

YEAR 3 (2016-2017)

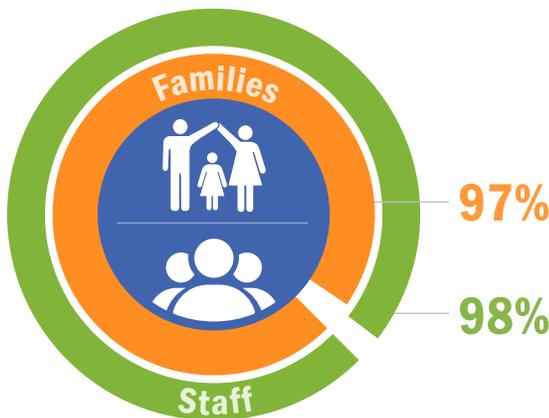
Toward the goal of universal access to afterschool programming for middle school students in New York City, **the de Blasio Administration now funds over 500 Schools Out New York City (SONYC) programs serving more than 67,000 students annually.** SONYC is administered by the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD). DYCD hired American Institutes for Research (AIR), an independent evaluator, to study the SONYC initiative to understand program implementation and outcomes. In Year 3 of the initiative and evaluation, AIR focused on youth leadership development and surveyed SONYC program staff and families across the initiative. AIR also surveyed youth about their leadership attitudes and skills in a representative sample of programs. Key findings from Year 3 suggest that programs have hired experienced staff, engaged families of youth participants, and are prioritizing youth leadership development as a program goal.

SONYC PROGRAMS PRIORITIZE YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

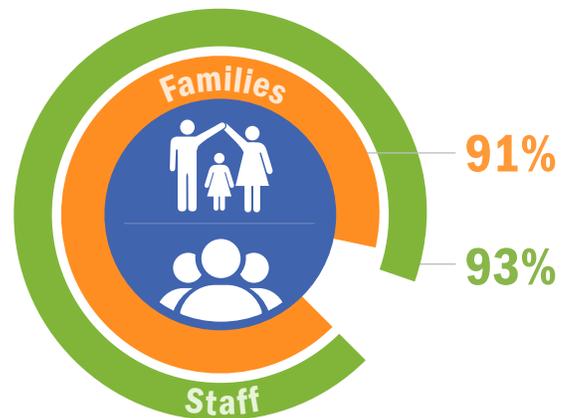
On a validated youth leadership survey, **youth attending SONYC programs** have positive perceptions of their leadership attitudes and skills:



Staff and families agree that it is important for young people to develop leadership skills.

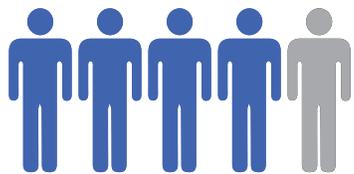


Staff and families agree that the program provides opportunities for youth to develop leadership skills.

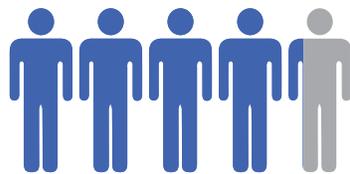


Youth leadership development is a core component of the SONYC initiative and a central construct in the SONYC evaluation. DYCD has developed a framework for youth leadership development and has aligned resource materials for SONYC program staff. In future years of the evaluation, AIR and DYCD will study how implementation of quality leadership practices influences youth perceptions of their leadership attitudes and skills. DYCD is also developing a version of the survey for use in high school programs.

SONYC PROGRAMS HAVE EXPERIENCED STAFF



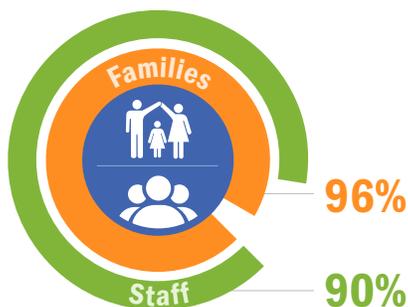
80% have 2+ years of experience in the field.



86% attend professional development.

Since the 2014 expansion, DYCD has increased supports for capacity building by nearly doubling the budget for training and professional development for SONYC program providers and creating the Program Quality and Innovation unit to support quality programming.

SONYC PROGRAMS ENGAGE FAMILIES



Staff and families agree that the program is welcoming to family members.



Families learn more about what youth do in the program.

91%



Families and their children spend more time together.

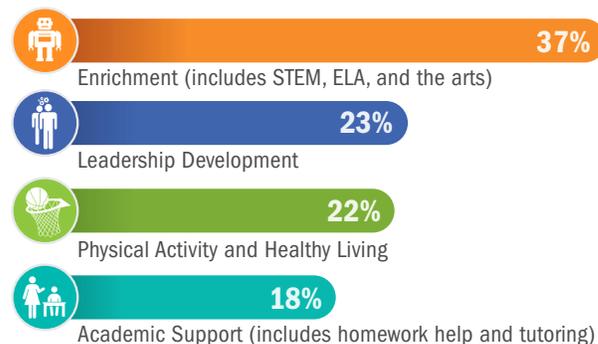
87%

The program provides families opportunities to connect with their children.

DYCD has developed a framework for family engagement and has established it as a universal quality indicator for all agency programs.

WHAT WERE THEY DOING?

How participants **spent their time**:



2016-17 SONYC ENROLLMENT



67,844 youth were enrolled in **504 programs**. SONYC has more than tripled enrollment since the initiative's expansion in 2014.

SONYC EVALUATION BY THE NUMBERS

- **5,680** family surveys from 310 programs
- **3,290** program staff surveys from 405 programs
- **5,840** youth leadership development surveys from a representative sample of 152 programs
- Analysis of **SONYC program** administrative data

SONYC programs enrolled over 67,000 participants. Citywide, more than 116,000 middle school students attended afterschool programs, including students served by other DYCD-funded programs and the Department of Education. DYCD hired independent research firm AIR to conduct the ongoing evaluation.



Department of
Youth & Community
Development

