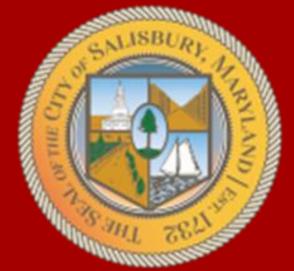




Newton Street Community Center: A Needs-Based Assessment Ensuring Beneficial Programs Salisbury University's Presidential Citizen Scholars



Background

The city of Salisbury is currently renovating a building to become a community center that is in close proximity to Salisbury University's campus. The focus of the center is to expand the amount of activities and opportunities for the youth. At the beginning of the fall 2019 semester, Salisbury University's Presidential citizen scholars (PCS) met with city leaders aiming to assist with establishing programs. To ensure programs were created that would interest the community, a needs-based assessment was completed.

Survey Methods

PCS members first identified a direct area to conduct the survey. The area selected was formulated based on proximity to the Newton street community center, and suggestions from local community/city leaders. The area selected consisted of approximately 300 households, and a target of 10% feedback was set. Over the course of two days, PCS members went door to door asking for responses. PCS members received feedback from 49 households (~16%) in the selected area.

Map



Results

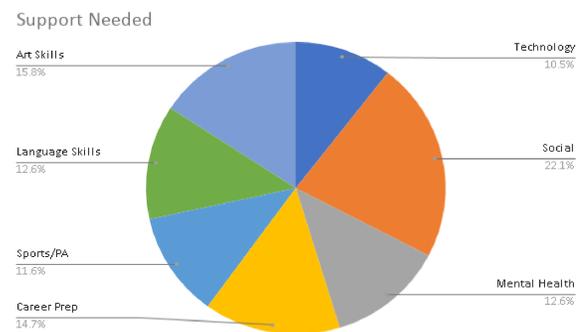


Fig. 1

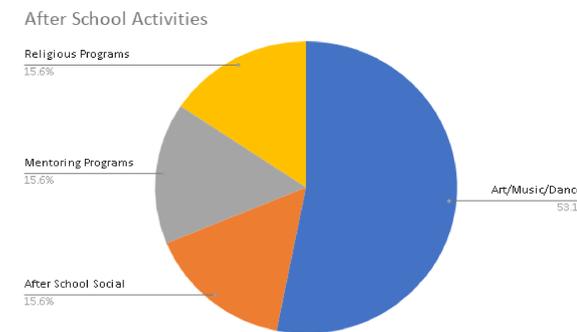


Fig. 2

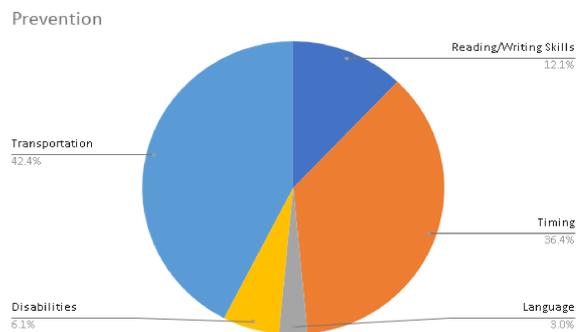


Fig. 3

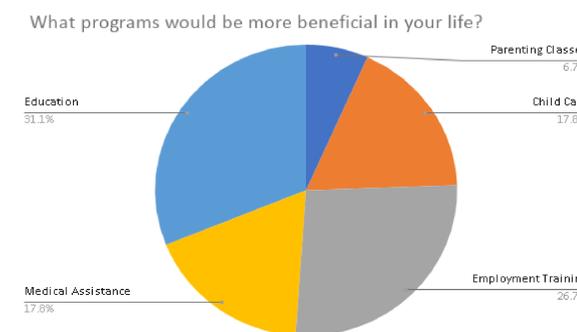


Fig. 4

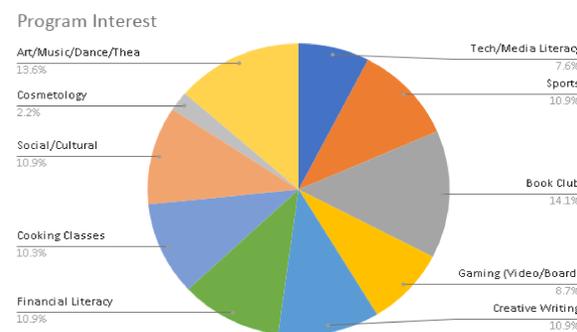


Fig. 5

Conclusions

From the survey, we can see a large interest in art based programs at the center. According to the city of Salisbury, art programs are available at various locations, however from figure 3, it is evident that transportation to these locations could be an issue. In addition, from the survey we found that many members of the community were/would be interested in attending programs hosted by Salisbury University. This suggests that a program at the community center backed by the university would be receptive amongst community members.

Further Work

The next step for this project is establishing a sustainable program at the community center. The Presidential Citizen Scholars have proposed involving the center for student involvement and leadership to enable multiple campus organizations to address the interests identified in the survey.

Acknowledgments

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