

# 2022 Program Report Card: Supports for Youth with Disabilities



**Achieving Youth Results (AYR) Goal:**  
Children and youth will have optimal physical and emotional health.

**Program:** Recreational Support Services  
**Agency:** Ithaca Youth Bureau

**CLIENTS:**  
Youth ages 2-21 who have a developmental disability.

**PARTNERS:**  
School districts, TST BOCES, Racker Centers, Blue Sky Center, Ithaca College, Cornell University, YMCA, OPWDD, TC Mental Health Services, Mental Health Association, LifePlan, Finger Lakes Independence Center, ABA Certified professionals

## RESULTS BASED ACCOUNTABILITY HEADLINE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

**HOW MUCH:**

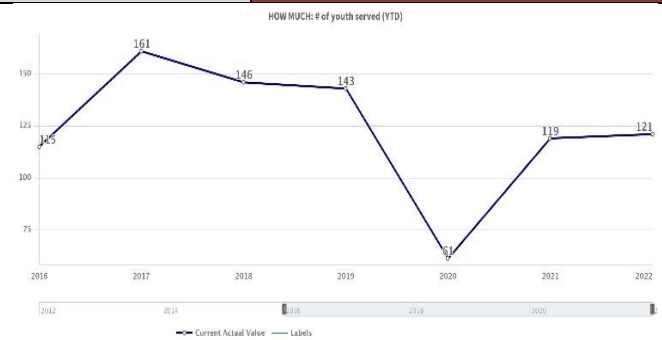
**121 Youth\***

**BETTER OFF:**

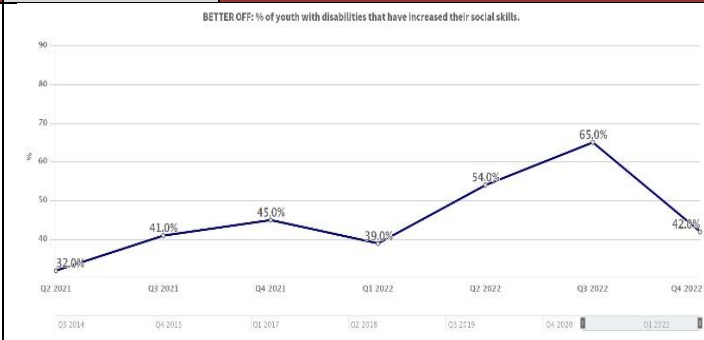
**42%\***

**BETTER OFF:**

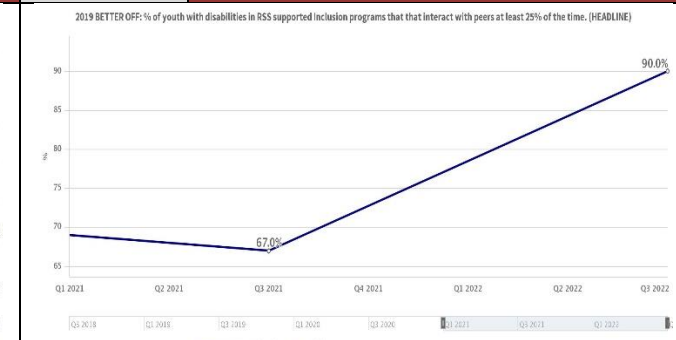
**90%\***



\*Youth served in 2022



\*Q4 of 2022



\* Q3 of 2022

## THE STORY BEHIND THE DATA

**GRAPH 1: # of youth served** – Of the 121 youth served, 43 of those youth attending our summer camps and 6 were youth were served in special programs during the summer in an effort to reach those not receiving much support. Doing collaborative programs with BOCES, South Hill, DeWitt and Boynton schools. RSS has hired well qualified staff to provide successful programming, as well as a behavioral consultant to train the summer staff on how to work successfully with youth with disabilities. RSS also collaborated with camp directors and the Recreation Department of the Youth Bureau to identify youth with special needs during the application process.

**GRAPH 2: % of youth with disabilities that have increased their social skills.** – RSS saw a slight increase in social skills, partially as a result of the longevity of relationships with youth in program. Also reflects success in participation at summer camp. Trusting relationships are key, staff are very good and have high levels of emotional intelligence and compassion. Longer relationships between the youth and the staff leads to more success with social skills. It is the hope that success rates will increase over time as the staff get to know the youth better and develop relationships with them.

**GRAPH 3: % of youth with disabilities in RSS supported Inclusion programs that participate in activities with their typical peers 25% of the time.** - This measure is captured annually during Quarter 3 only, to measure summer camp inclusion. Staff training and education helps staff to better work with and understand the needs of youth, long term relationships with the same youth and the same staff allows for more successes and training the general camp staff to understand their role in inclusion all contribute to progress in this measure.

**AGENCY ACTION PLAN TO "TURN THE CURVE"**

**2023 Action Plan**

**HOW MUCH**

- Hiring qualified staff.
- Providing the necessary resources for excellent and diverse programs.
- Collaborating with schools for programming.

**BETTER OFF**

- Understanding and building successful groups – group dynamics
- Planning healthy and fun programs
- Collaborating with other staff and agencies to provide the supports necessary for success

**BETTER OFF**

- Staff training and education helps us to better work with and understand the needs of the youth.
- Hiring well qualified staff and training them well
- Building strong group dynamics for the summer staff

**2022 Action Plan & Status**

**HOW MUCH**

- Hiring qualified staff. ↑ **Accomplished**
- Providing the necessary resources for excellent and diverse programs. ↑ **Accomplished**
- Collaborating with schools for programming. ↑ **Accomplished**

**BETTER OFF**

- Working directly in schools to build relationships with teachers and students. ↑ **Accomplished**
- Staff communicating with each other and teachers and families to better understand the youth they are working with. ↑ **Accomplished an on-going**
- Creating individualized goals. ↑ **Accomplished and on-going**

**BETTER OFF**

- Hiring well qualified staff and training them well. ↑ **Accomplished**
- Creating an inclusive environment between the support staff and the general staff. ↑ **Accomplished**
- Providing ongoing support during camp as issues arise. ↑ **Accomplished**