

Young Leaders Academy

Report Card

2018/2019

July 2019

Racine Family YMCA Young Leaders Academy (YLA) Overview of Survey Results

The Young Leaders Academy (YLA) is an initiative of the Racine Family YMCA, dedicated to improving the lives of low income children and teens living in Racine, Wisconsin.

Our mission is to strengthen the City of Racine by nurturing its most at-risk population, underserved youth between the ages of 7-18 (Grades 2-12). We accomplish this by helping Academy students recognize their potential and developing the qualities that truly matter in a young person's life.

The data in this report card was obtained by 92 youth enrolled in the Young Leaders Academy during the 2018/2019 school year who

Student participant profile:

Demographic	By %
Female	48%
Male	52%
Elementary school	82%
Middle school	1%
High school	17%
African American	57%
Hispanic/Latino	9%
More than one race/other	14%
Native American	5%
White/Caucasian	14%

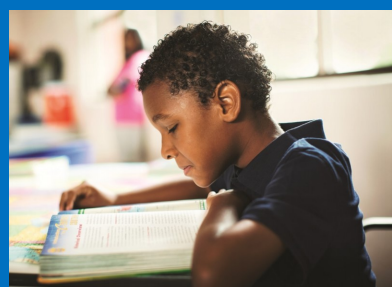
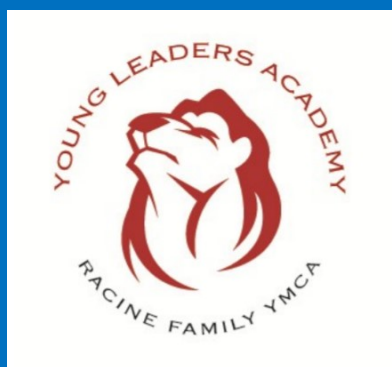
Demographic	By %
Two-parent family	35%
One-parent/mother	37%
One parent/father	2%
Splits time bet. mother/father	16%
Lives with guardian/other	3%
Unsure/unknown	5%

Survey results represent the students' perceptions and feelings about YLA activities and indicates their level of understanding in how these experiences build the assets needed for positive development. Findings demonstrate program impact and used to adapt early to potential issues.

Using the services of the Search Institute (<https://www.search-institute.org/>), the Racine Family YMCA collected and submitted 92 surveys. Sixty-five percent of participants identified as economically disadvantaged, with an additional 13% reporting that they did not know/did not understand the question. The survey questions are based on the 40 Developmental Assets model created by the Search Institute, regarded and used nationally as a valid tool in assessing today's youth.

Evaluation methodology. Analysis consisted of frequencies and a set of statistical cross-tabulations. Statistical testing based on a 95% confidence interval was implemented to analyze any significant differences in respondent sub-populations.

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Key Developmental Survey Assets

Developmental Assets are *external* and *internal*.

EXTERNAL ASSETS

SUPPORT

Young people need to experience support, care and love from their families, neighbors and many others. They need organizations and institutions that provide positive supportive environments.

EMPOWERMENT

Young people need to be valued by their community and have opportunities to contribute to others. For this to occur they must be safe and feel secure.

BOUNDARIES AND EXPECTATIONS

Young people need to know what is expected of them and whether activities and behaviors are "in bounds" and "out of bounds."

CONSTRUCTIVE USE OF TIME

Young people need constructive, enriching opportunities for growth through creative activities and youth programs.

INTERNAL ASSETS

COMMITMENT TO LEARNING

Young people need to develop a lifelong commitment to education and learning.

POSITIVE VALUES

Young people need to develop strong values that guide their choices.

SOCIAL COMPETENCIES

Young people need skills and competencies that equip them to make positive choices, build relationships and succeed in life.

POSITIVE IDENTITY

Young people need a strong sense of their own power, purpose, worth and promise.

Young Leaders Academy

Results from 2018/2019 School Year

YLA helps build self-awareness and strengths

- ✓ **93%** of students surveyed rated YLA activities excellent/good in helping them learn more about themselves and their strengths (16/17 baseline 84%; 17/18 92%)

YLA promotes parental involvement in their children's activities

- ✓ **42%** of students surveyed reported that their parents/guardians are involved in YLA activities. (16/17 baseline 52%; 17/18 42%)

YLA generates feelings of support and belonging

- ✓ **98%** of students surveyed believe staff and program leaders really care about them. (16/17 baseline 91%; 17/18 94%)
- ✓ **92%** of students surveyed believe that they could go to a YLA staff person for advice if they had a serious problem. (16/17 baseline 89%; 17/18 93%)

YLA empowers youth

- ✓ **92%** of students surveyed believe staff make them feel like they can make a difference. (16/17 baseline 85%; 17/18 92%)
- ✓ **71%** of students surveyed believe they can help plan, choose or lead activities. (16/17 baseline 75%; 17/18 64%)

YLA increases commitment to learning

- ✓ **96%** of students surveyed believe staff encourage them to do well in school. (17/18 baseline 95%)
- ✓ **92%** of students surveyed believe their participation in the YLA has made them want to try harder in school. (17/18 baseline 94%)

YLA teaches positive values

- ✓ **98%** of students surveyed believe YLA activities taught them that it is important to help other people. (17/18 baseline 97%)
- ✓ **90%** of students surveyed believe in standing up for what they consider to be right, even when it is unpopular to do so. (17/18 baseline 96%)

YLA builds self-esteem, self-worth

- ✓ **90%** of students surveyed feel good about themselves. (17/18 baseline 95%)
- ✓ **93%** of students surveyed now believe that they can achieve things they previously didn't think they could do. (17/18 baseline 94%)

YLA helps build positive identities

- ✓ **97%** of students surveyed learned how to be leaders. (17/18 baseline 98%)
- ✓ **97%** of students surveyed believe that they are better team players (17/18 baseline 96%)

SELECTED SURVEY COMMENTS

EDUCATORS

"Thank you for working with me and my students. I appreciate that one of my students that was displaying major behavior issues was given a second chance in your program. I felt supported by Tiffany and her staff in dealing with ALL of my YLA students."

"Great leaders and program."

"I am glad we have the program at Wadewitz."

"Thank you for your efforts at Knapp."

PARENTS

"I can't thank you all enough for what you did for my baby! Grades, attitude, work, all of it a complete turnaround. She wouldn't have made it without this program!"

"I don't know if Randy would have graduated on time without this program! The pushed and incentivized him through employment with the program. He loves this program and I know he is better because of it."

"This program built Noemi's confidence and social skills to no end! She is such a better, more well-rounded young woman because of YLA. We are so grateful for this program and will always be huge supporters of it. We can't wait until our son is in 2nd grade so that he can join!"

"You are stuck with her 'til she graduates now!"

"Desarae loves this program and will continue it next year."

"You are stuck with this one too! Thanks for everything Mr. Crane. Our kids need you and you are there for them!"

Young Leaders Academy

Educator and Parent Surveys

Results from 2018/2019 School Year

Student behavior has improved this school year

- ✓ **80%** of educators reported that student behavior improved
- ✓ **91%** of parents reported that student behavior improved

Student grades have improved this school year

- ✓ **64%** of educators reported that student's grades improved
- ✓ **91%** of parents reported that student's grades improved

Student attendance has improved this school year

- ✓ **56%** of educators reported that student's attendance improved
(Parents were not asked this question)

I believe that changes in students' behavior is the result of participation in YLA

- ✓ **96%** of educators agreed with this statement
- ✓ **91%** of parents agreed with this statement

My student's behavior at home as improved this year

- (Educators were not asked this question)*
- ✓ **85%** of parents agreed with this statement

I believe that changes in students' grades are the result of participation in YLA

- ✓ **84%** of educators agreed with this statement
- ✓ **90%** of parents agreed with this statement

I believe that changes in students' attendance is the result of participation in YLA

- ✓ **84%** of educators agreed with this statement
(Parents were not asked this question)

Parents attended at least one RUSD parent/teacher conference at the school this year

- ✓ **72%** of educators agreed with this statement
- ✓ **77%** of parents agreed with this statement

Parents attended RUSD functions, programs, events, trips or meetings this school year

- ✓ **56%** of educators agreed with this statement
- ✓ **51%** of parents agreed with this statement

I attended YLA parent meetings this year

- ✓ **68%** of parents agreed with this statement
(Educators were not asked this question)

I attended YLA family engagement social activities with my student this year

- ✓ **55%** of parents agreed with this statement
(Educators were not asked this question)

I would highly recommend the YLA program to parents of other children who are academically or behaviorally struggling

- ✓ **96%** of educators agreed with this statement
- ✓ **99%** of parents agreed with this statement