The District of Columbia
One City Summer Initiative

Findings for Summer 2012

October 2012

Presented to:
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Mayor, District of Columbia

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ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE REPORT

CBO	Community-Based Organization
CYITC, Trust	DC Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation
DC	District of Columbia and Washington, DC
OCSI	One City Summer Initiative
OST	Out-of-School Time
PSA	Police Service Area
SAS	Statistical Analysis System
SCI	Summer Crime Initiative
SYEP	DC Summer Youth Employment Program
WON	We Own the Night Initiative

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT AGENCIES/OFFICES

CFSA	Child and Families Services Agency
CJCC	Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
DCHA	DC Housing Authority
DCNG	DC National Guard
DCOA	DC Office on Aging
DCPCS	DC Public Charter Schools
DCPL	DC Public Library
DCPS	DC Public Schools
DCRA	Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs
DCSC	DC Superior Court
DCYAC	DC Youth Advisory Council
DDOT	District Department of Transportation
DHS	Department of Human Services
DMH	Department of Mental Health
DOES	Department of Employment Services
DOH	Department of Health
DPW	Department of Public Works
DYRS	Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services
FEMS	Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department
HSEMA	Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency
MPD	Metropolitan Police Department
OAG	Office of the Attorney General
ONE	Office of Neighborhood Engagement
OSSE	Office of the State Superintendent of Education
OUC	Office of Unified Communications
OVS/JGA	Office of Victim Services/Justice Grants Administration
SERVE DC	Serve DC
UDC	University of the District of Columbia

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2011, Mayor Gray instituted a cross-agency approach to summer programming. Safety and structure for children, youth, and families were hallmarks of this effort. Building on 2011, the 2012 One City Summer Initiative (OCSI) more clearly defined the city's approach to providing meaningful, safe, and engaging summer experiences for more than 40,227 youth, particularly the 8,099 who attended programs located in high-crime, target neighborhoods.

Thoughtful collaborative planning among 28 District government agencies and programming across the 28 government agencies and more than 80 community-based partners was central to OCSI 2012. The initiative took a more focused approach to summer programming by identifying target neighborhoods, populations, and issues where significant summer investments could have major long-term impact. OCSI 2012 also developed clear service delivery objectives and concrete youth goals for the summer months. Finally, the effort piloted a robust data collection and evaluation framework that would enable policy makers, providers, partners, and parents, to understand the impact of this effort and highlight areas of growth potential.

Goal-directed programming was new in 2012. District government agencies and community-based organizations (CBOs) funded under the summer initiative through the DC Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation (the Trust) were required to incorporate one or more of citywide summer goals for youth.
The five youth- and family-related goals undergirding OCSI were:

1. Workforce Development: Youth will gain meaningful work and career exposure, experience and skills.
2. Academic Achievement: Youth will increase their academic knowledge and skills and increase their chance of academic advancement.
3. Healthy Lifestyles: Youth will increasingly adopt healthy lifestyles.
4. Safety: Youth will have a safe summer experience.
5. Strengthening Families: Opportunities will be provided to strengthen youth and family bonds.

Target neighborhood selection was also collaborative. The Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and OCSI steering committee looked at crime and social indicators to select five areas to saturate with policing and programming. Together, they programmed and staffed to reduce crime, improve neighborhood safety, and provide structured opportunities to learn and have fun.

Older youth and homeless families sheltered at DC General Homeless Shelter (DC General) were also target populations. Teens and young adults were identified as needing special programming geared toward reconnecting them to the services, supports, and opportunities necessary for achieving success in school, in the workforce, and their transition into adulthood. Homeless children and youth participated in programming delivered at the DC General shelter.

The Trust coordinated OCSI 2012 with guidance from the Deputy Mayors for Public Safety and Justice; Health and Human Services; and Education. The Trust also took the primary responsibility for implementing the evaluation component.

The findings from the 2012 summer programming indicate that the initiative was a success:

- The youth survey indicated that 96% of participating youth were satisfied with the type of programs and activities offered during the summer; and 71% would recommend the program to their friends.
- Violent crimes declined in the target areas: homicide (-70%); robbery (-15%); armed burglary (-25%). Juvenile arrests for select violent crimes also decreased by an average of 40% in the target areas.

Highlights from OCSI 2012 include:

- Some 40,227 youth participated in 614 OCSI programs.
- The Department of Parks and Recreation and other sites served 26,000 daily meals through the DC Free Summer Meals Program during the six-week OCSI period.
- The Trust provided 96 grants totaling over $2.5 million to CBOs to operate summer programs. Of these, 77 were traditional programming grants with 13 located in the identified target areas. In addition, 19 mini-grants were provided to implement programming and events in the target areas serving an additional 6,630 youth.
- Three hundred homeless children participated in activities at DC General.
- Nearly 40,000 youth and adults attended 327 community events, the majority of which targeted healthy lifestyles and safety goals.
- Youth participation by citywide goal (duplicated count):
    1. Workforce Development goal: 16,101 youth participated in 111 programs;
    2. Academic Achievement goal: 21,283 youth participated in 529 programs;
    3. Healthy Lifestyles goal: 9,589 youth participated in 153 programs;
    4. Safety goal: 10,220 youth participated in 166 programs; and
    5. Strengthening Families goal: 2,217 youth participated in 45 activities.

Using a survey and debriefing session, the OCSI steering committee collected feedback from government agency and CBO staff. Staff were asked about planning and programming in order to improve both for OCSI 2013. A few themes emerged:

- Target area strategy: As evidenced by reductions in three crime categories, OCSI 2012 expanded on the 20% reduction achieved in 2011. Using a targeted area strategy throughout the year has potential to further decrease crime in those communities.
- Expand coordinated programming: Taking the planned and coordinated approach year-round would better address persistent challenges to youth engagement and success. Similarly, additional community-based organizations, philanthropic institutions, and local corporations should be engaged early in the planning and implementation stages.
- Expand data collection and evaluation: The OCSI data collection and evaluation process was a significant step in the progression towards a comprehensive citywide data collection, sharing, and evaluation system. This pilot evaluation of OCSI creates an opportunity to

improve and expand the process in order to provide a more in depth analysis of the short and long-term impacts of summer programming including a more systematic process of collecting and documenting data.

The feedback will be used to inform the planning for OCSI 2013 which will start in October 2012.

This report was prepared by the Trust as the coordinating entity for the One City Summer Initiative. Comments and questions are welcome and can be directed to Nisha Sachdev (Research and Evaluation Manager) at nsachdev@cyitc.org or Ed Davies (One City Summer Coordinator/Interim Executive Director) at Davies.ed@cyitc.org.

INTRODUCTION

Children and youth who engage in positive youth development activities designed to help them develop socially, academically, and feel safe are much more likely than their peers without such supports to be prepared to have healthy and productive adulthoods. Quality out-of-school time programs, including summer programs, can provide enriching experiences, improve socialization in safe environments, and build new skills and thus mitigate negative forces. In the District of Columbia, gangs and crew membership, involvement in criminal activity, substance abuse, and teen parenting[1] are common negative forces. Disorganized environments and poverty exacerbate the negative influences.

Offering positive programming for young people is a goal for many in the District. Mayor Gray, DC Council, community-based organizations (CBOs), and local and national funders recognize the value. The summer of 2012, however, was the first time that the city took out-of-school time and the positive youth development approach to scale. The One City Summer Initiative provided safe and meaningful activities for DC children, youth and families by more effectively coordinating District government agencies' programs, activities, and services in collaboration with CBOs. The six-week summer initiative ran from June 25 to August 3.[2] More than 40,000 young people ages 5-24 benefitted from OCSI programs and supports. Youth reported having good and productive experiences across goals and police presence and engagement positively affected neighborhood quality of life.

The summer of 2012 was also the first time that evaluation was a planned component. This report summarizes findings from the evaluation and provides an overview of OCSI goals and strategies, a description of the citywide planning process, and the impact of the initiative including how many children and youth participated and the city-wide youth goals that were through the activities. Appendix A has each agency's program summary a well as highlights from their programming.

The District of Columbia is the only jurisdiction of its size to coordinate the breadth and depth of planning and program implementation across the government, business, and nonprofit sectors. The District has demonstrated what is possible and is poised to make necessary improvements to better serve children, youth, and families.

[1] Informed by Hastings, Tsoi & Harris (2010).

[2] Programs operated for six weeks between June 25 and August 3, 2012. Events were implemented between June 18 and August 24, 2012.

2012 ONE CITY SUMMER INITIATIVE PLANNING

Overview of the 2012 One City Summer Initiative

The summer initiative was developed to provide safe and meaningful programs and activities for DC children, youth, and families. The primary objectives of the summer efforts were to:

1. Provide meaningful summer experiences for participating youth ages 5 to 24 across the city;
2. Provide a safe summer for all residents in part by reducing violence and crime in targeted neighborhoods; and
3. Increase collaboration among District government agencies and community-based partners.

The 2012 initiative capitalized on the successes achieved in the summer 2011. Citywide summer goals for youth, an expanded approach to identifying targeted areas and needs, and a pilot data collection and evaluation process were added in 2012. In addition, targeted decision making was central in 2012. Key targets were:

- Target Areas: High crime neighborhoods (see Target Area Strategy section);
- Target Population: Older and/or disconnected youth including developing activities meeting their needs (see Older and/or Disconnected Youth Strategy section); and
- Target Issue*:* Youth homelessness including implementing activities for youth staying at DC General Homeless Shelter.

Planning Process

The One City Summer Initiative was led by the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice, Deputy Mayor of Health and Human Services, and the Deputy Mayor for Education, on behalf of Mayor Vincent C. Gray. The Deputy Mayors worked closely with the Trust's One City Summer Coordinator (Coordinator) to convene District government agency directors and their key summer staff for regular planning and implementation meetings (see Appendix B for a list of participating agencies).

The Coordinator started convening the multi-agency Summer Steering Committee in September 2011, four months earlier than planning for the summer of 2011. The steering committee met monthly through May 2012 (see Appendix C for OCSI Planning Timeline). In November 2011, the Trust convened a citywide summer strategy meeting of more than 80 community-based organizations and District government agencies. Together, attendees 1) began collaborating for the following summer and 2) vetted the goals and target areas.

Four working groups were established to develop major components of the 2012 initiative. Appendix D provides detailed work plans for each group. (See 2012 One City Summer Initiative Components section):

1. Citywide Summer Goals for Youth
2. Target Area Strategy
3. Older and/or Disconnected Youth Strategy
4. Data Collection and Evaluation Strategy

Between May and September 2012, the Deputy Mayors held bi-weekly meetings with District agency directors and key summer staff to monitor the implementation of the initiative. The meetings were used to track progress toward the initiative goals, to address issues impacting implementation, to coordinate resources needed for upcoming summer activities and events, and to share highlights from activities held in communities across the city.

2012 One City Summer Initiative Components

Component 1: Citywide Summer Goals for Youth

The citywide summer goals were based on core youth development principles and were intended to measure (1) common outcomes for all youth participating in the summer initiative and (2) whether young people were participating in District government agency or community-based programs and activities.

OCSI was grounded in five Citywide Summer Goals, all of which are fully described in Appendix E:

1. Goal 1: Workforce Development: Youth will gain meaningful work and career exposure, experience and skills.
2. Goal 2: Academic Achievement: Youth will increase their academic knowledge and skills and increase their chance of academic advancement.
3. Goal 3: Healthy Lifestyles: Youth will increasingly adopt healthy lifestyles.
4. Goal 4: Safety: Youth will have a safe summer experience.
5. Goal 5: Strengthening Families: Opportunities will be provided to strengthen youth and family bonds.

All participating District government agencies and Trust-funded community partners were required to offer programming that met one or more of the citywide goals. (See Appendix F for District government agency specific goals and programming and Appendix G for specific Trust-funded CBOs and goals). The most common goal addressed was Goal 2, Academic Achievement.

Component 2: Target Area Strategy

One major goal of this initiative was to create a safe summer. Historically, the Metropolitan Police Department developed a summer strategy to reduce crime in identified high-crime communities. The Summer Steering Committee and MPD mapped crime data and selected social and behavioral indicators such as teenage pregnancy and academic outcomes. Youth indicators were mapped across Police Service Areas (PSA) and were compared to a map noting locations of Trust-funded programs, DC Public Schools, libraries, and recreation centers among other youth-serving locations. What became clear was those areas with little programming had a greater incidence of teen pregnancies and other negative health, social, and education indicators. The result was the identification of areas of particular need (see Appendix H).

Nine PSAs (103, 308, 501, 507, 604, 608, 705, 706, and 707) were identified based on the analysis of crime, socio-economic, and behavioral data. Five Summer Crime Initiative (SCI) areas were created; they encompassed most of the identified PSAs. The selected target areas were:

- SCI 1: North Capitol/O Street NW (Ward 5 – PSAs 103, 308, and 501)
- SCI 2: Langston-Carver/Rosedale (Ward 5 – PSAs 507)

- SCI 3: Benning Ridge/Marshall Heights (Ward 7 – PSAs 604 and 608)
- SCI 4: Congress Heights (Ward 8 – PSA 705 and 707)
- SCI 5: Washington Highlands (Ward 8 – PSA 706)

In keeping with a positive youth development approach, the crime reduction strategy was not limited to increasing police presence in the target areas. Government agencies and CBOs provided programs and activities that offered young people positive alternatives to criminal and risky behavior. Each participating DC government agency was required to select at least one target area and develop community activities. Appendix F provides details of the planned activities.

The crime suppression and diversion work was also supported by community-based organizations. Nonprofits seeking funding from the Trust received points for offering programming in one of the five Summer Crime Initiative areas. Overall, the Trust funded programs to serve 3,100 young people. Of these, 475 participated in 13 programs located in one of the five target areas. In addition, 19 mini-grants were provided for programming and event in the target areas which served 6,630 youth.

OCSI was also interested in the MPD goal of improving the overall quality of life in the target areas. MPD coordinated walkthroughs of target area neighborhoods for District government agencies. The walkthroughs were designed to identify the physical and social needs of each target area, help deter crime, improve the community's appearance, and identify critical family needs. The Office of Neighborhood Engagement (ONE) connected agencies with families and neighborhood problems. Appendix I contains the full walkthrough report for each target area.

Component 3: Older and/or Disconnected Youth Strategy

We Own the Night (WON) was created for OCSI 2012 to provide age-appropriate and appealing programming for older, perhaps disconnected, youth ages 14 to 24. Part of the appeal would be to provide programming during the hours of 9 pm to midnight. Selected Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), DC Public Library (DCPL), and DC Public Schools (DCPS) sites in target neighborhoods would host WON programming.

District government agencies and CBOs were asked to provide themed-based activities in media/technology, performing arts, and sports/fitness, culminating in a final showcase of the participating youth's projects. The activities were to be used as a hook to engage older and disconnected youth. While the youth were engaged in their activities, additional agency and CBO resources were to be available at each site to connect youth with the services and information youth needed to get connected to employment services, education options, mental and physical health services, and the like.

The sites selected to be WON sites were:

- Bald Eagle/Congress Heights Recreation Centers, Wards 7 and 8 – PSAs 705 and 708 (DPR)
- Browne Education Campus, Ward 5 – PSA 507 (DCPS)
- Columbia Heights Recreation Center, Ward 1 – PSA 304 (DPR)

- Deanwood Recreation Center/Deanwood Public Library, Ward 7 – PSA 602 (DPR/DCPL)
- Dorothy Height/Benning Public Library, Ward 7 – PSA 603 (DCPL)
- Greenleaf Recreation Center, Ward 6 – PSA 105 (DPR)
- Kennedy Recreation Center, Ward 6 – PSA 308 (DPR)
- Lockridge/Bellevue Public Library, Ward 8 – PSA 708 (DCPL)
- Trinidad Recreation Center, Ward 5 – PSA 506 (DPR)

The Department of Parks and Recreation hosted 18 We Own the Night events during OCSI 2012. The other agencies identified as WON sites will host their events during the fall of 2012. The delay is a result of funding and logistical challenges.

Component 4: Data Collection and Evaluation Strategy

The addition of an evaluation component was a significant improvement in 2012. Led by the Trust, the data and evaluation working group developed a process to collect common data from each participating government agency and Trust-funded community provider (see Appendix D). OCSI 2012 focused on collecting process and outcome information.

Data was collected in several ways including: a data collection template, youth participant post survey (youth survey), and an agency feedback survey. This data allowed the Trust to report on OCSI participant demographic information, participation rates, summer goals impacted, geographic distribution of programs, and youth perceptions of their experience in the summer programming. Appendix J contains the data collection tools. The data was also used to create a descriptive analysis to measure the overall effectiveness of the OCSI. The findings are discussed in the following sections.

Overall, the evaluation strategy was geared to:

- Collect agency-collected information at the program/provider level.
- Scrub disaggregated data, removing duplicate records.
- Allow for data comparisons across sectors.
- Allow for the analysis to determine whether changes are necessary.

ONE CITY SUMMER INITIATIVE: CITYWIDE GOALS FOR YOUTH

Programming for OCSI was driven by the five citywide goals of workforce development, academic achievement, healthy lifestyles, safety, and strengthening families. Programs could work on more than one goal and a number of programs did, explaining why the number of youth participants shown in Table 1 totals more than the 40,227 young people involved in One City Summer Initiative programming.

The data in Table 1 also shows the number and percentage of youth engaged in and programs offered by goal. Goal 2, Academic Achievement, had the most youth participants, 21,283. Goal 5, Strengthening Families, had the fewest participants since it was largely reliant on agency- and CBO-sponsored public events.

The DC Free Summer Meals Program, funded by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) and implemented by the Department of Parks and Recreation and CBOs, served 26,000 daily meals throughout the six-week initiative period. The children and youth served are not represented in the table since the data was aggregated. Disaggregated data would have allowed for the identification of duplicate (summer meals and program for the same child) records. No matter, the summer meals program was a central element of the Healthy Lifestyles goal, Goal 3. It bears mention here that the District "has been ranked the best summer food program in the country for six consecutive years for reaching the highest percentage of low-income children!"[3]

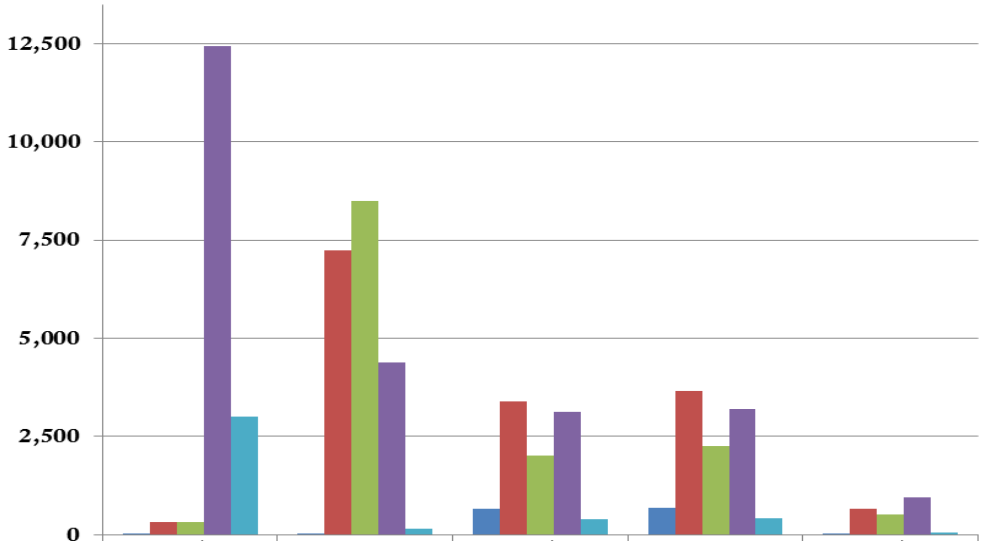
Table 1: Number and Percentage of Programs and Youth by Goal

Goal	Number and (Percentage) of Youth Participants	Number and (Percentage) of Programs
Goal 1: Workforce Development	16,101 (27%)	111 (11%)
Goal 2: Academic Achievement	21,283 (36%)	529 (53%)
Goal 3: Healthy Lifestyles	9,589 (16%)	152 (15%)
Goal 4: Safety	10,220 (17%)	166 (17%)
Goal 5: Strengthening Families	2,217 (4%)	45 (4%)

By its very nature, SYEP drove participation by 14-18 year olds in Goal 1, Workforce Development. In the same way, middle school-age young people represent the largest age group in Goal 2, Academic Achievement, followed by elementary school-age children. These youngest children, ages 5-9, were the largest group served by programs meeting Goal 3, Healthy Lifestyles. Figure 1 illustrates the age breakdown per goal.

[3] D.C. Hunger Solutions, "What's happening with summer food in D.C.", http://www.dchunger.org/fedfoodprogs/summer/summer_index.htm accessed October 9, 2012.

Figure 1: One City Summer Initiative 2012 Goals by Youth Age[Ŧ]



	Goal 1: Workforce Development	Goal 2: Academics	Goal 3: Healthy Lifestyles	Goal 4: Safety	Goal 5: Strengthening Families
Under 5 years	18	40	668	682	41
5-9 years	319	7,237	3,396	3,656	669
10-13 years	323	8,488	2,014	2,257	503
14-18 years	12,445	4,376	3,117	3,208	951
19-24 years	2,996	142	394	417	53

[Ŧ] This figure does not include youth participating in the DC Free Summer Meal Program as data was not disaggregated.

ONE CITY SUMMER INITIATIVE: PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

There was a wide variety of summer programs and community events sponsored by District government agencies and CBOs that aligned with the OCSI goals and operated in the five target areas. *Programs* were defined as structured activities that took place for at least five consecutive days during the summer. *Events* were one-time short-term activities held in neighborhoods across the city that provided fun activities for youth, resources and information for residents, and to serve as community-building opportunities.

District Government Agency One City Summer Initiative Programs

Government agencies were required to develop programs that aligned with the five citywide summer goals. Twenty-eight government agencies participated in OCSI 2012 through participation in the planning meetings, program and event provision citywide and in the target areas, employing SYEP youth, and providing resources at community events. Appendix A provides details about agency participation and programming.

The major youth-serving agencies in the District government—DPR, DCPS, DOES, DCPL, and MPD—provided a variety programs and activities including summer camps, enrichment activities, summer school, summer jobs/career exploration, and sports camps. Table 2 presents basic information about their summer programming.

Table 2: OCSI 2012 Summer Programs Operated by DC Government Agencies—Goals, Youth, Sites, and Programs

Agency	Main Goal	Main Program	Total Number of Youth	Total Number of Sites	Total Number of Programs
DC Public Library	Goal 2: Academics	Summer reading programs	11,787	25	419
DC Public Schools	Goal 2: Academics	Summer school	5,397	18	5
Department of Employment Services	Goal 1: Workforce Development	SYEP	12,449	505	1
Department of Parks and Recreation	Goal 3: Healthy Lifestyles	Summer camps	5,592	82	33
Metropolitan Police Department	Goal 4: Safety	Camp Brown	674	6	6
TOTAL	-	-	***35,919***	***636***	***464***

Other District government agencies hosted young people in the Summer Youth Employment Program. Forty-six percent of SYEP participants, 5,713 youth, were in government agencies. Government agencies also provided space for community-based organizations for site operation.

DC Public Library OCSI Programs

DCPL provided summer enrichment activities to 11,787 youth in 419 programs at 25 sites; all were focused on Goal 2, Academic Achievement. Of the participants, 97% were under the age of 13. The remaining youth were older and participated in the teen program. Young people took in performances, engaged in interactive events, explored career options, and visited with mentors. DC Public Library also hosted 30 SYEP participants at various branches.

DC Public Schools OCSI Programs

As part of OCSI, the DCPS summer school program had 18 sites open exposing 5,397 youth to Goal 2, Academic Achievement. Of these students,

- 1,481 youth were enrolled in elementary school;
- 194 youth were enrolled in middle school;
- 391 youth enrolled in a summer bridge program for rising ninth graders;
- 2,367 youth were enrolled in high school; and
- 964 youth participated in the Extended School Year program for special education students.

Of the 2,367 young people enrolled in high school summer school, 1,960 students successfully completed the session and 465 graduated high school at the end of the summer.

The DCPS Office of Out of School Time served an additional 2,260 youth through partnerships with CBOs.

Finally, DCPS hosted 789 SYEP youth, about 6% of the total SYEP participants.

Department of Employment Services OCSI Programs

Acceptance in the Summer Youth Employment Program is a multi-step process. More than 20,000 young people signed up and of the 14,354 young people who completed mandatory steps and were accepted, 12,449, or 87%, ended up participating. These young adults worked at 505 sites across the city. By site type, the breakdown of organization types hosting youth is here:

- District government agencies: 5,713 (46%)
- Community-based organizations: 3,944 (32%)
- Private organizations: 1,399 (11%)
- Charter schools: 774 (6%)
- Federal government agencies: 619 (5%)

Department of Parks and Recreation OCSI Programs

DPR supported the One City Summer Initiative in four ways. First, the agency served 5,592 youth in 33 programs at 82 different sites, primarily exposing them to healthy lifestyles (Goal 3). A majority—3,175—of the youth served were between the ages of 5 and 13 and these youngsters

participated in summer camps such as Little Explorers, Discovery, and Tween. All the camps offered life skills and recreation activities. The second way DPR supported OCSI was by hosting 543 SYEP youth. Further, DPR's partnerships with CBOs served 315 DPR youth (way 3). The fourth way was by managing and supporting 52,064 youth visits to pools.

Metropolitan Police Department OCSI Programs

In addition to managing the crime prevention and suppression efforts citywide and in particular in the five target areas, the police department engaged 674 young people in six programs at six sites; all targeting Goal 4, Safety. The majority of these youth—472—attended Camp Brown. Camp Brown is a weeklong sleep away camp in southern Maryland that provides opportunities for exploring nature and engaging in enrichment activities. The remaining 202 young people participated in Boy's Group, Cupcakes (Girl's Group), HATI (employment support group), S.T.A.R.S. (work and life skills), and a Ward 7 basketball camp. The Metropolitan Police Department also hosted 152 OCSI events, exposing connection 19,700 youth and families to community-based resources. Finally, MPD hosted 203 young people through the Summer Youth Employment Program.

Office of the State Superintendent of Education OCSI Programs

OSSE funded the DC Free Summer Meals program. The program reached 26,000 children and youth on a daily basis at 343 sites in community-based organizations and DC government agencies. These sites provided up to two meals per day (breakfast, supper, and/or snacks).

Community-Based Organizations One City Summer Programs

During the summer of 2012, the Trust funded 77 nonprofit community-based organizations to work with more than 3,100 youth. Appendix G maps and lists the grantees. Funding priority was given to those organizations whose programming would be located in one or more of the target areas (SCIs). Community-based organizations offered a variety of programs types including arts, sports, academic enrichment, and technology. While many CBOs ran programs at their own sites, others operated in DC government agency sites. The Trust facilitated the partnerships. Agency hosts included DC Housing Authority, DC Public Schools, and Department of Parks and Recreation. As previously mentioned, all Trust-funded organizations were required to work toward at least one of the five OCSI citywide goals. As shown in Table 3, Goals 2, 3, and 4 had the most participants and programs.

Table 3: Trust-funded Youth and Programs by Goal, Number and Percentage

Goal	Number and (Percentage) of Youth Participants	Number and (Percentage) of Programs
Goal 1: Workforce Development	1,542 (13%)	34 (15%)
Goal 2: Academic Achievement	3,193 (26%)	60 (26%)
Goal 3: Healthy Lifestyles	2,783 (23%)	50 (22%)
Goal 4: Safety	3,360 (28%)	60 (26%)
Goal 5: Strengthening Families	1,339 (11%)	24 (11%)

One City Summer Initiative Events

The 327 government- and CBO-sponsored events engaged 39,876 youth and adults. Events included job fairs, street festivals, workshops, and the DC Youth Advisory Council-hosted Mayor's Youth Town Hall Meeting on Public Safety. More than one-third of the events were new in 2012 and included movie nights, ice cream socials, and mobile outreach. See Appendix K for list of all community events deliberately aligned with OCSI goals.

The Metropolitan Police Department sponsored more events than any other single agency (see Table 4). Many of these 152 events, 46% of all OCSI events, brought mobile resources in. MPD and the Department of Parks and Recreation used mobile activities such as Beat the Streets, movie nights, fun wagons, and skate mobiles to provide fun, interactive events for youth in neighborhoods with few facilities or open spaces for youth to engage in safe play.

Also worthy of note:

- Although community events targeted all ages, the focus was on older youth. Of the 327 events, 150 were for older teens/young adults, 71 were directed at younger youth, and 106 targeted whole families.
- Seventy-three percent of the events took place in Wards 5, 6, 7, and 8; the locations mirrored the Summer Crime Initiative locations with the exception of those in Ward 6. Remember, two SCI areas were in Wards 5 and 8 and one in Ward 7.
- About a third (31%) of the events targeted the Safety and Healthy Lifestyles (29%) goals as is illustrated in Figure 2.
- The University of the District of Columbia provided volunteers to five events sponsored by other agencies.
- OCSI featured a kick-off event at Banneker Recreation Center to highlight the agency summer programs available to DC residents. A summer closeout festival was held at Langdon Park. Both the kick-off and closeout events featured performances by local youth artists and agency resource tables.

Figure 2: Number of OCSI Events by Goal

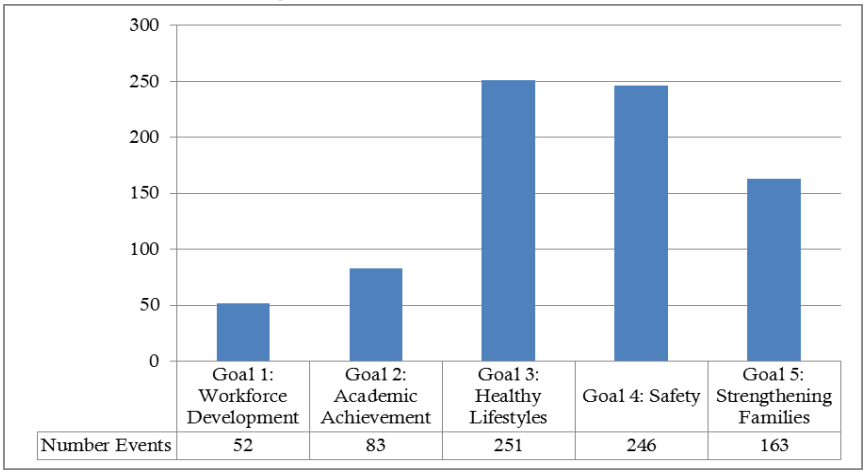


Table 4: Number of Events for Youth and Families by DC Government Agency

Agency	Number of Events
Child and Family Services Agency	6
DC Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation	2
DC Housing Authority	1
DC Office on Aging	1
DC Public Library	29
DC Public Schools	3
Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs	7
Department of Health	45
Department of Health Care Finance	1
Department of Human Services	1
Department of Mental Health	36
Department of Parks and Recreation	9
Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services	18
Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency	14
Metropolitan Police Department	152
Office of the Attorney General	1
Office of Unified Communications	1
TOTAL	***327***

ONE CITY SUMMER CRIME INITIATIVE AND TARGET AREAS

All the SCI target areas had comparatively high crime rates for specific crimes such as robberies, burglaries, assaults with a deadly weapon, drug abuse and trafficking, and domestic violence. The exception was the target area DC General Homeless Shelter.

The areas also shared similar low quality of life characteristics including graffiti, overgrown trees and grass, vacant lots, trash and debris, playgrounds in need of repair, abandoned vehicles, and blighted vacant properties. Finally, significant numbers of youth residing in these neighborhoods do not perform well school, have high rates of truancy, and are more likely to engage in at-risk behaviors. OCSI developed strategies to address these youth, quality of life, and crime issues.

Summer Programming in Target Areas

Programs and events were deliberately operated in the target areas to provide meaningful engagement for youth and their families, and to support the MPD summer crime initiative (SCI) efforts.

Table 5: Five Summer Crime Initiative Target Areas

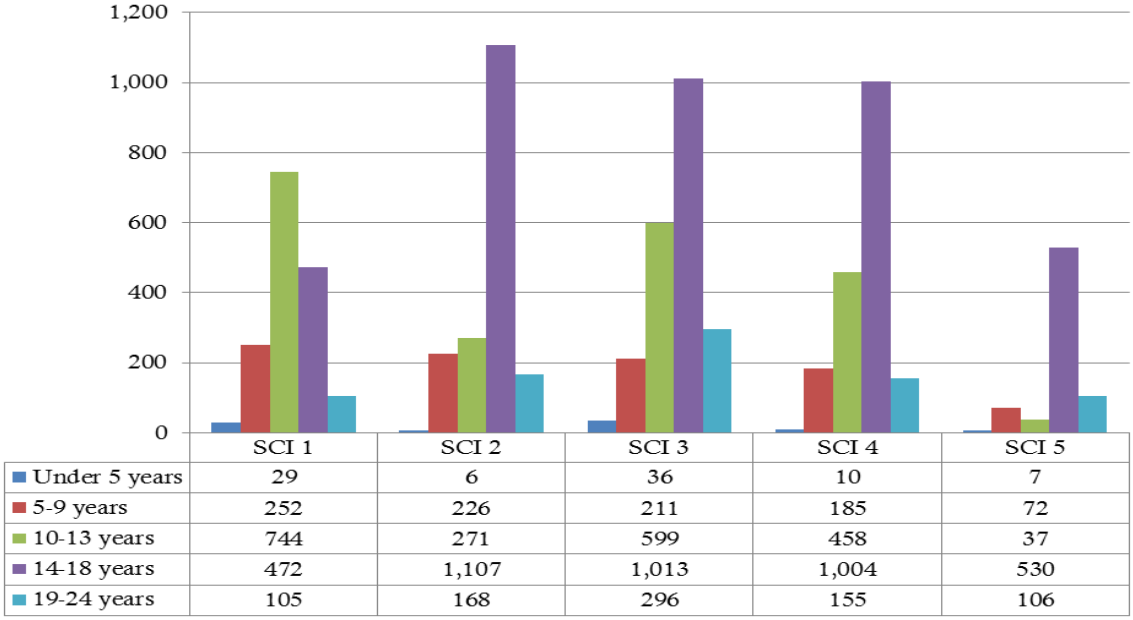
SCI 1: North Capitol/O Street NW (Ward 5 – PSAs 103, 308, and 501)
SCI 2: Langston-Carver/Rosedale (Ward 5 – PSAs 507)
SCI 3: Benning Ridge/Marshall Heights (Ward 7 – PSAs 604 and 608)
SCI 4: Congress Heights (Ward 8 – PSA 705 and 707)
SCI 5: Washington Highlands (Ward 8 – PSA 706)

As illustrated in Table 6, SCI 3 (Benning Ridge/Marshall Heights) had the largest number of youth participants compared to the other target areas. Furthermore, due to the Summer Youth Employment Program, the Workforce goal had a high participation rate. SCI 5 (Washington Highlands) had consistently lower participation rates in all goals compared to the other SCIs. It should be noted that further analysis of how many eligible youth (ages 5 to 24 years) living in each SCI indicated that Benning Ridge/Marshall Heights has a higher percentage of youth compared to Washington Highland, which has the lowest percentage of youth of the five target areas. Figure 4 shows youth participation in goal-specific programs by target areas.

Table 6: Total Number of Children and Youth Served in Programs located in Summer Crime Initiative Areas by SCI

Summer Crime Initiative	Total Number Young People Served
SCI 1	1,602
SCI 2	1,778
SCI 3	2,155
SCI 4	1,812
SCI 5	752

Figure 3: Youth Participation by Age by Target Area[T]



This figure does not include youth participating in the DC Free Summer Meals program.

MPD Summer Crime Initiative in Target Areas

MPD's goal was to reduce violent crimes—primarily homicides and robberies—committed by those under age 18 in the target areas, not by increasing the number of arrests, but by implementing strategies that reduced the number of crimes being committed. These strategies included:

- Increasing MPD's presence;
- Increasing programs and activities that gave residents constructive and engaging alternatives to illegal and violent behavior; and
- Improving quality of life through property repairs and physical upgrades.

OCSI programs, events, and walkthroughs coordinated with MPD's policing efforts had a positive effect on crime in the SCI target areas. There were fewer homicides (-71%), robberies (-15%), and armed

burglaries (-25%) across the five target areas. During the summer of 2012, four of the five target areas covered the same (or parts of the same) areas as last summer's initiative. There was a 20% reduction in violent crime during the summer of 2011 in the target areas. (See Appendix L for a summary of the crime reductions in each target area.)

The strategies for the SCI areas also had an impact on juvenile crime as well as shown in Table 7. While juvenile arrests were up in the five SCI areas compared to the same time period in 2011, the increase may be attributed to an enhanced focus on the areas, leading to an increased chance of arrest for non-violent offenses such as drug possession and other misdemeanors. Juvenile arrests for more serious violent crimes, on the other hand, will often decrease as a result of the patrol strategies and tactics employed in the SCI areas. This year's initiative also ran a month longer and had more officers deployed in smaller areas of focus compared to last summer's initiative. This also may have contributed to the increased number of arrests. (See Appendix L for a breakdown of juvenile arrests for highlighted offenses by SCI target area).

Table 7: Number of Juvenile Arrests in All SCI Areas (Calendar Years 2011 and 2012)

Arrest Category	Number Juvenile Arrests 2011	Number Juvenile Arrests 2012
Aggravated Assault	7	6
Burglary	7	5
Robbery/Carjacking	18	15
Theft from Auto	5	0
Narcotic Drug Laws	8	13
Release Violations	22	27
Other Misdemeanors	9	13
TOTAL	***76***	***79***

Agency Walkthroughs in Target Areas

MPD and the Office of Neighborhood Engagement coordinated Summer Crime Initiative neighborhood walkthroughs for government agency staff. The purpose of the visits was to identify issues that affect quality of life and crime in the target areas and the resources needed to address the issues. Of the 55 issues identified across all the target areas, 49 were resolved. Walkthrough data is shown in Tables 8 and 9. Appendix I contains detailed reports on each target area walkthrough.

Table 8: Number of Issues identified by Target Area

	SCI Target Area 1	SCI Target Area 2	SCI Target Area 3	SCI Target Area 4	SCI Target Area 5	TOTAL
Number of Issues	7	12	13	11	12	55
Number of Resolved Issues	6	11	11	10	11	49

Table 9: Number of Issues by Government Agency

	DCRA	DDOT	DPW	DCHA	PEPCO*	TOTAL
Number of Issues	17	15	14	7	2	55
Number of Resolved Issues	15	14	11	7	2	49

* PEPCO is not a District government agency

ONE tracked each issue and provided status updates at OCSI planning meetings. Agencies were expected to resolve the issues as quickly as possible. More than 70% of the issues were resolved within one week of being identified. The remaining issues—most of which were assigned to DCRA for resolution—took longer resulting from the regulatory processes in place to protect the rights of property owners and/or the District. For example, a property owner who receives an overgrowth citation has 30 days to abate the property. After 30 days, DCRA schedules a re-inspection of the property. The owner can apply for an abatement extension which could further delay the resolution of the issue. On average, these types of issues can take up to 90 days to resolve.

ONE CITY SUMMER INITIATIVE: FINDINGS

Overview of Methods

The evaluation time period was June 18-August 24, 2012 with a majority of the programs operating for six weeks, from June 25-August 3, 2012. The OCSI evaluation consisted of several components: Crime data, youth survey, event participation counts, program use, program staff survey, and a debriefing session for DC government staff.

Youth data was contributed by the youth participants themselves via a post-participation survey. The survey measured characteristics of the participants, program participation, ward of youth residence, and satisfaction with the program. The youth survey was administered the week of July 30, the last week of programming for the majority of the young people. District government agencies and CBOs used a standardized data collection template to collect information about the children and youth they were serving; they reported PSA of program, ward of program, and attendance. Appendix J contains the survey tools.

The data was the cleaned and reviewed for consistency. All quantitative data was analyzed using Statistical Analysis System (SAS) version 9.3. Review of data, including double entry and data checks, was implemented to ensure data accuracy.

One City Summer Initiative Youth Participants

Youth served by summer programs funded and operated by the government and community-based organizations and even those not funded by the Trust are included in this evaluation. All youth participants were identified by the agencies and CBOs, and all contact with the youth including providing information and disseminating the surveys was made through agency and CBO staff.

Characteristics of One City Summer Initiative Youth Program Participants

Some 40,227 children and youth were served through 614 programs, 26,000 daily meals were served as part of the DC Free Summer Meal Program, and 39,876 young people and adults attended 327 events. A breakdown of the data finds, for example,

- Male and female participation was comparable, 53% and 47%, respectively;
- Fifty-eight percent of the youth were in high school or graduated high school (but not enrolled in college);
- Sixty-eight percent of participants were between the ages of 10 and 18;
- Sixty percent of the participants came from Wards 5, 7, and 8 combined; and
- Nearly half, 46%, of the participants had previously participated in a summer program.

Additional information about OCSI participants is found in Table 10. The data in the table reports the demographic characteristics of 23,535 youth participants, less than the other figures reported so far in the report—40,227 young people in 614 programs, 26,000 daily meals served as part of the DC Free Summer Meals Program, etc.

Of the participants, 23,235 youth participants were included because only a portion of the youth data given to the Trust for the evaluation was disaggregated. Only disaggregated data can be broken down as in Table 10. DCPS summer school, MPD's Camp Brown, and DC Public Library provided the aggregated data.

Characteristics of Youth Survey Respondents

Fifteen percent of the 40,227 youth involved with one or more summer program completed the OCSI survey. For a population size of over 10,000, an adequate sample size is 350.[4] Analysis of this subgroup of respondents showed similar representation of the total youth population with respect to age, ward of residence, and race of the youth. Therefore, the findings from the survey can also be representative of the entire OCSI youth participant population.

Basic data about OCSI survey respondents in One City Summer Initiative programs and events includes:

- More males and females participated in the survey, 58% and 42%, respectively.
- A majority of the youth were in high school or graduated high school (but not enrolled in college) (58%).
- Just over half, 53%, of respondents were between the ages of 14 and 18.
- Sixty-six percent of the participants came from Wards 5, 7, and 8 combined.
- Fifty-seven percent reported participating in the program two or more years. This is 24% higher than for all OCSI participants.

Additional information is found in Table 10.

[4] Fitz-Gibbon and Morris (1987), How to design a program evaluation.

Table 10: Demographic Characteristics of Youth Program Participants and Survey Respondents (unduplicated)[F]

	OCSI Participants		Survey Respondents	
Youth Characteristic	**Total**	**Percentage**	**Total**	**Percentage**
Gender/Sex				
Female	12,422	53%	2,028	42%
Male	11,113	47%	1,453	58%
No response	--	--	47	--
Age				
Under 5	682	3%	--	--
5	678	3%	33	1%
6	715	3%	69	2%
7	914	4%	97	3%
8	831	4%	123	4%
9	805	3%	170	6%
10	652	3%	217	6%
11	634	3%	222	6%
12	556	2%	205	3%
13	431	2%	114	9%
14	2,420	10%	317	12%
15	2,823	12%	428	11%
16	3,526	15%	386	11%
17	2,576	11%	388	9%
18	2,223	9%	331	5%
19	1,404	6%	181	4%
20	989	4%	133	2%
21	651	3%	82	<1%
22	18	<1%	6	<1%
23	3	<1%	1	<1%
24	4	<1%	6	<1%
No response	--	--	14	--
Ward				
1	1,842	8%	206	7%
2	987	4%	69	2%
3	472	2%	45	2%
4	3,361	14%	376	13%
5	3,918	17%	459	16%
6	2,648	11%	301	10%
7	5,930	25%	704	24%
8	4,214	18%	744	26%
Not sure	--	--	484	--
No response	163	--	134	--

Table continued on next page.

Table 10: Demographic Characteristics of Youth Program Participants and Survey Respondents (unduplicated), continued[F]

	OCSI Participants		Survey Respondents	
Youth Characteristic	**Total**	**Percentage**	**Total**	**Percentage**
Ethnicity/Race				
American Indian/Alaska Native	80	<1%	34	1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	286	1%	15	1%
Black/African American	18,977	85%	3,075	89%
Hispanic/Latino	887	4%	200	6%
White	397	2%	20	1%
Other	1,755	8%	99	3%
No response	1,153	--	80	--
Education Level				
Elementary School or Below	4,658	20%	--	--
Middle School	4,847	21%	--	--
High School	13,310	58%	--	--
High School/No College	56	<1%	--	--
College	28	<1%	--	--
Some College	11	<1%	--	--
Prior Program Participant				
Yes	10,924	46%	--	--
No	12,611	54%	--	--
Type of Program				
Camp	--	--	1,099	31%
Internship	--	--	202	6%
Library	--	--	12	<1%
Summer school	--	--	172	5%
SYEP	--	--	1,790	51%
Volunteer/community service	--	--	38	1%
Other	--	--	185	5%
No response	--	--	30	--
Years Prior Participant				
First year	--	--	1,494	43%
2	--	--	793	23%
3	--	--	523	15%
4 or more	--	--	681	20%
No response	--	--	21	--

This table does not include participation for DCPL programs, DCPS summer school enrollment, and MPD Camp Brown as individual youth data was not available.

Youth Survey Results

Learning Opportunities and Satisfaction

The responses to the youth survey statement "In the summer program I got a chance to…" was used to assess the number and percentage of youth who responded to having had the opportunity. The response rate for each listed learning opportunity was approximately 98%. Those who responded "Yes, always;" "Yes, most of the time;" or "Yes, some of the time" were considered to have had

engaged in the learning opportunity. Table 11 shows the results for learning opportunities and satisfaction.

The vast majority of the youth survey respondents (93%) stated they had the chance to do new things. Interestingly, 69% of youth reported they talked with adults about current life events and 45% talked with adults about personal things. Overall, youth expressed satisfaction with a program; only 4% said they never felt like attending the program and 6% reported they would not recommend the program to a friend.

Table 11: Learning Opportunities and Satisfaction Reported by Youth (unduplicated)

Learning Opportunities	Total	Percentage
Learning Opportunities		
Do new things	3,197	93%
Go new places	2,792	81%
Make friends	3,272	85%
Talk with adults about current life events	2,391	69%
Talk with adults about school or schoolwork	2,520	73%
Talk with adults about personal things	1,552	45%
Satisfaction: Like Coming to Program		
Always	2,020	60%
Sometimes	1,206	36%
Never	131	4%
No response	171	--
Satisfaction: Recommend Program to a Friend		
Yes	2,389	71%
Maybe	760	23%
No	209	6%
No response	170	--

These numbers represent the number and percent who responded to each question.

Youth Outcomes

Goal 1: Workforce Development Outcomes

To measure workforce development outcomes, the survey used statements and asked the youth to select the appropriate response. The answers were scaled—"A lot," "A little," and "Not at all." (See Table 12). Those who responded "A lot" were considered to have gained workforce development skills. The statements were:

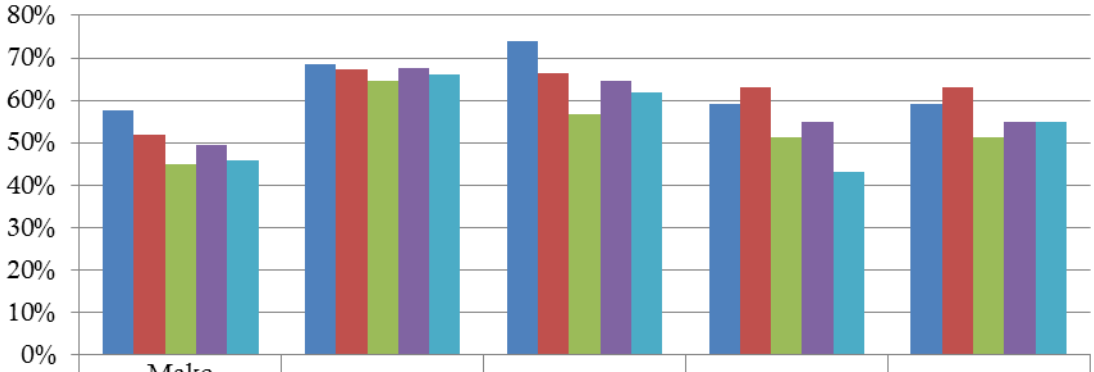
- "The summer program has helped me to make suggestions without being bossy";
- "The summer program has helped me to learn to be responsible";
- "The summer program has helped me to work well with others in completing the activity;"
- "In the summer program, I have learned how to manage time well"; and

- "In the summer program, I have learned how to set goals for my future."

For each of the statements, about 45% of the youth they achieved the outcome, with more youth responding being responsible (66%) than managing time well (43%).

For all statements relating to the workforce development, in each age group over 50% of youth responded "A lot" (with exception to "making suggestions appropriately" where only 45% of 14 to 18 year olds responded "A lot." In addition, a high number of youth across all age groups responded that the program helped them to work well with others and be responsible (over 55% in each age group). Figure 5 illustrates the responses to the workforce development statements by age.

Figure 4: Workforce Development Outcomes by Age, "A Lot" Responses



	Make Suggestions Appropriately	Be Responsible	Work Well With Others	Manage Time	Set Goals
5-9 years	58%	69%	74%	59%	59%
10-13 years	52%	67%	66%	63%	63%
14-18 years	45%	64%	57%	51%	51%
19-24 years	50%	68%	65%	55%	55%
All Ages	46%	66%	62%	43%	55%

Goal 2: Academic Outcomes

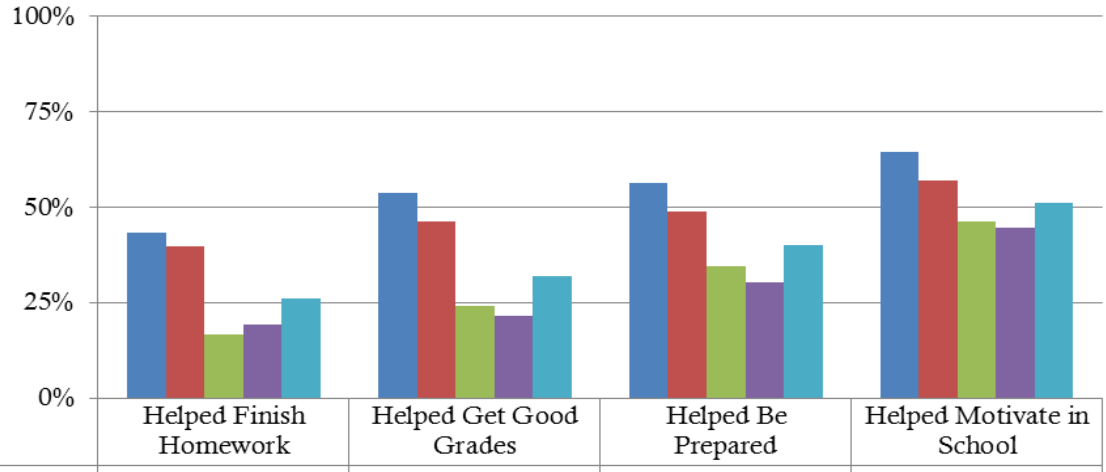
Four scaled statements were used to measure academic outcomes (see Table 12):

- "The summer program has helped me to finish my homework";
- "The summer program has helped me to get good grades in school";
- "The summer program has helped me to go to school prepared"; and
- "The summer program has helped me to be motivated to try hard in school."

Those who responded "A lot" were considered to have gained academic skills. For the statement regarding finishing homework and getting good grades, a low percentage stated that they program has helped them (26% and 32% respectively). These responses were not a surprise; not all programs with this goal actually gave the children and youth homework or graded them.

A higher percentage of 5 to 13 year olds responded "A lot" to the statements posed. This could be because more of the younger youth programs targeted academic outcomes. Conversely, a lower percentage of 19 to 24 year olds responded "A lot" to the academic outcomes questions, which could reflect their focus on workforce development programming. Figure 6 contains the responses to the questions by age for the academic outcomes.

Figure 5: Academic Outcomes by Age, "A Lot" Responses



	Helped Finish Homework	Helped Get Good Grades	Helped Be Prepared	Helped Motivate in School
5-9 years	43%	54%	56%	64%
10-13 years	40%	46%	49%	57%
14-18 years	17%	24%	34%	46%
19-24 years	19%	22%	30%	45%
All Ages	26%	32%	40%	51%

Goal 3: Healthy Lifestyles Outcomes

To measure healthy lifestyles outcomes (Goal 3), seven scaled statements were used:

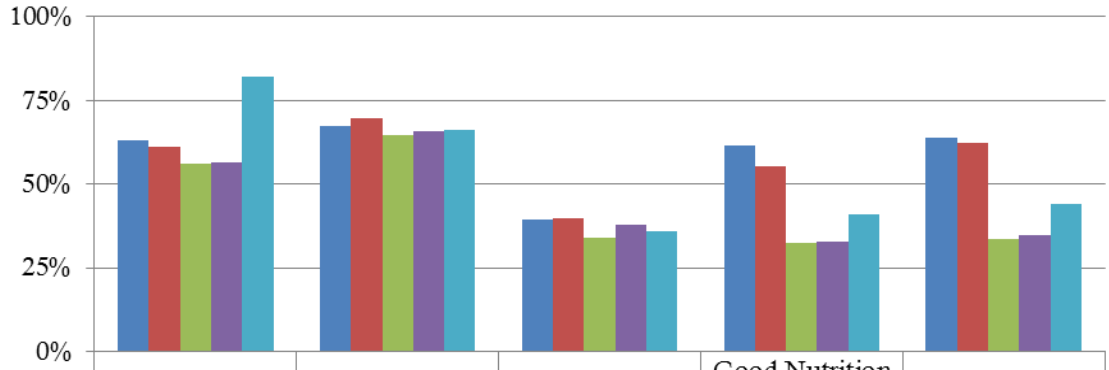
- "The summer program has helped to feel satisfied with myself";
- "The summer program has helped me to feel positive about the future";
- "The summer program has helped me to be a good member of my community";
- "In the summer program, I have learned how to deal with stress";
- "In the summer program, I have learned how to make good decisions about nutrition and health"; and
- "In the summer program, I have learned how to say "no" to alcohol, drugs, and other things that are not good for me."

Those who responded "A lot" were considered to have been impacted by healthy lifestyles outcomes. Table 12 shows the responses to each question for this goal. A high number of youth (82%) reported feeling satisfied about them. In addition, about two-thirds of the youth (66%) reported feeling positive about their future. A lower percentage of youth reported learning how to

make good decisions about health and nutrition as well as saying "no" to alcohol or drugs (44% and 41% respectively).

For questions regarding the healthy lifestyles goal, a higher percentage of 5 to 13 year olds than other age groups responded "A lot" to the statements. This could be due to the fact that more of the younger youth programs targeted these outcomes. Figure 7 has the responses to the questions by age for the healthy lifestyles outcomes.

Figure 6: Healthy Lifestyles Outcomes by Age, "A Lot" Responses



	Satisfied With Self	Positive About Future	Deal with Stress	Good Nutrition and Health Decisions	"No" to Drugs and Alcohol
5-9 years	63%	67%	39%	62%	64%
10-13 years	61%	70%	40%	55%	62%
14-18 years	56%	65%	34%	32%	34%
19-24 years	56%	66%	38%	33%	35%
All Ages	82%	66%	36%	41%	44%

Goal 4: Safety Outcomes

Three statements were used to measure youth safety outcomes. The statements included:

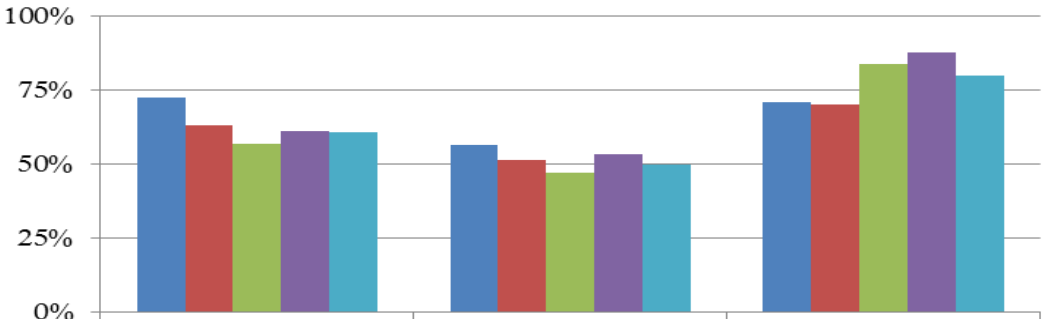
- "The summer program helped me to learn to respect other people";
- "The summer program has helped me to disagree without starting a fight"; and
- "Did you feel safe at the summer program?"

Those who responded "A lot" were considered to have reached the safety-related outcomes. More than 50% of the youth felt that they gained the conflict resolution skills such as respecting others and disagreeing appropriately. In addition, 80% stated they "always" felt safe at the summer program with an additional 18% stating they "sometimes" feel safe. Table 12 shows the responses to each question for this goal. It is worth noting that youth in the middle age ranges, 10 to 13 years and 14 to 18 years, had lower percentages for "Respect Others" and "Disagree without Fighting" than the younger youth (5-9) and older youth (19-24). Given the amount of growth and development youth

undergo in the middle years, more opportunities to support their healthy development are needed during the summer as well as the rest of the year.

A high percentage of younger youth (ages 5 to 13) responded "A lot." In addition, a higher percentage (88%) of older youth (ages 19 to 24) "always" felt safe at the program compared to 71% of the younger youth (ages 5 to 9 years). Figure 8 has the responses to the questions by age for the safety outcome.

Figure 7: Safety Outcomes by Age, "A lot" and "Always" Responses



	Respect Others	Disagree Without Fighting	Feel Safe at Program
5-9 years	73%	57%	71%
10-13 years	63%	51%	70%
14-18 years	57%	47%	84%
19-24 years	61%	53%	88%
All Ages	61%	50%	80%

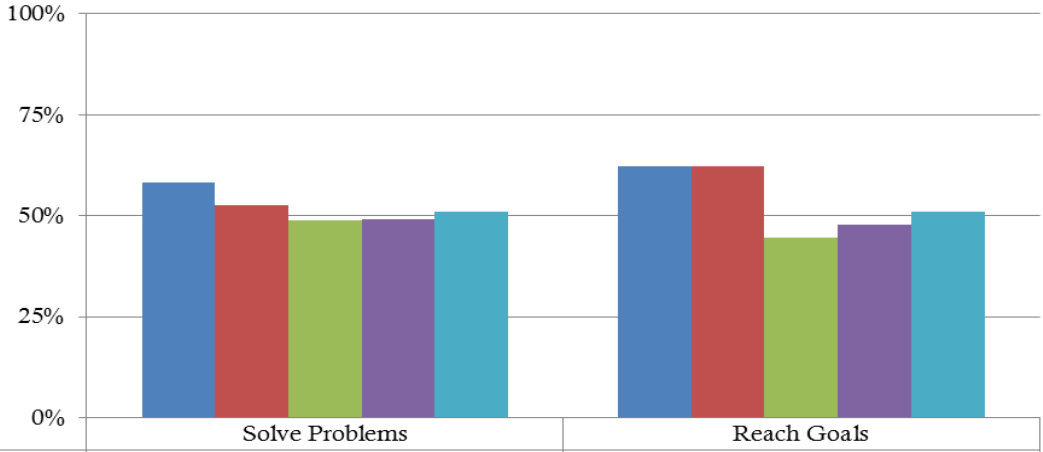
Goal 5: Strengthening Families Outcomes

To measure the strengthening families outcomes, two scaled statements were used:

- "In the summer program I have learned how to solved programs in my life" and
- "In the summer program I have learned how to find help when to reach a goal."

Those who responded "A lot" were considered to have reached these outcomes. For both of these statements, more than 50% of youth responded "A lot." Parents were not surveyed as part of OCSI, explaining why Figure 9 reports responses from children and youth to age 24.

Figure 8: Strengthening Families Outcomes by Age, "A Lot" Responses



	Solve Problems	Reach Goals
5-9 years	58%	62%
10-13 years	53%	62%
14-18 years	49%	45%
19-24 years	49%	48%
All Ages	51%	51%

Table 12: Responses to Survey Questions by Youth (unduplicated)

Goals and Outcomes	Total	Percentage
Goal 1: Workforce Development		
The summer program has helped me to make suggestions without being bossy.	*3,356*	*95%*
A lot	1,638	46%
A little	1,144	34%
Not at all	574	17%
No response	172	--
The summer program has helped me to learn to be responsible.	*3,342*	*95%*
A lot	2,207	66%
A little	851	25%
Not at all	284	8%
No response	186	--
The summer program has helped me to work well with others in completing the activity.	*3,340*	*95%*
A lot	2,074	62%
A little	926	28%
Not at all	340	10%
No response	188	--
In the summer program, I have learned how to manage time well.	*3,316*	*94%*
A lot	1,422	43%
A little	1,031	31%
Not at all	863	26%
No response	212	--
In the summer program, I have learned how to set goals for my future.	*3,318*	*94%*
A lot	1,836	55%
A little	998	45%
Not at all	1,484	6%
No response	210	--
Goal 2: Academic Achievement		
The summer program has helped me to get good grades in school.	3,441	*98%*
A lot	881	26%
A little	758	22%
Not at all	1,802	52%
No response	87	--

Table continued on next page.

Table 12: Responses to Survey Questions by Youth (unduplicated), Continued

The summer program has helped me to go to school prepared.	*3,421*	*97%*
A lot	1,121	32%
A little	875	26%
Not at all	1,425	42%
No response	107	--
The summer program has helped me to be more motivated to try hard in school.	*3,430*	*97%*
A lot	1,377	40%
A little	1,026	30%
Not at all	1,027	30%
No response	98	--
The summer program has helped me to finish my homework.	*3,445*	*98%*
A lot	1,753	51%
A little	990	29%
Not at all	702	20%
No response	83	--
Goal 3: Healthy Lifestyles		
The summer program has helped me to feel satisfied with myself.	3,449	*98%*
A lot	2,004	82%
A little	1,017	42%
Not at all	48	2%
No response	29	--
The summer program has helped me to feel positive about the future.	*3,448*	*98%*
A lot	2,284	66%
A little	836	24%
Not at all	328	10%
No response	80	--
In the summer program, I have learned how to deal with stress.	*3,318*	*94%*
A lot	1,208	36%
A little	1,224	37%
Not at all	885	27%
No response	210	--

Table continued on next page.

Table 12: Responses to Survey Questions by Youth (unduplicated), Continued

In the summer program, I have learned how to make good decisions about nutrition and health.	*3,315*	*94%*
A lot	1,374	41%
A little	1,044	31%
Not at all	897	27%
No response	213	--
In the summer program, I have learned how to say "no" to alcohol, drugs, and other things that are not good for me.	*3,295*	*93%*
A lot	1,453	44%
A little	803	24%
Not at all	1,039	32%
No response	233	--
Goal 4: Safety		
The summer program has helped me to learn to respect other people.	*3,383*	*96%*
A lot	2,063	61%
A little	996	29%
Not at all	324	10%
No response	145	--
The summer program has helped me to disagree without starting a fight.	*3,361*	*95%*
A lot	1,683	50%
A little	1,133	34%
Not at all	545	16%
No response	167	--
Did you feel safe in the summer program/activity?	*3,473*	*98%*
A lot	2,764	80%
A little	630	18%
Not at all	79	20%
No response	55	--
Goal 5: Strengthening Families		
In the summer program I have learned to solve problems in my life.	*3,322*	*94%*
A lot	1,691	51%
A little	1,098	33%
Not at all	533	16%
No response	206	--
In the summer program I have learned to find help when to reach a goal.	*3,304*	*94%*
A lot	1,695	51%
A little	958	29%
Not at all	651	20%
No response	224	--

RECOMMENDATIONS

By all accounts, the 2012 One City Summer Initiative was a success. More than 40,000 children and youth ages 5 to 24 participated in an astounding 614 programs. For the sixth consecutive year, the District has been ranked first in the nation for serving 26,000 daily meals through the DC Free Summer Meals Program.[5] Many of the city's youth had positive outcomes resulting from their engagement in summer programming.

Even with these achievements, there is always room for improvement. What follows are recommendations for the summer of 2013. Ideas come from DC government agency staff via the survey and/or debriefing session, the data, and from the Trust housing the OCSI Coordinator.

Planning and Implementation

- Government agency resources – staff and financial – should be identified earlier in the planning process to ensure that adequate resources are available to meet OCSI goals.
- A web-based information portal should be used to share information, calendars, templates, etc. with all participating agencies and partners. (See also Data Collection/Evaluation and Funding sections)
- Expanding the initiative to be year-round would capitalize on the partnerships and gains made during the summer and would bring stability to a number of nonprofit, community-based organizations. A year-round effort would also better address the youth and crime issues that persist throughout the year.
- Engaging the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development and cluster agencies would add new opportunities for partnership and information-sharing in programming and at events.
- Engage the Office of the Chief Technology Officer and agency technology staff in planning and implementation. These experts would help address tech and related challenges. (See also Data Collection/Evaluation)
- Investigate using the DC ONE card to track youth participation in District agency and CBO programs to reduce double-counting and accurately track participation and use of services.

Program Offerings

- Deliberately plan for the goal of Strengthening Families (Goal 5). Such planning would include adding process outputs, identifying ways to engage organizations already working on all facets of family strengthening, and linking organizations working on this goal with other organizations.
- Add programs to address the specific needs of 10-14 year olds and 14-18 year olds, particularly in Goal 3, Healthy Lifestyles.
- Measure program quality. (See also Data Collection/Evaluation)
- Conduct focus groups of youth to inform program offerings for OCSI 2013.

[5] D.C. Hunger Solutions, "What's happening with summer food in D.C.", http://www.dchunger.org/fedfoodprogs/summer/summer_index.htm accessed October 9, 2012.

- Expand partners for feeding youth, such as the Capital Area Food Bank, to feed young people in the evenings and on weekends.
- Engage more children and youth in Wards 7 and 8 in summer programming. In OCSI 2012 for the population evaluated, only about a third of the youth participated. (There are more than 37,000 young people 5-24 living in Wards 7 and 8 and 10,144 young people participated in OCSI 2012—calculation based on disaggregated data used for evaluation).

Data Collection/Evaluation

- Institute an online data input and tracking tool for all government agencies and organizations offering programming for children, youth, and their families. (See also Planning and Implementation and Funding sections)
- Engage the Office of the Chief Technology Officer and agency technology staff in planning and implementation. These experts would help address tech and related challenges. (See also Planning and Implementation)
- Partners should establish a shared common language to facilitate information sharing and to reduce confusion (i.e. define age range for youth; tracking data at PSA or ward level). Similarly, participating agencies and partners should collect the same common data points.
- The city should implement a longitudinal evaluation of the initiative and youth participants to measure the effect of youth programming and engagement on academic achievement, job/career development, involvement in the criminal justice system, and health outcomes.
- The OCSI should use the Statewide Longitudinal Education Data (SLED) system as a model for developing a system to implement the recommendations stated above.
- Bring on a local college or university to perform the evaluation of the initiative.
- Add staff to assist with the data collection function.
- Require all DC government agencies, partners, and CBOs to use the DC ONE card to track youth participation.
- Require all partners to submit disaggregated data.
- Require District agencies to track the dollars allocated to summer programming, staffing, and planning.

Collaboration

- Use web-based tool mentioned in Planning and Implementation to share information and facilitate connections between partners. Specifically, agency goals and plans should be shared on this site.
- Use the OCSI web portal to share information about upcoming events and programs related to achieving the OCSI goals. This information would be available to the public.
- Ensure all District government agencies and CBOs submit their summer program information to *Answers, Please!*/211. Also provide a link on the web-based OCSI portal to 211 to facilitate use of this resource and referral system for the benefit of youth and families.
- The summer collaboration should include CBOs, Healthy Families/Thriving Communities Collaboratives, and other youth and community stakeholders earlier in the planning process in order to get their buy-in, and to more accurately align resources to the identified needs.

- The OCSI should also get more input from youth and their families directly as to what types of programs they want, and when and where they should be offered.
- Greater collaboration is needed between the initiative and local funders, the business community, and colleges and universities in order for these entities to provide meaningful support – funding, sponsorships, jobs, resources, etc. to programs and youth participants.

Funding

- Make funding available to expand summer initiative to a year-round effort. This includes additional funding to staff the coordinated system of programming for young people and their families.
- Fund the development and maintenance of a One City Children and Youth Initiative web portal. The portal would be used to share information, calendars, templates, etc. with all participating agencies and partners. (See also Planning and Implementation and Data Collection/Evaluation sections)
- Allocate resources so schools can be open to site CBO-organized and -staffed programs.
- Allocate funds for evaluation. Funding would be used to develop data collection and evaluation tools and processes, staff year-round assessment and evaluation work, and analyze and report data. (See also Data Collection/Evaluation section)
- Provide a robust selection of professional development opportunities for youth workers in DC government agencies and community-based organizations. A training institute, focused on developing skills throughout a youth worker's career, is essential and funding is required to make this component of positive youth development work a reality.
- The widespread use of DC ONE cards is essential for program planning and evaluation purposes. Funding is required to 1) support issuing the cards to all children and youth and 2) purchase the hardware and software for programs to track usage. (See Planning and Implementation and Data Collection/Evaluation sections)

CONCLUSION

Children and youth engaged in 2012 One City Summer Initiative activities had positive outcomes ranging from feeling safe in their program to feeling positive about the future to increasing soft skills. More than 40,000 children and youth ages 5 to 24 participated in 614 programs. Thousands of children and adults participated in community events.

MPD's attention to crime and quality of life issues appears to have reaped benefits. A review of summer crime arrests revealed that juvenile arrests for aggravated assault and carjacking were down. Community walkthroughs to address unsafe and blighted properties resulted in tangible improvements for residents.

One City Summer Initiative partners should be proud of the successes including new and improved partnerships and collaborations and the first planned effort-wide evaluation. The 2012 initiative implemented a more robust data collection process than what was in place last year, allowing the city to establish baseline data on youth participants and to provide a deeper analysis.

Partners and supporters are already looking forward to starting work on planning for the summer of 2013. This summary of inititial findings should be used as part of the planning as it identifies both the successes and challenges for OCSI.

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