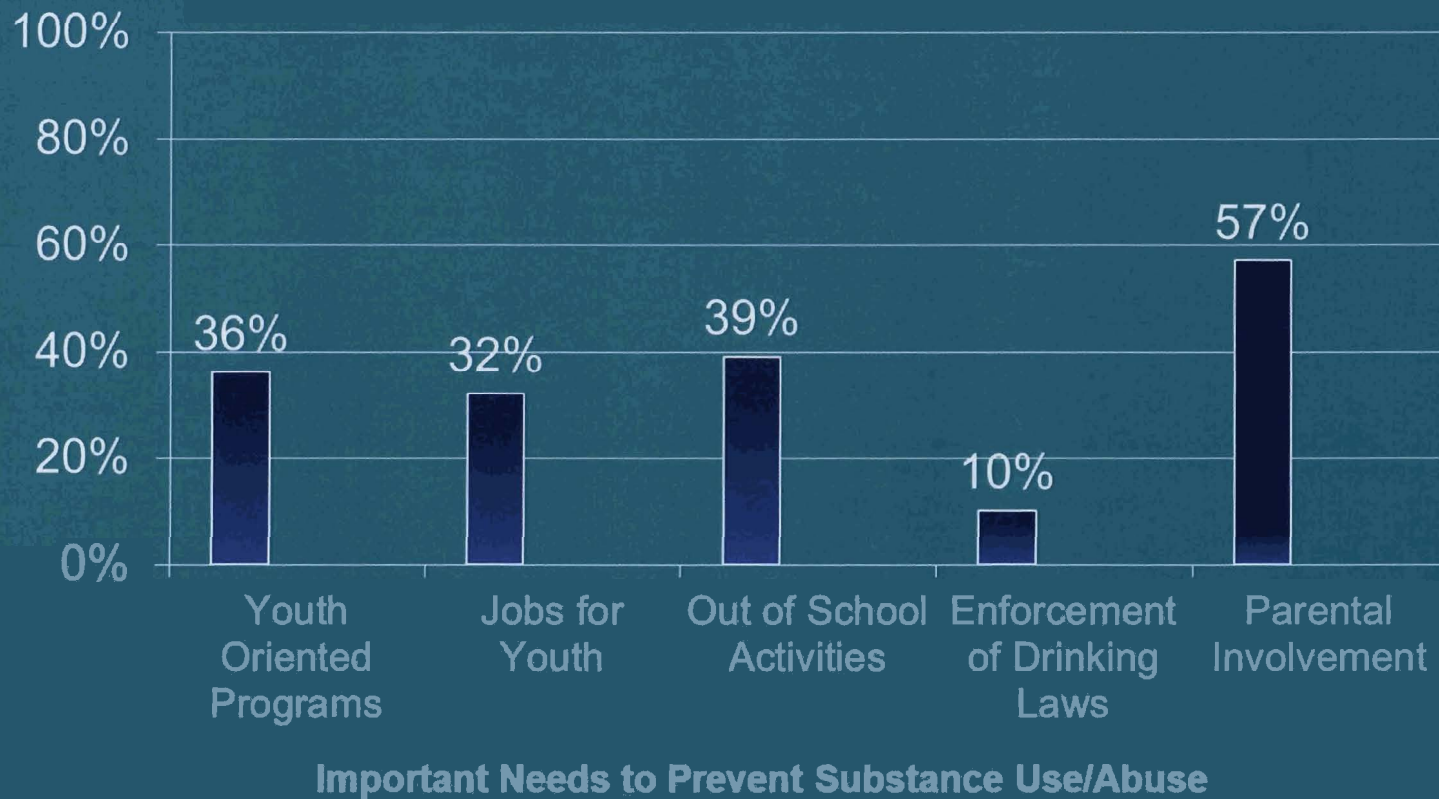
Organizations could indicate more than one response

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Findings

- 87% (139) of organizations were for profit

- 11% (17) offered at least one health and counseling service

- 8% (12) offered after-school programs

- 44% (69) offered part-time and 19 percent (30) offered full-time employment for youth

- 57% (91) did not employ youth

- 36% (58) were interested in providing youth with appropriate job training to fill a position

- 8% (13) turned down at least 26 youth that applied for positions at their organization

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Recommendations

- **Hold town forums to brainstorm solutions and options for the West End regarding youth issues**

- **Develop and provide more recreation programs for older youth in the West End**

- **Network and partner with businesses, JobLink, and the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce to provide job training and promote job opportunities for youth**

- **Develop, expand, and promote more after-school activities and programs**

Recommendations (cont'd)

- **Work with Volunteer Alexandria and other youth-serving organizations to provide more volunteer opportunities for youth in the West End**

- **Work with the Alexandria City Public Schools in the Community School planning effort to identify and close gaps in programs and services in the West End**

Next Steps

- Share data with community partners and stakeholders

- Form partnerships between youth-serving groups and other organizations and businesses in the City

- Promote identified resources, such as employment opportunities, to increase the number of youth taking advantage of existing resources

- Conduct outreach efforts to the City Council, the Alexandria School Board, Youth Policy Commission, Alexandria Chambe of Commerce, and others

- Conduct CYM in the Summer of 2011 in portions of the East End of Alexandria and continue CYM in subsequent years until the entire City is mapped