



2017 Program Report Card: Work Readiness Supports

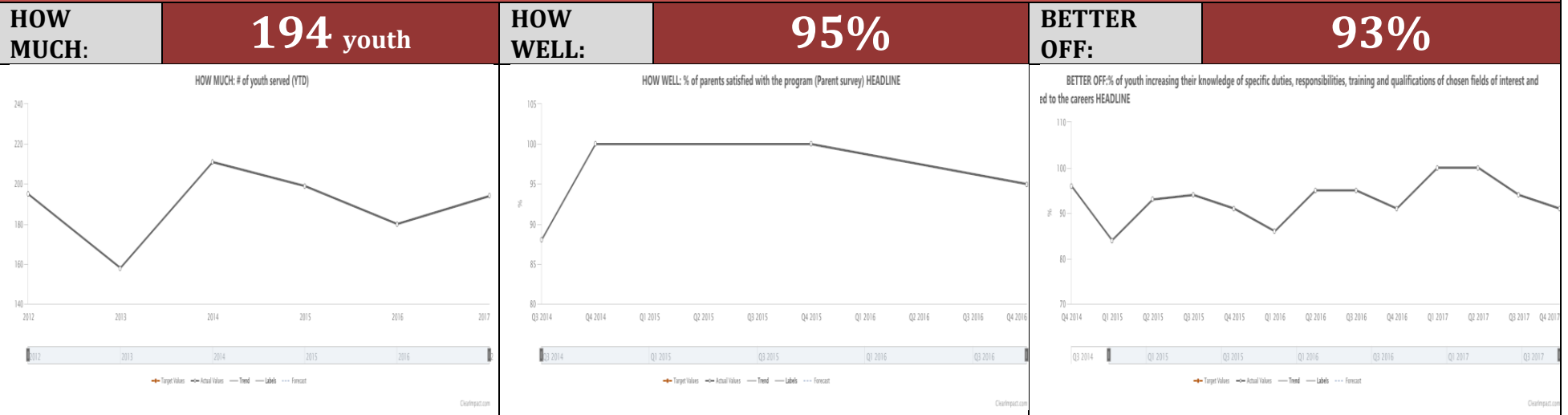
Achieving Youth Results (AYR) Goal:
Children and Youth in Tompkins County will live in an economically secure community.

Program: Youth Exploration Program
Agency: Learning Web

CLIENTS:
Children between the ages of 12-20

PARTNERS:
Ithaca Youth Bureau, YES, DSS, CCE Youth Services, DAP, mental health, juvenile justice system, parents, community volunteers

RESULTS BASED ACCOUNTABILITY HEADLINE PERFORMANCE MEASURES



THE STORY BEHIND THE DATA

GRAPH 1: # of youth served - This measure reflects a lack of resources— in particular, a lack of staffing to meet the demand of youth that could be served.

GRAPH 2: % of parents satisfied with the program - The YEP model is time-tested and works well. Youth come to us interested in exploring something and we connect them to a talented and warm adult who invites them into their workplace, either for a short visit or for an extended apprenticeship. The individualized nature of the service yields very positive results and consistently results in strong evaluations by parents, youth, and mentors alike.

GRAPH 3: % of youth increasing their knowledge of specific duties, responsibilities, training, and qualifications chosen field of interest and learning specific skills related to the careers - The variation in the measure between quarters is due to the fluctuation in the number of apprentices

who have not yet been in their apprenticeship long enough to meet the measure. If only those apprentices completing the apprenticeship were included in the measure, the numbers would be more consistent.

AGENCY ACTION PLAN TO “TURN THE CURVE”

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<p><u>2018 Action Plan</u></p> <p>HOW MUCH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a Public Service Announcement to help in mentor recruiting in the rural communities. • Continue from 2016- Investigate “release time” with the local school to see if students could start apprenticeships and exploration earlier in the day. • Increase funding for stipends. <p>HOW WELL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continually improve staff training and development so that staff, our front-line presence, can do the best job that is possible. • Increase stipends to expand both the number of weeks an apprentice can earn a stipend and expand the number of hours in each week an apprentice can work. • Expanding our mentor base to offer a breadth and depth of experience <p>BETTER OFF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue developing high caliber community volunteers so that we can meet the needs and interests of any young person. • Continue to investigate “release time” with the local school to see if students could start apprenticeships and exploration earlier in the day. • Increase stipend funds. 	<p><u>2017 Action Plan & Status</u></p> <p>HOW MUCH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return staffing for the Youth Exploration Program to 2 FTE (which was the level until 2008-10 funding cuts). This would allow us to serve double the number of youth with exploration and apprenticeship services. Funding environment is very tight, and it is all we can do to keep funded for current levels of service. ↓Not Accomplished • Investigate “release time” with the local school to see if students could start apprenticeships and exploration earlier in the day. We have spoken to school staff about this idea and though they say it is very difficult to carry out, they have not said “no” as of yet. ↔In Process • Improve transportation options for rural youth so that they can participate in apprenticeships. Given our sphere of influence, this goal may not be appropriate for our agency. We do not have the staff time to devote to working closely with the transportation groups in the county. ↓Not Accomplished <p>HOW WELL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase stipends to attract youth with barriers to apprenticeships. Funding environment is very tight, and it is all we can do to keep funded for current levels of service. ↓ Not Accomplished • Continue to develop high caliber community mentors. We have developed some very exciting new partners w/Cornell Engineering Leadership program which include (mechatronics, synthetic biology, web design workshop, sustainability, and 3D printing). CU Landscape Architecture grad students have agreed to work with apprentices each semester. We have also welcomed mentors in the areas of dog training and horse care. ↑Accomplished • Continue to offer training to staff. We have created a weekly staff training session. Whenever possible we use live training opportunities in the community, TCYS series, and webinars. ↑Accomplished <p>BETTER OFF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing high caliber community volunteers so that we can meet the needs and interests of any young person. We have developed some very exciting new partners for apprenticeships and exploration hosts. Cornell Engineering Leadership program is working with staff to offer a series of hand-on exploration sessions for our young people (mechatronics, synthetic biology, web design workshop, sustainability, and 3D printing to name some) CU Landscape Architecture grad students have agreed to work with apprentices each semester. We have also welcomed mentors in the area of dog training and horse care. ↑Accomplished • Exploration visits are a great vehicle for youth to narrow their focus so that they can decide on an apprenticeship area. It is also a great vehicle for youth who do not have the time or transportation to do an apprenticeship but who would like to gather information about various interest areas. We have developed a more efficient method of offering exploration visits that involves Youth Exploration staff (including those not funded through TCYS). Staff team up to invite small groups of youth who share the same interest on a visit rather than having 2 or 3 staff working to set up an exploration visit in the same interest area. Transportation coordination and avoiding burning out exploration hosts is an outcome of this new process. ↑Accomplished