



RFCY COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT



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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Executive Summary

Why a Community Needs Assessment?

The Richmond Fund for Children and Youth (RFCY or Fund) plays a crucial role in guiding the distribution of the City's three-percent allocation of general funds dedicated to improving the lives and addressing the needs of Richmond's children and youth under 24. To ensure that their guidance and grant-making are informed and strategic, RFCY conducts Community Needs Assessments every 3 years as mandated by Article XV of the City of Richmond Charter. These assessments engage community members, including youth, agencies, and organizations that serve children and youth in Richmond, to identify needs through their knowledgeable lived-experiences. Additionally, data analysis, reports, and research further enhance understanding of the pressing needs that the Fund and its Oversight Board Committee seek to address.

How We Identified Children and Youth Needs

The principle of "Nothing About Me, Without Me" was central to this community needs assessment, emphasizing the importance of listening to and learning from youth, their families, and organizations serving them. Through a highly interactive community engagement process, spanning from January to July 2024, the voices of approximately 400 individuals are reflected in this report. The assessment began with interviews of 24 thought leaders experienced in working with children and youth and those involved in policy, allocation, and program decisions within city departments and public offices. These interviews framed questions for focus groups involving more than 100 individuals from the Priority Populations identified by RFCY per the charter: African American Youth, Asian American Pacific Islander Youth, Immigrant Family Youth, Justice Impacted Youth, Latinx Youth, LGBTQIA+ Youth, Transitional Age Youth, and Youth Experiencing Homelessness. Youth participants received dinner and a gift card in appreciation for their time. Additional focus groups included a Parent/Caregiver Group and a Teacher/Counselor Group.

A 14-question survey developed from focus group insights was distributed to 33 youth-serving

organizations, resulting in 200 completed surveys from youth, service providers, parents/caregivers, and community members. The findings were presented at a two-hour Community Visioning Event attended by over 70 people, generating nearly 50 ideas for consideration in the next phase of this project, a Strategic Investment Plan.

Investing in Children and Youth

The City of Richmond's commitment to enhancing the lives of its children and youth is evidenced by its creation of the Richmond Fund for Children and Youth. By harnessing the community's assets of non-profits and community partners in both the public and private sectors along with the City dedicating millions of dollars towards programs that advance opportunities for children and youth to thrive, RFCY is building futures and the community's capacity to assure that those futures are bright.

A Resource Gap

The City and its robust network of community partners offer a wide array of programs and services to address the needs of children and youth. In so doing, they fully recognize that these needs persist and are substantial requiring continued and increased resources while creatively finding ways to achieve the best return on investment for children, youth and their families. This Community Needs Assessment is a foundational step in giving voice to these needs and developing a roadmap to address them.

Envisioning Ideas to Address Needs: Next Steps

The commitment and innovative ideas generated from the Community Visioning Event show that community members are ready to tackle the core needs identified. RFCY will engage the consulting team of Public Works LLC to develop a Strategic Investment Plan, addressing connectivity issues, transportation, and holistic family support. The plan will identify benchmarks and outcomes to guide RFCY's grant-making process, ensuring that funded programs provide a return-on-investment worthy of Richmond's children and youth.

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

What We Learned

As a result of nearly 400 community and youth voices informing the consulting team and RFCY leadership on the needs of children and youth along with conducting research on the extent and impact of those needs within the Richmond community, five core needs emerged:

Five Core Needs Emerge from Community Engagement



1. Mental & Behavioral Health Needs

Stressors from living in poverty, bullying, discrimination, and safety concerns were repetitive themes. Youth report high levels of anxiety and depression among their peers and a lack of access to counseling and therapy sessions. Parents/caregivers seek guidance on recognizing mental and behavioral health issues and supporting their children. Social isolation from the pandemic remains a significant issue.



2. Physical Health & Access

The need for safe parks, open spaces, and access to healthy foods, nutrition, and fitness programs is high. Concerns over healthcare access were repeatedly cited, with Richmond designated as a Medically Underserved Area, lacking primary care physicians, mental health professionals, and dentists. There is a high demand for drug awareness, prevention, and treatment programs.



3. Learning Needs

Learning loss from the pandemic continues to impact students, with third-grade reading levels and other benchmarks negatively affected. There is a significant need for career and college preparation, one-on-one mentoring, and guidance. Schools are seen as under-resourced, with high demand for homework assistance, after-school programs, and quality early childhood education.



4. Safety, Community & Belonging Needs

Fear of lack of safety is extremely high among youth, with violence becoming normalized. Priority populations report harmful stereotypes and isolation. Justice-impacted youth and LGBTQIA+ groups particularly report feeling othered.



5. Connective Supportive Services

Navigation of available services is challenging, and many families lack transportation to access after-school programs and other activities. Youth organizations would benefit from connecting with the whole family to support and uplift children and youth.

2. SNAPSHOT OF RICHMOND



On June 5, 2018, Richmond voters approved Measure E and Measure K, known as the Richmond Kids First Initiative, which approved a City of Richmond Charter amendment (Article 15) and authorized creation of the Richmond Department and Fund for Children and Youth to provide increased and dedicated funding for children, youth, and young adult services for those under 24 years of age.



111,441

Since 2020, population has decreased by 4.3% ¹



52%

Homeowners



\$88,594

Median household income



35%

Households with children under 18



2.9 people

Average household size



37%

Children living in poverty (200% FPL)



4.7%

Unemployment rate (April 2024)



79.5%

High school graduates



34.4%

Born outside U.S.

Richmond has significant strengths and assets. Despite the challenges of over one-third of children and youth living in poverty, limited access to health care, high mental health needs, and concerns about neighborhood safety, the community highly values the resources provided by the City. Youth attending focus groups spoke highly of the programs supported by RFCY and expressed a desire for more of what community-based organizations offer, with services available closer to their homes.

A young, diverse city

Richmond is a young city, relative to cities across California with 24% of residents under the age of 20 years.

44% Hispanic/Latino

24.2% White

18.3% Black

14.2% Asian

13.3% Multiracial



¹<https://worldpopulationreview.com/us-cities/richmond-ca-population>

3. BACKGROUND

About Measure E and Measure K

On June 5, 2018, Richmond voters approved Measure E and Measure K, known as the Richmond Kids First Initiative, which approved a City of Richmond Charter amendment (Article 15) and authorized creation of The Richmond Fund for Children and Youth City of Richmond Department.

The ballot initiative also authorized establishment of a 15-member Oversight Board and required the Department to conduct a Community Needs Assessment to guide the development of a Strategic Investment Plan.

Under Section 2 of Article 15, the City is required to allocate 3% of the City's General Fund to the Richmond Fund for Children and Youth each fiscal year, starting FY 2023-24 through FY 2027-28 to support the ongoing needs of the Department and Fund (Additional information about the Department can be found at www.richmondyouth.org).



The City of Richmond's Department of Children and Youth has initiated a needs assessment and strategic planning process that honors community voices and includes a diverse range of youth and adults to develop a comprehensive, equitable investment plan that reflects community vision.

Goals of the Richmond Fund for Children and Youth

- To ensure that Richmond's children, youth, and young adults are physically, emotionally, mentally, and socially healthy, educated, successful in school, and live in stable, safe, and supported families and communities;
- To increase safety for children, youth, young adults, their parents/guardians, families and the communities in which they live by preventing problems and enhancing the strengths of children, youth, young adults and their families;
- To ensure young people are provided with gender responsive, trauma-informed, population specific and culturally-competent services;
- To strengthen collaboration among public agencies and community-based organizations around shared outcomes among all service providers for children, youth, young adults and their parents/guardians;
- To ensure an equitable distribution of resources to all of Richmond's young people in recognition of the importance of investment in their futures from birth through young adulthood;
- To fill gaps in services and leverage other resources whenever feasible.

3. BACKGROUND

Vision Statement

The City of Richmond's Department of Children and Youth has initiated a needs assessment and strategic planning process that honors community voices and includes a diverse range of youth and adults to develop a comprehensive, equitable investment plan that reflects community vision.

Richmond Department of Children & Youth Guiding Principles

- Community assets are our core strength. Richmond residents are experts in their lived experience and have valuable insight to share;

We center the needs and dreams of children and youth;
- We value collaboration and shared ownership;

We believe considerations of race and equity are critical to this process;
- We will be inclusive of all ages, races, ethnicities, gender expressions, languages, and abilities/disabilities;
- We will communicate in a way that is accessible and easy to understand;
- We believe all voices should contribute and encourage participants to bring their full, authentic selves to this process; and
- We believe it is important to be (1) innovative and flexible and (2) transparent and accountable.



3. BACKGROUND

Who is the Fund Designed to Support?

The Fund prioritizes Richmond and North Richmond children (birth 0-12); youth (ages 13 to 17) and transitional age youth (ages 18-24) who are most impacted by harm, inequity and lack of access to support services.

The priority populations include, but are not limited to:



Funding Categories

- Violence Prevention/Response
 - Education/Job Training
 - Parent/Guardian Support
 - Media, Arts, Culture & Technology
 - Youth/Family Leadership, Organizing & Civic Engagement
 - Health and Well-Being
 - Environmental Health & Justice
 - Outdoor Education/ Recreation
 - Deportation Support
- Justice-impacted youth;
 - Young people who have been pushed out of school;
 - Young people who themselves are homeless, or whose families are homeless or threatened by homelessness;
 - Young people living in poverty; immigrant and undocumented children, youth, and families;
 - LGBTQIA+ children, youth, and families;
 - Teen parents and families, including single mothers; young people with poor physical, mental, emotional, and behavioral health outcomes, and children with disabilities;
 - Families with children and youth who are impacted by the criminal justice system, and/ or who have family members who are incarcerated, and/or who are involved in or transitioning from the foster care, juvenile/ criminal justice, or special education systems.

This Community Needs Assessment (CNA) will be used by the Richmond Department of Children and Youth to develop of a Strategic Investment Plan, which will guide the Department's grant decisions for the Fund from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027.

4. METHODOLOGY OF COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Methodology of the Community Needs Assessment

To develop a Community Needs Assessment that reflects the community's concerns and priorities, Public Works LLC public policy consulting firm conducted individual and group interviews, focus groups, and brainstorming sessions to identify key issues and gaps in services impacting Richmond's children and youth and their families.

Throughout this highly interactive community-engagement process, Public Works partnered with the leadership team of the Richmond Fund for Children and Youth (RFCY) to ensure that representatives from the Priority Populations, community-based organizations and community members would inform the research, findings and recommendations of the Community Needs Assessment.



Key Informant Interviews

- Public Works launched this project in March 2024 by conducting initial interviews with the Department's project management team and senior staff about the Richmond Fund for Children and Youth's current grantees, the communities they serve, and their perception of the unmet needs of Richmond's children and young people. Based on those interviews, the consulting team developed a list of diverse interest holders, including City officials and employees, community-based organizations, providers, business leaders, educators, and Richmond youth and their families. Interviews were held with twenty-four individuals in one-on-one and group interviews conducted in person, over the phone, and via Zoom.

Community Surveys and Focus Groups

- Based upon the insights shared by community members resulting from interviews, combined with extensive research on demographic, economic, and other data related to Richmond and its residents, Public Works developed, distributed, and administered a 14-question community survey made available in English and Spanish. A survey link was sent via email to 33 community organizations to distribute among their constituencies generating 200 completed surveys over a two-month period. The survey received over 300 open-ended comments in addition to the multiple-choice questions they answered.
- Ten focus groups were held involving 104 participants representing priority youth populations identified in the City of Richmond Charter Article 15, as detailed on the previous page. In addition to the youth groups, two others were held: one with parent and caregivers and the other with school counselors and teachers. These sessions were designed to give young people a chance to speak directly about their needs and those of their friends and family, how they view living in Richmond, what their goals are and what type of support they need to reach them. The participants were referred by 33 community organizations serving Richmond's children and youth. Most were held in-person at community centers; each participant received dinner and a stipend in appreciation for their time. Youth also discussed the types of activities and programs they attend and shared perspectives on obstacles they face in accessing youth-oriented programs and services that are most valuable to them.

4. METHODOLOGY OF COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Public Visioning Event

After gathering and analyzing insights on children and youth needs from over 300 community members, the consulting team partnered with RFCY leaders to co-design and present a public “visioning” event. The event held at the Richmond Auditorium provided dinner while diverse groups of participants were seated at round tables for break-out discussions following 5-minute Ted-Talk type “briefings” covering three topics: Mental & Behavioral Health Needs, Learning Needs and Safety, and Community and Belonging during the two-hour event. Participants spent break-out sessions at their tables generating ideas on how to address each of the three topics and then reported on their ideas to the entire group. The event created a highly interactive, social opportunity for members of the Richmond community to share their experiences, insights and perspectives on the needs of children and youth and offer experienced and innovative ideas on how to address them. Nearly fifty ideas were generated and will become part of the research in developing the Strategic Investment Plan, the second component to the Community Needs Assessment.

The “Visioning” event drew more than 70 community members (both adult and youth) with representatives from 17 organizations. An interactive feature of the evening was the live illustration of the ideas that participants reported at the plenary sessions. An artist (Graphic Recorder) drew these ideas on a large white board in real-time creating an eight-foot mural shown at the end of this report. This method is highly useful in revealing key ideas, highlighting diverse perspectives, and creating an engaging record of participants’ collective input. Using this type of creative, dynamic, visual record has proven especially helpful in sparking input from younger participants – as shown by a group of youth taking selfies and pictures in front of the mural at the end of the event.

Data Analysis

- All responses and comments gleaned from surveys, interviews, focus groups and community forums



Richmond Fund for Children & Youth Community Needs Assessment 2024
(Section of mural from Visioning Event)

were collected and analyzed. The consulting team’s research drew from a wide range of validated sources, including: the U.S. Census and its American Community Survey, local, regional, and state governmental reports, and whitepapers published by foundations and nonprofit organizations. Dashboards, Scorecards and Data Depositories, Bills and Legislative Documents, Surveys (e.g. Juvenile Detention Profile Survey; CA Healthy Kids Survey), Child Opportunity Index by DiversityDataKids.org and GIS Mapping were also reviewed as part of the secondary research component of the Community Needs Assessment.

- The consulting team has looked for patterns across all elements of its data analysis enlightened and informed by over 400 voices heard through the community engagement process. The needs and priorities laid out in this document represent careful validation and synthesis of community voices supported by independent data and research.

5. IMPACTS OF POVERTY ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Impacts of Poverty on Children and Youth

In its simplest terms, poverty is an economic state in which an individual's or family's income cannot cover the basic needs of everyday life. They struggle to pay for necessities such as housing, food utilities, child-care and transportation. The fear of losing their housing as they struggle between paying rent/mortgage versus medications, food, a child's school supplies, clothing or an unexpected repair bill, all lead to high stress levels for the entire family unit. The state of experiencing poverty both causes and worsens hardships.

Poverty can be situational, due to a life event such as a death of a main income earner, job loss, divorce, health condition, recession or pandemic that throws one into poverty. Sometimes it is chronic when at least two generations have been born into poverty and there is no wealth to share among family members during difficult times or hand down. Eight determinants that interconnect, cause and sustain poverty are shown in this graphic to illustrate the multiple factors that impact families, children and youth who must contend with poverty every day.



Concentrated Poverty

Many children live in concentrated poverty in which high numbers of people living in a neighborhood or census tract are poor. A common benchmark used to determine a concentrated poverty area is generally 30% or more of the residents living in poverty.¹ Richmond has five such census tracts ranging from 29% to 47% of children living at or below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) within their neighborhood.²

¹ <https://www.aecf.org/topics/concentrated-poverty>

² ACS 5-Year Estimates. Census Tracts 3740.00,3760.00,3820.00,3810.00, 3770.00

5. IMPACTS OF POVERTY ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Children and adults living in highly disadvantaged neighborhoods face poorer health, food insecurity, lack of access to quality health care, attend schools that are resource challenged and underperforming and are often exposed to crime and environmental pollution.³ Most often, People of Color are overrepresented within such communities which holds true for the five highly concentrated tracts in Richmond just referenced. This speaks to the consequences of structural racism when laws, rules, regulations and practices in society unfairly treat certain racial groups differently. This kind of racism is essentially “built into” the systems that run or oversee, for example, schools, workplaces, housing, local governments, and healthcare resulting in perpetuating racial disparities.

Research shows that, “children who experience the disadvantages of growing up in and surrounded by poverty will continue to bear the burden of those disadvantages into adulthood.”⁴

Measuring Poverty. How poverty is defined and measured has a powerful impact on how a community marshals its resources (or not) to address and prevent it. The measure draws the line as to who is eligible for services, who must wait and who will be turned away. The current Federal Poverty Level (FPL) was created sixty years ago and significantly underestimates the true costs of meeting basic needs of everyday life in today’s economy. Most federal and state programs use 150% to 200% of FPL as a marker of need for eligibility of services. As was recommended in RFCY’s 2020 Community Needs Assessment, we also recommend that RFCY use a threshold of twice the FPL (200%) to determine the numbers of children living in poverty within Richmond in need of services.

Currently, more than one-third (**37%**) of youth and children under the age of 18 years in Richmond are below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level while 35% of adults are below this threshold.⁵ This means that a family of four in 2024, for example, lives on an income of \$5,200 per month and an individual at \$2,510 per month.⁶ Most of these individuals and families are cost-burdened by paying more than thirty percent of their income (\$1,560) towards their monthly rent. This leaves the remaining \$3,640 dollars to cover all expenses for a family of four.

Housing costs are significantly impacting middle income families, as well. Richmond, where median household income is \$88,594,⁷ is the second most housing cost-burdened city in the Bay area, with 42% of residents paying more than 30% of their income on housing costs. **Over half (54%) of all renters and 38% of homeowners in Richmond are housing cost burdened.**⁸ Access to affordable and secure housing has been consistently identified as a community need impacting health in Richmond.⁹

Half of Richmond renters are cost-burdened.

37% of Richmond youth living in poverty.

³ <https://www.aecf.org/topics/concentrated-poverty>

⁴ <https://www.cbpp.org/sites/default/files/atoms/files/11-3-15hous2.pdf>

⁵ <https://data.census.gov/table?q=s1701%20Richmond,%20California>

⁶ <https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines>

⁷ U.S. Census Bureau. “Income in the Past 12 Months (in 2022 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars).” *American Community Survey, ACS 1-Year Estimates Subject Tables, Table S1901, 2022*, [https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST1Y2022.S1901?q=median household income&g=160XX00US0616000,0660620,0681666](https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST1Y2022.S1901?q=median%20household%20income&g=160XX00US0616000,0660620,0681666). Accessed on March 9, 2024.

⁸ <https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/housing-costs-rent-mortgage-18535110.php>

⁹ <https://about.kaiserpermanente.org/content/dam/kp/mykp/documents/reports/community-health/Richmond-CHNA-2019.pdf>, <https://about.kaiserpermanente.org/content/dam/kp/mykp/documents/reports/community-health/richmond-chna-2022.pdf>

5. IMPACTS OF POVERTY ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Beyond Poverty: Geography & Opportunity. We've applied a tool known as the *Childhood Opportunity Index (COI)* to assess the level and breadth of need among Richmond's children and youth. This index is based on the premise that a neighborhood's resources and conditions matter and that children growing up in neighborhoods with "quality schools, safe housing, access to healthy food, parks, clean air and economic opportunities are more likely to grow into healthy, productive adults than children who do not have access to these resources."¹⁰

Using a set of 44 indicators in the domains of Education, Health and Environment, and Social and Economic, the COI measures and maps the quality of resources and conditions in the neighborhoods where children and youth live. The COI groups all neighborhoods via census tracts into five Opportunity levels: Very Low, Low, Moderate, High, and Very High-opportunity neighborhoods.

Children living in "low opportunity" neighborhoods experience few of the conditions necessary to thrive as compared to their counterparts living in "High Opportunity" communities. Black, Hispanic and Native American children are especially likely to live in very low-opportunity neighborhoods. A complete listing of all 44 indicators is provided in Appendix A. The table below shows the three domains of the Child Opportunity Index and the sub-domains of indicators assessed by each.

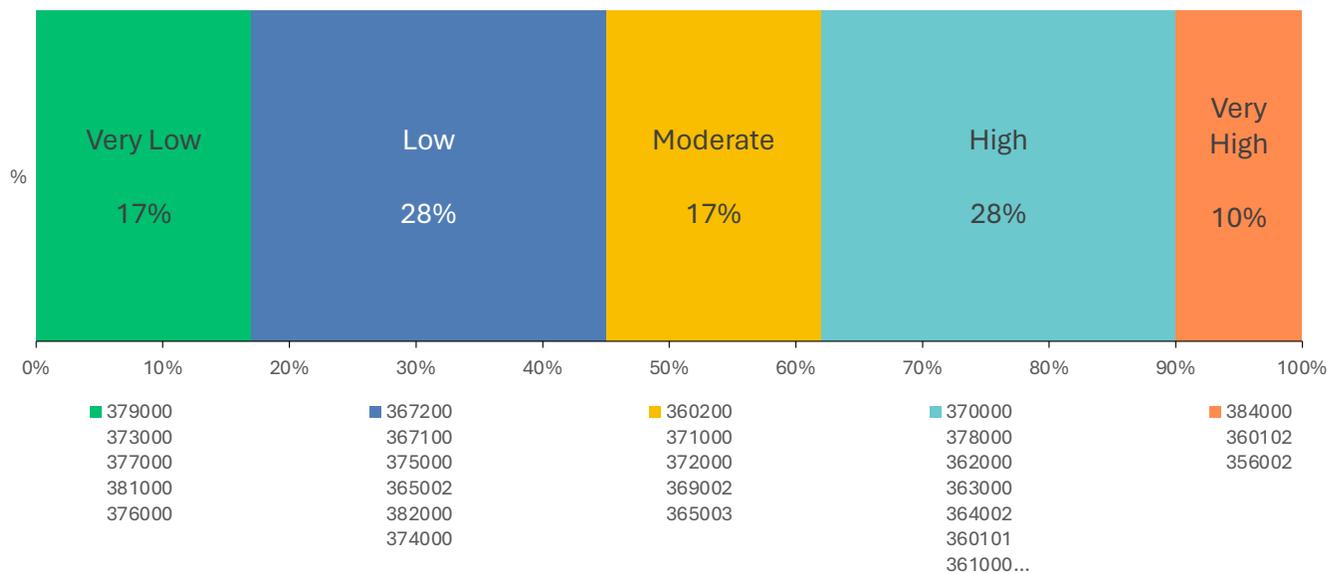
Table of Childhood Opportunity Index Neighborhood Indicator Domains and Sub-domains

EDUCATION	HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT	SOCIAL & ECONOMIC
Early Childhood Education	Pollution	Employment
Elementary Education	Healthy Environment	Economic Resources
Secondary & Post-secondary Education	Safety Related Resources	Socioeconomic Inequity
Educational Resources	Health Resources	Housing Resources
		Social Resources
		Wealth

¹⁰ <https://www.diversitydatakids.org/child-opportunity-index>

5. IMPACTS OF POVERTY ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Percentage of COI Ratings Among Richmond Census Tracts on Education, Health & Environment, Social & Economic Indicators



The graphic chart above shows the percentage of census tracts distributed among the five Child Opportunity Index levels and cites the census tracts below each level. This illustrates that nearly half (45%) of Richmond’s neighborhoods show “Very Low” and “Low” opportunities for children and youth to thrive. In contrast, thirty-eight percent experience High and Very High Opportunities while seventeen percent fall between them.

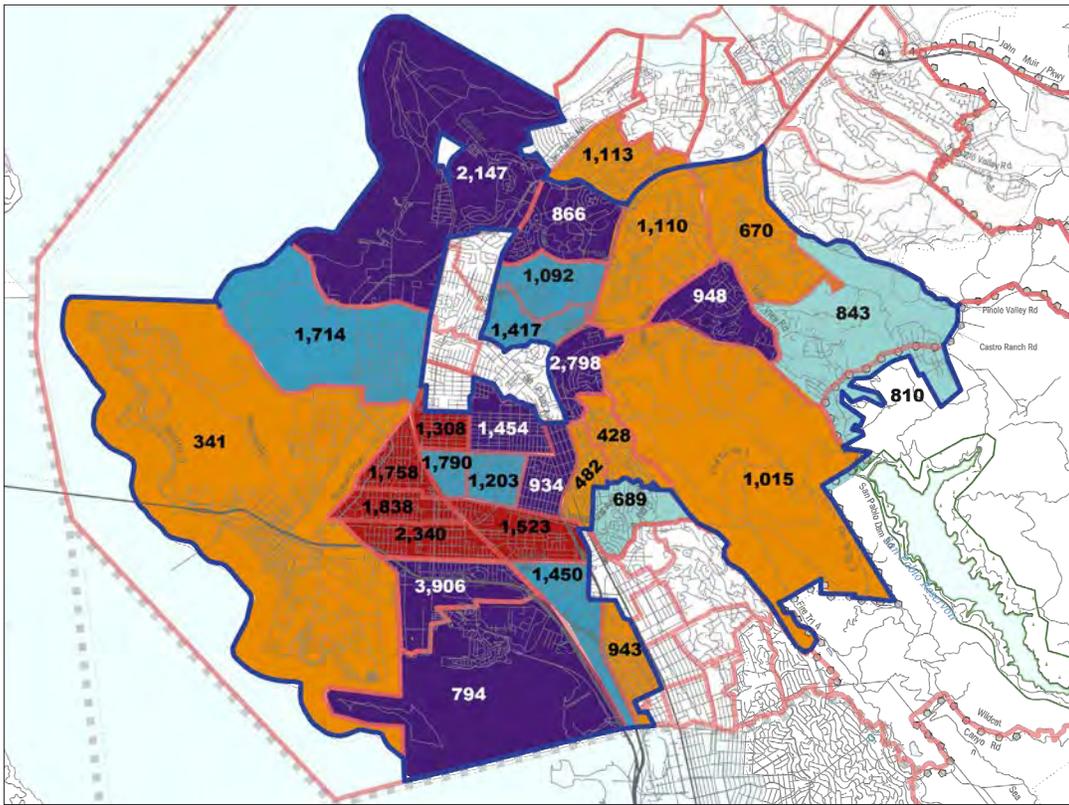
While the COI incorporates income and non-income-based factors, a correlation can be seen between Richmond census tracts with higher levels of child

poverty and lower COI scores. Like poverty rates, there is a wide disparity in COI across the different census tracts in Richmond, ranging from Very Low to Very High Opportunity. And like national trends, there is a stark disproportionate number of Black and Hispanic children living in the low COI neighborhoods.

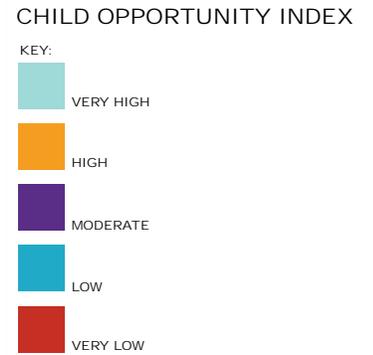
If you are interested in learning more about the Child Opportunity Index and using their dashboard, go to Diversity Data Kids by going to <https://www.diversitydatakids.org/child-opportunity-index>.

¹¹ <https://www.diversitydatakids.org/child-opportunity-index>

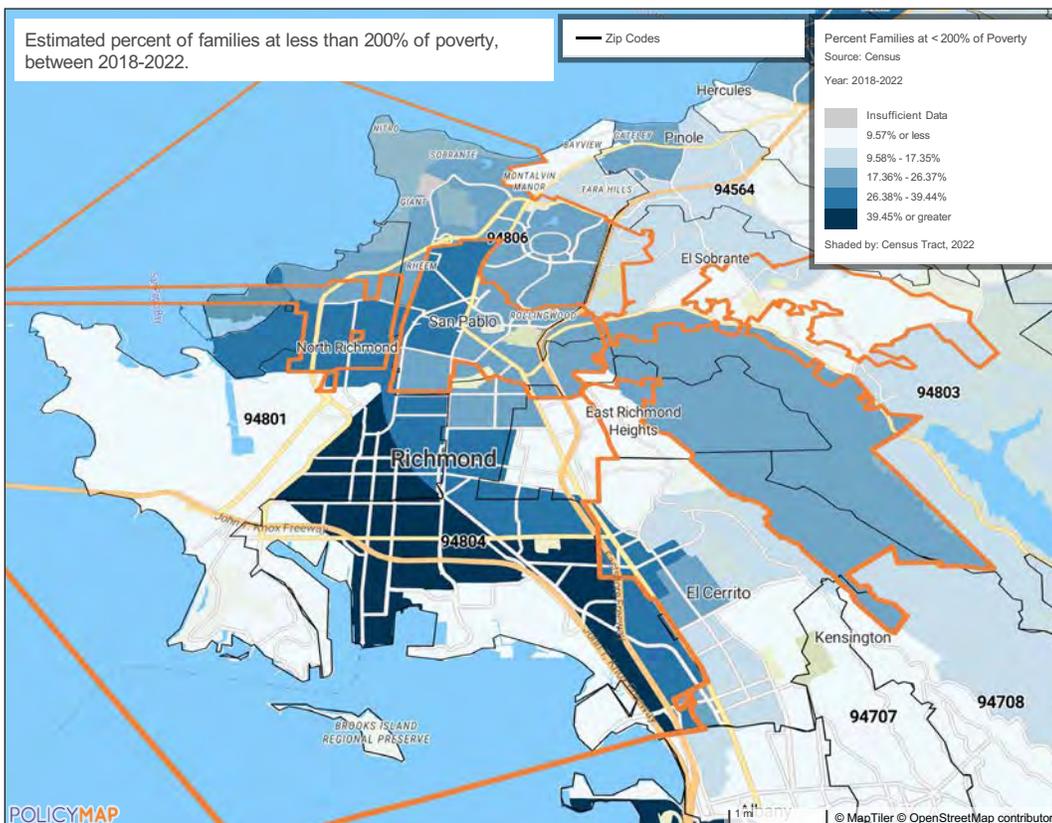
5. IMPACTS OF POVERTY ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH



CHILD OPPORTUNITY INDEX (COI) LEVELS AND CHILD/YOUTH POPULATION DISTRIBUTION IN RICHMOND CENSUS TRACTS



The following map shows the Child Opportunity Index (COI) level and the number of children and youth residing within each of the twenty-six census tracts and their corresponding neighborhoods as they geographically appear on a census map of Richmond.



ESTIMATED PERCENT OF FAMILIES LIVING AT LESS THAN 200% FPL – RICHMOND (2018-2022)

6. RICHMOND CHILDREN AND YOUTH FIVE CORE NEEDS

Five core needs emerged that significantly impact children and youth in Richmond resulting from interviews, focus groups, surveys and research. This section of the needs assessment reviews each of the five: Mental & Behavioral Health, Physical Health, Learning, Safety, Belonging & Community and Connective Supportive Services.

A. MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SECTION

What do we mean by Mental and Behavioral Health?

Mental health involves our emotional, psychological and social well-being affecting how we think, feel, and act. It influences how we handle stress, relate to others and make choices. Biological and environmental factors, family history and life experiences play significant roles in maintaining one's mental health. **Behavioral Health**, on the other hand, involves how our actions influence our health and well-being. Engaging in unhealthy behaviors such as smoking, vaping, drinking, abusing substances, or consuming a diet of largely fast-foods will negatively impact mental health and well-being.

Among all categories of needs impacting children and youth, mental and behavioral health rose to the top. Youth, parents, grandparents, caregivers and those working with children and youth all agree that young people are facing high levels of stress that negatively

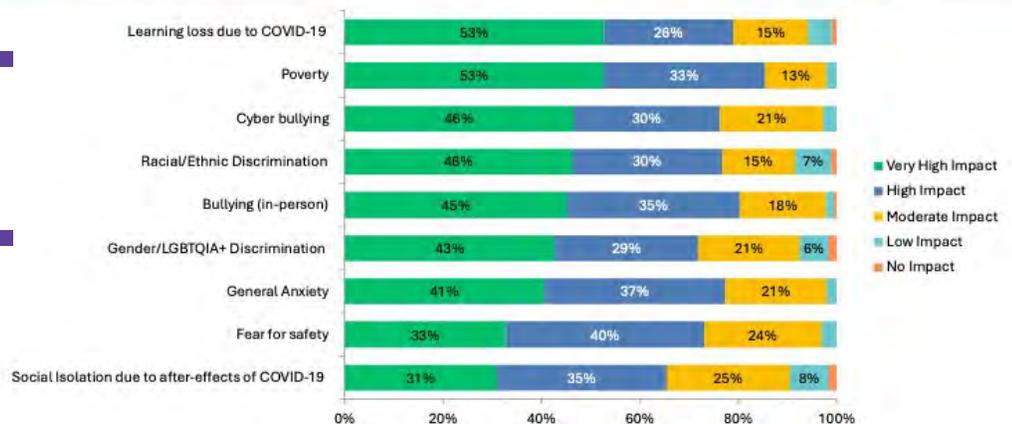
affect their mental well-being. Richmond youth are struggling with poverty, bullying, racial discrimination, safety concerns in neighborhood and schools, trauma and stress associated with exposure to violence which are taking a serious toll on Richmond's children and youth.

Depression and Anxiety. Most youth in focus groups commented that the two most common mental health issues facing young people -- even grade schoolers -- are depression and anxiety. They report experiencing growing levels of anxiety and depression exacerbated by the loss of learning and social isolation due to the pandemic's closure of schools, cancellation of socio-recreational activities and the practice of social-distancing.

The Impact of COVID-19 Continues. Many children and teens missed out on vital opportunities to develop social skills that would aid them in peer interactions, ability to work in teams, and leadership development. Due to the need for masking, young children missed out in learning how to interpret body language, facial expressions and social cues. Focus group youth shared that the pandemic also set the stage for excessive use of "screen time" influenced by the shift from in-person teaching to remote learning. Beyond hearing these concerns from over one-hundred youth participating in focus groups, two-hundred respondents to the *RFCY Community Needs Assessment Survey* echoed similar views as shown below.

Impact to Children and Youth

How much do the following impact children and youth in Richmond?



RFCY awarded \$1,045,923 in grants addressing Mental & Behavioral Health to 10 organizations during 2021-2023."

6. RICHMOND CHILDREN AND YOUTH FIVE CORE NEEDS

Overall, three out of four survey respondents rated the following 5 impacts as having “Very High and High” degree of impact on children and youth’s mental wellbeing: poverty (86%), bullying (80%), learning loss (79%), general anxiety (78%), racial and ethnic discrimination (76%).

California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS). Data collected by the California Department of Education through the CHKS among students in 5th, 7th, 9th and 11th grades validate the sentiments expressed during the community engagement process of this needs assessment. The table below shows the results of three key mental health measures among West Contra Costa County Unified School District students.

One of the more concerning trends revealed by this table, is among fifth graders. In the school year when fifth graders were first asked about feelings of sadness: one in five (20%) of fifth graders reported being “sad most or all of the time.” **Today, one in four (25%) of ten-to-eleven-year-olds in fifth grade say they feel sad “most or all of the time.”** Nearly 40% of eleventh graders frequently say they feel sad, as do at least one-third of 7th and 9th graders. On average, 30% – nearly one-third -- of 7th through 11th graders are experiencing “social and emotional” distress and on average 15% have considered suicide.

California Healthy Kids Survey (2022-2023) on Mental Health Measures Among West Contra Costa County Unified School District 5th, 7th, 9th and 11th Graders.¹

Mental Health Measure	Percent 2022 2023		Percent 2022 2023		Percent 2022 2023		Percent 2022 2023	
	5th Graders	7th Graders	9th Graders	11th Graders	5th Graders	7th Graders	9th Graders	11th Graders
Chronic Sadness	21%	25%	36%	33%	34%	35%	39%	39%
Socio-Emotional Distress	Not Asked on Survey	30%	27%	29%	26%	31%	35%	
Considered Suicide	Not Asked on Survey	15%	14%	17%	14%	15%	13%	

“Today, one in four (25%) of ten-to-eleven-year-olds in fifth grade say they feel sad most or all of the time.”

¹California Department of Education. California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS). <https://calschls.org/my-surveys/4954886f-dbf4-469b-ad47-9452d4e2efda/> and <https://calschls.org/my-surveys/f882f1e2-dfc0-4448-b90b-f49cef6e6d3f/>. Accessed on February 22, 2024.

6. RICHMOND CHILDREN AND YOUTH FIVE CORE NEEDS

Two Key Areas of Need Identified. Among the hundreds of comments offered on mental and behavioral health, two major challenges emerge:

- **Need for Increased Awareness and Education.** Parents, grandparents, teachers, and caring adults report needing support and education regarding how to recognize the signs of mental and behavioral health needs, how to respond to someone who needs help, assistance with accessing mental behavioral health resources, and how to respond to the youth or child experiencing these issues in a sensitive and culturally-appropriate manner.
- **Lack of Access to Mental Health Resources.** Even though 96.5 % of children and youth are insured in Richmond through Medi-Cal ² ; focus group participants, key informant interviewees and survey respondents report long wait times associated with scheduling appointments for mental and behavioral health services. There is also a mental health provider workforce shortage.³ Schools often lack sufficient mental health professionals to adequately address the mental and behavioral health needs of students.

When survey respondents were asked whether they think the mental health needs of children and youth are being met in Richmond, more than half (52%) felt “Not So Well or Not Well at All.”

Addressing Needs

Another way of assessing needs is asking youth, community members and key informant interviewees what types of programs and initiatives they believe are needed to address the impacts on the mental and behavioral health of children and youth.

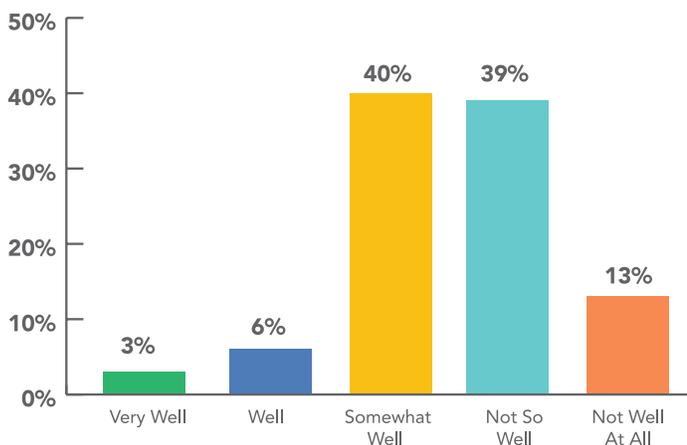
The top three programs and services to address mental and behavioral health needs among survey respondents and community visioning event attendees were:

- Affordable 1:1 Mental Health Counseling (In-person or Virtual)
- Access to Behavioral Health Services (e.g. anger management)
- Programs that address youth trauma and exposure to violence (later addressed in the Safety Section of this report).

Overall, mental and behavioral health needs were front and center throughout the community engagement process. Efforts and strategies to address mental and behavioral health needs will remain a priority in the next phase of this project: the development of the RFCY Strategic Investment Plan.

Mental Health Needs

Overall, how well do you think the mental health needs of youth are being met in Richmond?



² CHKS, Percent of youth under age 19 years insured by Medi-Cal (2022)

³ Kaiser Permanente Medical Center 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment.

6. RICHMOND CHILDREN AND YOUTH FIVE CORE NEEDS

B: PHYSICAL HEALTH & WELLNESS SECTION

The physical well-being of children and youth is strongly influenced by what public health experts refer to as social determinants of health (SDOH). These are “the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks.”¹ Access to quality health care, a living wage job, good schools, safe neighborhoods, affordable quality housing and living in a welcoming and thriving community – all make up the social determinants that impact one’s health.

If children grow-up in neighborhoods where they witness or hear gun shots, are exposed to lead or mold in run-down housing or exposure to pollution from traffic or industrial sites near dense neighborhoods, don’t have playgrounds or open space to safely play or exercise, lack access to dental and primary health care, or live in “food deserts” with limited access to affordable, healthy foods often over-populated with fast food paving a path towards obesity, their health will suffer. Living under these conditions fuels a constant state of stress that robs children and youth of physical well-being vital to their growing bodies and cognitive development.

Through focus groups with youth, parents and caregivers, school counselors and a general public survey, we explored whether or not children and youth are being impacted by these types of social determinants of health.

Childhood Opportunities Index (COI) and Health Indicators. As shown in the “Poverty and Childhood Opportunities Index” section of this report, 45% of children and youth live in neighborhoods of concentrated poverty. The overall rate of children and youth at 200% of FPL accounts for 37% impacted by poverty which is a social determinant of health. The COI measures physical health and health care access among four categories: Pollution, Healthy Environment, Safety Related Resources and Health Resources. Within these categories, the index includes

measuring factors such as air pollution, living near hazardous waste sites, how many fast-food chains vs. fresh produce, meats, fish grocery stores are in the neighborhood, walkability and open spaces, vacant housing, health care resources provided by non-profits and health insurance. Thus, those neighborhoods rated by the COI as “Very Low and Low” indicate low opportunities to foster and achieve physical well-being resulting from the high incidence of negative outcomes among the factors analyzed by the index.

Barriers to Access: Findings on Shortages

A consistent theme among the 400 voices we listened to during our community engagement, centered on access. Youth, parents, school counselors and survey respondents raised the need for better access to health care services and resources. And it’s no wonder. Beyond COI indicators verifying Richmond faces four shortage areas in health care that clearly explains why access to health care and health resources is significantly inadequate and is negatively impacting thousands of children and youth in Richmond. It also speaks as to why the “Resource Needs” described in this report is so wide when it comes to meeting the physical health needs of children and youth.²

RFCY awarded \$218,000 in grants addressing Basic Needs to 4 organizations during 2021-2023.

Richmond’s Four Designated Professional Health Shortage Areas

- **Medically Under-served Area (MUA)**
- **Primary Care Health Professional Shortage**
- **Mental Health Professional Shortage**
- **Dental Health Professional Shortage**

Source: CA Statewide Office of Health Planning & Development, 2024.

¹ <https://health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health>

² <https://www.transparentrichmond.org/stories/s/Quality-and-Accessible-Health-Homes-Services/y8gx-ywn5>

6. RICHMOND CHILDREN AND YOUTH FIVE CORE NEEDS

Two Resounding Themes. Among the hundreds of comments shared through the community engagement process and responses to multiple-choice questions exploring specific social determinants of health, two essential areas of needs related to physical health and access emerged.

(1) Healthy Food Access, Fitness & Nutrition Programs.

There is a strong interest within the Richmond community in finding ways to live more healthily. Ninety percent of survey respondents rate the need for access to affordable healthy foods as “Very High and High,” while eight out of ten rate the need for Food Banks and Food Vouchers at the same levels.

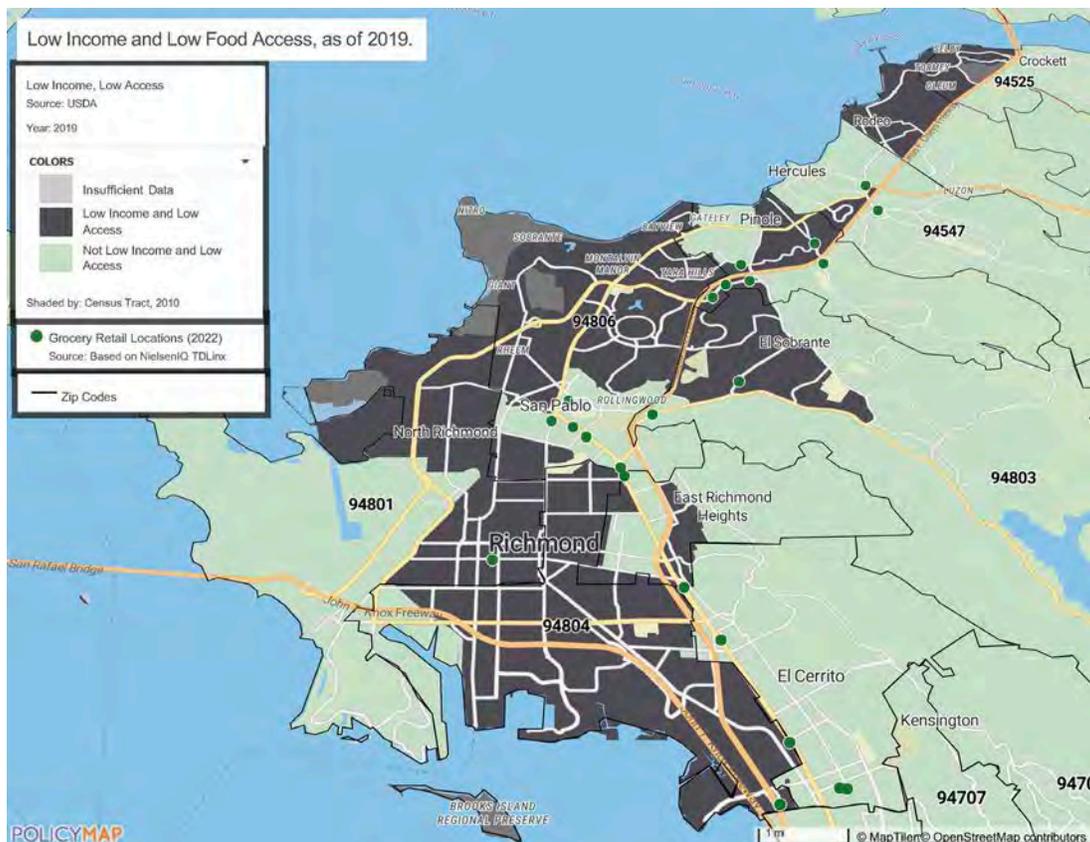
Eighty-six percent feel there’s a “Very High or High Need” for fitness and nutrition programs for youth while 84% feel the same way towards providing children and youth outdoor activities such as hiking, gardening and camping. Youth focus group participants voiced these same sentiments towards the high need for these types of healthy lifestyle programs. Youth want

to be more active outside and socialize in open spaces but are hesitant because they are not feeling safe in many neighborhoods. Parents and grandparents report keeping young children at home for the same concerns. This is discussed in more detail in the Safety, Community and Belonging section of this report.

One youth shared how her mother was forced to hold-off getting her an x-ray for an injured foot until she received her paycheck a week later.

(2) Access to Clinics, Urgent Care and Drug Awareness and Treatment Programs.

As with Mental and Behavioral Health, children and youth are mostly insured through Medi-Cal, however, the wait to getting into seeing a specialist can be long. Receiving



6. RICHMOND CHILDREN AND YOUTH FIVE CORE NEEDS

care at an Urgent Care Center can require a co-pay that a low-income individual or family can ill-afford. Overall, those responding to the survey expressed a “Very High and High” need for easily accessible free clinics and walk-in centers (86%) without long wait times. Focus group participants also felt the same while older youth favored the idea of being able to seek services and education on their own. Urgent Care was seen as a preferable way of receiving care without the necessity of going to an Emergency Department. Some respondents, however, express concerns that their insurance does not cover co-pays which they felt were rather high and pose a barrier to seeking urgent care.

One of the more concerning physical health issues facing children and youth, as cited by focus group youth and survey respondents, is the growing incidence of substance abuse, especially related to drugs. They raised concerns about the fentanyl crisis; Contra Costa County reported 181 deaths due to the drug, accounting for 15.6 deaths per 100,000 population in the past twelve months.³ Though this rate is low compared to other communities throughout the state, news reports about the dangers of this drug were alarming. It may explain why 85% of survey respondents, rate

“preventive education and awareness of drug usage (e.g. vaping)” as a “Very High or High Need.”

Not just older adults raised concerns about the growing use of vaping, but so did youth who were beginning to question, “if it’s really that safe” despite all the hype that it’s much better than smoking a cigarette. According to California School Climate, Health, and Learning Surveys, 11% of eleventh graders report electronic cigarette/vaping and 14% are using marijuana in Contra Costa County.⁴

Overall, the most overarching need raised by community members is addressing the multiple barriers to accessing health-related care and resources that will better enhance the physical well-being of Richmond’s children and youth. And that includes living in healthy neighborhoods.

85% rate drug prevention & education as a High Priority.

2024 RFCY Community Needs Assessment Survey



³ Data is preliminary for the last 12 months, as of 2023 Q1. County is based on place of residence. <https://calmatters.org/explainers/california-opioid-crisis/#1ceb3f93-f2a1-44fc-a556-4c039bd4861b>

⁴ <https://calschls.org/my-surveys/f882f1e2-dfc0-4448-b90b-f49cef6e6d3f/>

6. RICHMOND CHILDREN AND YOUTH FIVE CORE NEEDS

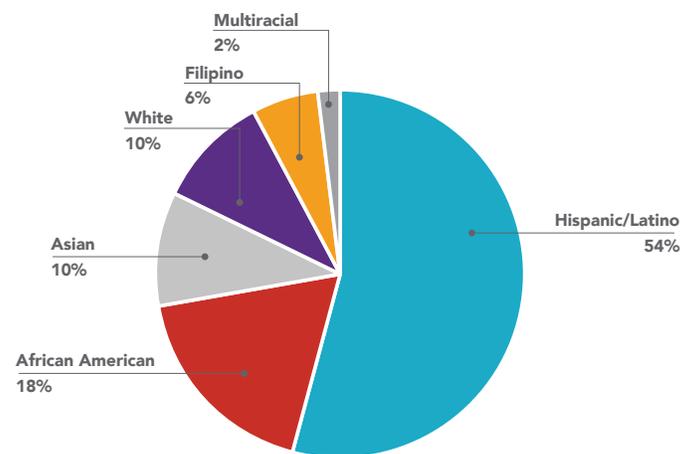
C. LEARNING NEEDS SECTION

Understanding Learning Needs. The scope of learning reviewed in preparation for this Community Needs Assessment spans a wide spectrum from pre-kindergarten, elementary, middle and high school to post-secondary education through youth 24 years of age. The learning needs of children and youth were also a leading discussion topic among focus group participants, survey respondents, key informants and Community Visioning event attendees.

Key learning benchmarks were identified and reviewed along this spectrum to assess whether children and youth are falling behind indicating a “learning need” to address. Needs were discussed along this learning spectrum providing deeper, lived-experience insights to the data and benchmarks reviewed.

The following information, data, benchmarks and insights from community members provide a fuller understanding as to the learning needs of Richmond’s children and youth.

Richmond’s Diverse Student Population. The West Contra Costa School District (WCCUSD) consists of 54 schools and serves a student population of 26,312 students.¹ Families in the school district speak more than 50 different languages²; 36% of students are English Language Learners. The district’s minority enrollment is 90% and 31% of students are economically disadvantaged.³



Pandemic-Related Learning Loss. Among over 100 youth attending focus groups, many shared how they’ve experienced learning loss and have found it challenging to make up for lost time. **Nearly 80% of survey respondents feel the learning loss due to COVID-19 is having a “Very High or High Impact” upon children and youth in Richmond.**

Access to Quality Childcare. Richmond has the largest number of children in Contra Costa County; more than half (53%) of the preschool-aged children countywide are income-eligible for subsidized preschool programs. Childcare providers, that receive funding for state and federally-subsidized childcare programs, served 40% of eligible preschool-aged children, **leaving the childcare and pre-school needs of 60% of eligible children unmet.**⁴ This unmet need is significantly greater than the 47% of unmet need cited in 2017.

¹ <https://www.usnews.com/education/k12/california/districts/west-contra-costa-unified-104246>

² <https://www.wccusd.net/domain/2594>

³ <https://www.usnews.com/education/k12/california/districts/west-contra-costa-unified-104246#:~:text=Students%20at%20West%20Contra%20Costa,Hawaiian%20or%20other%20Pacific%20Islander.>

⁴ https://cdsm5-ss16.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_1077313/File/Final%20Contra%20Costa%20County%20Child%20Care%20Needs%20Assessment%202022%20Report.pdf p. 10

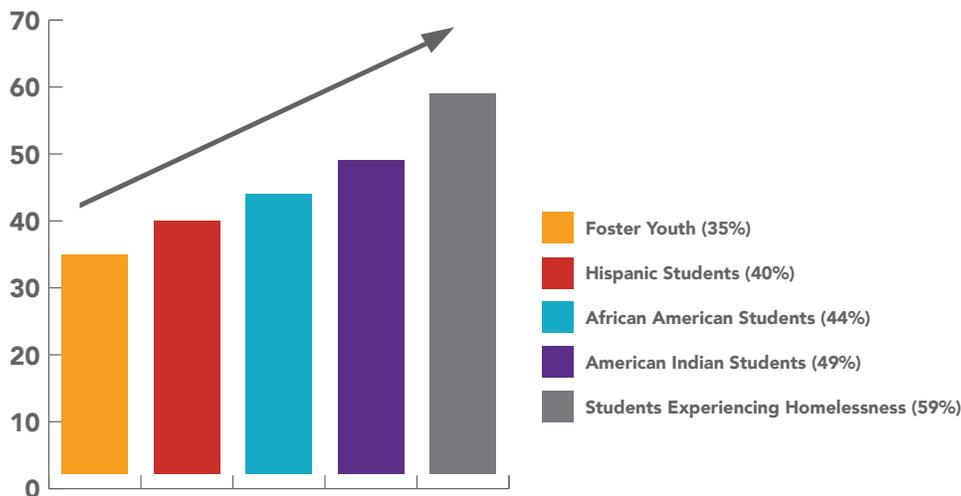
6. RICHMOND CHILDREN AND YOUTH FIVE CORE NEEDS

Readiness for Kindergarten. A School Readiness Assessment by the West County First Five Center, a non-profit family resource center for 0-5 year old children, found that only 29% of WCCUSD kindergartners are prepared for school.⁵ Forty-four percent of kindergartners are partially ready, and 27% are not ready for school. This is the most recent school readiness assessment available, but this data has not been updated since 2018. Notably, children born between September 2, 2019 and June 2, 2020 will be eligible for Universal Transitional Kindergarten (UTK), a new grade level preceding kindergarten that all children in California will be eligible for.⁶

Chronic Absenteeism. Chronic absenteeism is defined as the percentage of students who are absent more than 10% of instructional days they are enrolled. WCCUSD has a chronic absenteeism rate of 32% (2022-23). This is a marked improvement from the year prior (2021-2022) which was at 42% and influenced by the pandemic. However, the 2021-2022 rate was nearly double that of 2017-2018 (17%), suggesting that chronic absenteeism has not returned to pre-pandemic levels. Chronic absenteeism is highest among the following groups⁷:



CHRONIC ABSENTEE RATES



⁵ April 2018. Applied Survey Research. Ready or Not Here We Come: An Assessment of Kindergarten Readiness in Contra Costa County.

⁶ <https://cauniversalprek.org/families/>

⁷ [blob:https://caschooldashboard.org/7cfd0219-5919-4418-807a-39b9d6a72320](https://caschooldashboard.org/7cfd0219-5919-4418-807a-39b9d6a72320)

6. RICHMOND CHILDREN AND YOUTH FIVE CORE NEEDS

English Language Learners. Over one third (36%) of WCCUSD students are English Language Learners (ELL).⁸ The majority of ELL students speak Spanish (83%), however approximately 50 languages are represented among ELL students. About 40% made progress (increasing one level) on the English Language Proficiency exam in 2023 (down from 44% in 2022).⁹

Predictors of Future Success in School. Third grade literacy and eighth grade math proficiency are benchmarks used to predict how well a child will do throughout their school years. Both of these current benchmarks are below pre-pandemic levels in Richmond. In 2023, less than a third (29%) of third graders met or exceeded grade-level reading standards -- down from 32% in 2018-2019. A mere 14% of **8th graders** met or exceeded grade-level math standards.¹⁰

Disparities in Learning. There are significant disparities in academic achievement across student racial/ethnic groups in WCCUSD.

- In 2022-2023 only 20% of African American students and 21% of Hispanic students met or exceeded English Language Arts standards.
- Only 9% of African American students and 12% of Hispanic students met or exceeded mathematics standards.¹²

Prepared to Graduate. Nearly half of the graduating class of WCCUSD in 2023 (48 %) was **NOT** considered prepared for college or a career, according to the College/Career Indicator (CCI), one of several indicators used by the California Department of Education. Just over a third (34 %) were “prepared” and nearly one in five (18%) were “approaching prepared.”^{13 14}



HALF OF HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS ARE NOT PREPARED FOR COLLEGE OR CAREER.



⁸ <https://www.usnews.com/education/k12/california/districts/west-contra-costa-unified-104246#:~:text=Students%20at%20West%20Contra%20Costa,Hawaiian%20or%20other%20Pacific%20Islander.>

⁹ <https://www.caschooldashboard.org/reports/0761796000000/2023/academic-performance#english-learner-progress>

¹⁰ Ibid, 8th Grade Math Scores

¹¹ <https://webutil.csac.ca.gov/Dashboard/>

¹² <https://www.ed-data.org/district/Contra-Costa/West-Contra-Costa-Unified>

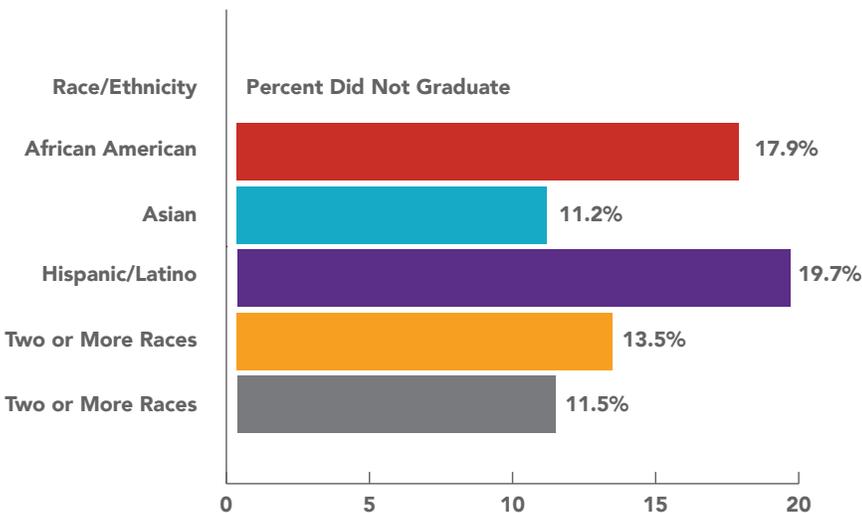
¹³ <https://www.caschooldashboard.org/reports/0761796000000/2023/academic-performance#college-career>

¹⁴ The College/Career Indicator (CCI) is one of several state indicators that the California Department of Education (CDE) reports on the California School Dashboard. It represents the percentage of high school graduates who are prepared for college or a career. This indicator is reported for any local educational agency (LEA) and high school that enrolls students in grade twelve.

6. RICHMOND CHILDREN AND YOUTH FIVE CORE NEEDS

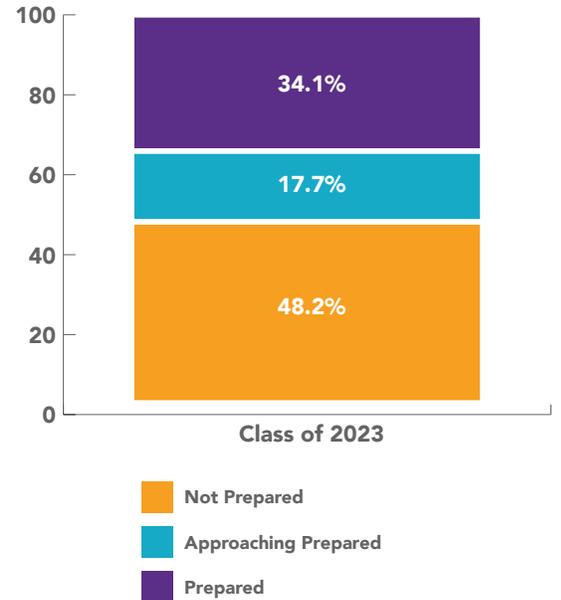
Graduation Rate. Graduation rates at WCCUSD have been relatively steady (84 - 86%) since 2018 except for the 2020-2021 school year during the pandemic.¹⁵ The graduation rate among students who attended high school together (cohort rate) was 85% in the 2022-2023 school year according to Ed Data Education Data Partnership ¹⁶

Racial/Ethnic Breakdown - Students Not Graduating Within 5 Years of Entering Ninth Grade¹⁷



College/Career

The percent of students in the Class of 2023 that qualify as Not Prepared, Approaching Prepared, and Prepared.



Groups of students at risk of not graduating with their high-school classmates are: Foster Care Youth (40%), Youth Experiencing Homelessness (26%), Socioeconomically Disadvantaged Youth (19%), English Language Learners (29%) and Students with Disabilities (43%).

¹⁵ <https://www.ed-data.org/district/Contra-Costa/West-Contra-Costa-Unified>

¹⁶ <https://www.ed-data.org/district/Contra-Costa/West-Contra-Costa-Unified>

¹⁷ <https://www.caschooldashboard.org/reports/0761796000000/2023/academic-engagement#graduation-rate>

6. RICHMOND CHILDREN AND YOUTH FIVE CORE NEEDS

Student Aid for College. In the West Contra Costa Unified School District, 65% of graduating high school seniors in 2023 submitted a FAFSA and 59% applied for Cal Grants.¹⁸ The percent of students that applied for CalGrants in WCCYSD is significantly lower than the 70% of WCCUSD students that applied for it a decade ago.¹⁹ Overall, 40% of students are not applying for financial aid. Most of those who aren't applying for financial aid fall into the category of the Priority Populations that RFCY addresses. These students have a high likelihood of qualifying for financial aid if they apply. This is a lost opportunity for these students who could receive assistance to attend college. This speaks to the fact that **85% of survey respondents cited a "Very High or High" need for "College and Career Prep Assistance."**

Key Areas of Need Identified. Overall, the learning needs of children and youth in Richmond are significant as demonstrated not only by facts and figures, but also through the more than 400 individuals who participated in this needs assessment and voiced their ideas and concerns regarding their needs.

Among the hundreds of responses and comments related to learning needs, these two areas surfaced:

(1) High Need for Career and College Preparation.

Schools were seen as under-resourced in helping students explore careers, learn how to prepare for those careers, and acquire training after graduating from high school. Youth interested in college, reported needing access to college preparatory courses and 1:1 guidance that assists them in searching for and applying to colleges along with finding financial aid. High-speed broadband for all ages was seen as strongly needed to support learning at home.

(2) High Need for Mentors, Parental Support, After School Programs, Summer Jobs and Camps. Nine out of ten survey respondents felt that each of these types of programs and initiatives are vital to support learning. Caring adult mentors, especially those who can relate and "look like me" were seen as crucial, for youth of color, Justice-Impacted Youth and LGBTQIA+ youth.

Ninety percent of survey respondents cite educating parents/caregivers on how to support children's learning needs as "Highly Needed." Teachers also felt that aiding parents in methods to further their child's learning is an extremely valuable partnership to form and skill to impart to parents and caring adults. Youth and adults would like to see additional after-school programs, summer camps and summer jobs for teens.

RFCY awarded \$1,136,150 in grants addressing Education, Employment, Training to 13 organizations during 2021-2023."

85 percent of survey respondents cited a "Very High or High" need for "College and Career Prep Assistance."

¹⁸ <https://webutil.csac.ca.gov/Dashboard/>

¹⁹ <https://webutil.csac.ca.gov/Dashboard/>

6. RICHMOND CHILDREN AND YOUTH FIVE CORE NEEDS

D. SAFETY, BELONGING AND COMMUNITY SECTION

A recurrent theme among those interviewed, focus group participants, and hundreds of survey respondents was that residents are proud to live in Richmond. While they embrace its diversity, sense of community, and believe in its promise, they are also aware of their city's challenges and are willing to roll up their sleeves to take them on.

Safety

Concerns about safety is one of the most pressing challenges raised by all groups engaged in this needs assessment. Youth made it very clear that they long for a community where everyone can feel safe *everywhere* in Richmond. When asked, "How much do you think youth worry about their safety in their neighborhoods," nearly all respondents believe youth are worried (95%) about safety.

Three out of four respondents believe that the "fear for safety," among children and youth is having a "Very High or High" impact on their well-being. It explains why 92% of respondents rate "Creating safe and quality spaces for 13-year plus age group" as a "Very High or High Need."

Major themes arising from open-ended survey comments and focus groups with youth include: varying levels of safety by neighborhoods, with some considered dangerous; youth viewing violence as *normal* due to their daily experiences; the urgent need to address the lack of safe, public spaces; inadequate safety in and around

schools; and the need for community policing to deter crime. They cautioned, however, against profiling racial and ethnic populations or justice-impacted youth.

In West Contra Costa County Unified School District **fewer** than half of high school students perceive their school as "safe" or "very safe," according to the 2023 California Healthy Kids Survey¹ (Only 43% of 9th graders, 38% of 10th graders, 42% of 11th graders, and 44 % of 12th graders said they felt safe at school.) While in 2023 the number of homicides in Richmond reached its lowest point in a generation, evidence also suggests that many youth in Richmond have experienced cumulative exposure to violence, specifically gun-violence over the past decade. Of the 2,300 gunshots fired in Richmond since 2013, 41% took place within a half-mile of a school, and 81% of those took place near an elementary school.



RFCY awarded \$339,625 in grants addressing Youth Violence Prevention to 5 organizations during 2021-2023.

“ 65 % say youth are “Extremely or Very Worried” about safety in their neighborhoods. ”

— RFCY Community Needs Assessment Survey 2024.

¹ <https://www.caschooldashboard.org/reports/0761796000000/2023/conditions-and-climate#priority6>

6. RICHMOND CHILDREN AND YOUTH FIVE CORE NEEDS

“There have been many incidents involving gang disputes, physical altercations, and drug sales around and even within my school campus. Just recently, there had been a shooting in front of my school campus which had left many of my fellow students appalled.”

— Youth Survey Respondent, RFCY
Community Needs Assessment Survey 2024

The campuses with the most incidents nearby were those in neighborhoods with lower median incomes than the rest of the city, census data showed. One elementary school has seen an average of six nearby shootings per year over the past decade.²

According to the 2021 National Community Survey (NCS) 73% of people in Richmond say they feel safe in their neighborhood during the day and 43% say they feel safe in the commercial/downtown area during the day. Fewer people report feeling safe in their Richmond community than 99% of communities surveyed nationally.

Crime Trends in Richmond

Richmond recorded eight homicides in 2023, — the fewest since officials started keeping track in 1971. This represents a 64% reduction from the 22 homicides the city recorded in 2020 and a 56 % reduction from the 18 logged each during both 2021 and 2022. This is consistent with nationwide trends, with major U.S. metro areas reporting a roughly 12% decrease in 2023.³ Four types of crimes that increased over the last year are: burglaries at 30%; vehicle theft at 18%; robberies and aggravated assault each at 10%. Decrease in types of crime were seen in Larceny Theft (29 %) and sexual assault (12%) while the remaining crimes showed slight decreases.

Crime Trends in Richmond 2021-2023⁴

Year Over Year Crime Statistics

YEAR OVER YEAR	2021	2022	2023
Homicide	18	18	8
Sexual Assault	86	86	100
Robbery	243	258	298
Aggravated Assault	832	857	941
Burglary	311	262	343
Larceny-Theft	1,849	1,993	1,696
Vehicle Theft	1,044	1,068	1,258
Arson	44	34	30
Index Crime Totals	4,471	4,604	4,674

Source: Richmond Police Department

² <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2023/jun/26/children-gun-violence-schools-bay-area-ptsd-richmond-california>

³ AH Datalytics. <https://www.ahdatalytics.com/dashboards/ytd-murder-comparison/>

⁴ <https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/4010/Crime-Statistics-Reports>

6. RICHMOND CHILDREN AND YOUTH FIVE CORE NEEDS

Police Use of Force

Justice-impacted youth and young adults between the ages of 18-24 years are considered Priority Populations by the Richmond Fund for Children and Youth. Justice-impacted youth are those who “are at risk of being incarcerated or have been formally incarcerated, have had a sibling, parent or extended family member impacted by the justice system, or have been arrested, convicted or involved in the juvenile justice system. All too often, they have “been affected by law enforcement to the point where such an involvement has altered their life.”⁵

Justice-impacted youth are also more at-risk of experiencing encounters with police, especially those living in poor communities and are youth of color.⁶ In a focus group with justice-impacted youth for this needs assessment, participants expressed concerns over interactions with police that had or could evolve into use of force.

From 2018 to 2022 the number of annual arrests made by Richmond Police Department fell by 58% from 2,376 arrests to 999 arrests and use of force fell by 23%. In 2021 and 2022 the use of force rate per one hundred arrests averaged about 10%, a significant increase from the two years prior that averaged six percent.⁷

Three demographic groups (gender, race, and age) made up **half** of all use of force subjects: Black and Hispanic males between 18 and 39 years of age.

Insights from Justice-Impacted Youth Focus Group

In a focus group of 22 justice-impacted youth, participants shared experiences of being unfairly targeted by law enforcement. They believe race factors into why they are pulled over for traffic stops and that they are treated differently due to their involvement with the justice system. They shared that they value programs that support them in moving away from or steering clear of gang culture in Richmond. Mentors that have “walked in their shoes” are extremely important to them. They are concerned about limited job opportunities, low

Most Common Characteristics of Use of Force Subjects 2018 – 2022

GENDER	RACE	AGE	NUMBER OF SUBJECTS	% OF FORCE INCIDENTS
Male	Black	18-39	161	26%
Male	Hispanic	18-39	147	24%
All Other Demographic Groups & Unknown		18-39	302	50%
Total			610	100%

Source: Richmond Police Department

wages and the need for more vocational training and employment. They feel that there’s a need for greater community collaboration to ensure safe communities, foster unity and reduce violence. Access to education, social services, and mental health counseling focused on helping them cope with the amount of violence they’ve experienced; substance abuse counseling and treatment are all vitally needed. They would also like to know their rights when approached by police officers.

“PTSD is one of the biggest causes of stress for us.”

— Focus Group Participant

⁵ <https://www.csusb.edu/educational-opportunity-center/information-resources/justice-impacted-students>

⁶ <https://www.lscac.org/data-research/research/justice-impacted-individuals-pipeline-national-exploration-law-school>

⁷ <https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/65620/Second-Summary-Use-of-Force-Report---Richmond-PD---April-2023?bidId=>

6. RICHMOND CHILDREN AND YOUTH FIVE CORE NEEDS

Belonging

Children and youth thrive from a feeling of belonging among their family and friends, their neighborhoods, schools, and community. A true sense of belonging requires appreciation for who someone is and not being seen through a lens of harmful stereotypes. As one justice-impacted youth, who wasn't made to feel like he belonged, put it: "The way they see me is how they treat me."

Article 15 tasks RFCY with identifying and addressing the needs of vulnerable priority populations among children and youth in Richmond. To better understand their needs, sense of belonging and perspectives, focus groups were held with priority populations youth and one survey question asked, "How well do you think the needs of the following groups of youth are being met?"

The chart below shows seven such groups illustrating that 50% of over 200 survey respondents felt that Justice-Impacted and LGBTQIA+ youth's needs are **not** being met. (Not so Well and Not Well at All) as are the needs of African-American youth (44%), Immigrant Family Youth (33%) and Latinx, Asian and Second Language Youth at (30%).

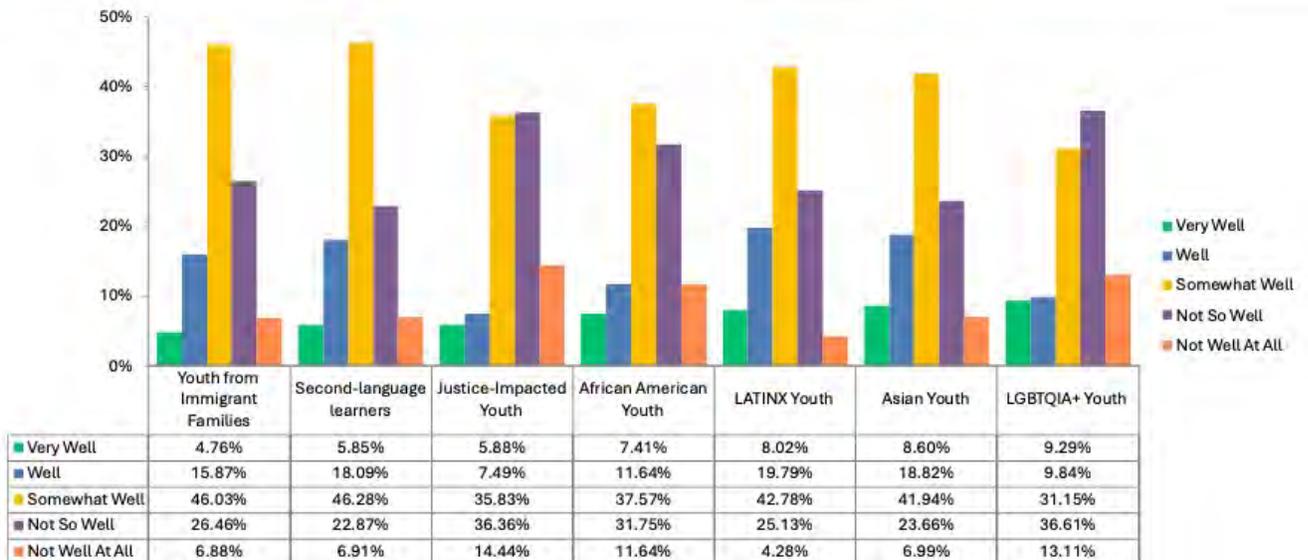
All priority population groups face the five categories of needs presented in this report, each struggling with their unique challenges and often navigating them alone.

“As one justice-impacted youth, who wasn't made to feel like he belonged, put it: "The way they see me is how they treat me."”



Priority Youth Populations

How well do you think the needs of the following groups of Youth are being met?



6. RICHMOND CHILDREN AND YOUTH FIVE CORE NEEDS

Two Other Populations in Need of Belonging & Support

Two vulnerable populations are discussed throughout the 2024 Community Needs Assessment:

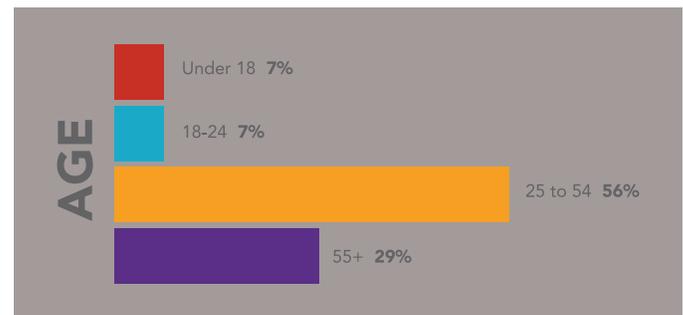
Disconnected Youth are defined as youth between 18 and 24 years of age who are out of school, are on their own without jobs or support and/or have transitioned out of the Foster Care System. These youth require a great deal of support as they transition into adulthood. One of the most highly needed services they require is training and job placement along with support in gaining a secondary education should they want to pursue it. They also need assistance in securing stable housing, mentoring and support from a caring adult.

Youth Experiencing Homelessness are those without a stable sleeping/living arrangement or living in shelters. This includes what is referred to as “hidden homelessness,” for example, when a single mom and her children repeatedly live for short stays at friends or relatives; often disrupting where the children attend school.

The most current count of people experiencing homelessness in Contra Costa County is 2,843 persons, marking an increase from 2,372 persons in 2023. Among those numbers, Richmond shows a decrease from the year prior while the East County accounts for most of the increases. This number is a result of the Point in Time (PIT) Count taken of people experiencing homelessness on a given night in the County. This count is a nationwide initiative of the federal Housing and Urban Development agency.

As illustrated below, 14% of the homeless population were under the age of 24, and half of these individuals (7%) were under the age of 18.⁸ The number of younger persons experiencing homelessness has increased by 2% since 2023.

Students who are experiencing homelessness are at greater risk of underperforming in school largely due to high rates of chronic absenteeism. Nearly sixty percent (59%) of unhoused students in 2023 attending WCCUSD were chronically absent placing them at significant risk of not graduating or moving up to the next grade-level.⁹



Source: West Contra Costa Point in Time Count 2024

In a focus group to gather insights from youth and families experiencing homelessness, several needs were identified: accessing basic necessities such as transportation, laundry services, clothing and food; mental health support for youth struggling with depression and anxiety due to being without a stable homelife and the stigma of being unhoused; loss of access to school activities and remaining with their peers when they've moved out of the school district; and the impact of their family's loss of income due to COVID-19.

⁸ West Contra Costa County Point in Time Count 2024, <https://www.cchealth.org/home/showpublisheddocument/30271/638525089151900000>

⁹ <https://www.cde.ca.gov/homelessyouth.asp>

6. RICHMOND CHILDREN AND YOUTH FIVE CORE NEEDS

Building Community

One of the most popular types of programs that youth and parents view as valuable in both fostering child and youth development and building “community” are neighborhood and community centers that offer multiple enrichment programs (performing arts, music, STEM programs) along with social, sports and recreational activities. They envision these centers also offering programs and resources for parents and families that uplift the whole family, often times intergenerational families, in raising their children and youth.

These would include services to help parents navigate social and health care services, parenting classes, or teach caring adults how to help children with homework. Youth in focus groups spoke highly of the multi-purpose neighborhood centers that exist in Richmond but say waiting lists and transportation issues prevent youth from participating. Affordable after-school programs, summer camps and summer jobs for youth also rate high in need.

85% rate the need for neighborhood centers as “Very High or High Need.”

At the Community Needs Assessment Visioning Event involving over 70 community members and youth, there was high interest in creating community events with residents and families throughout the year and in using locations throughout the city to build a stronger sense of community all over Richmond.

RFCY awarded \$1,361,200 in grants addressing After School Sports, & Enrichment to 18 organizations during 2021-2023



7. RESOURCE NEEDS: CURRENT STATE

E. CONNECTIVE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES SECTION

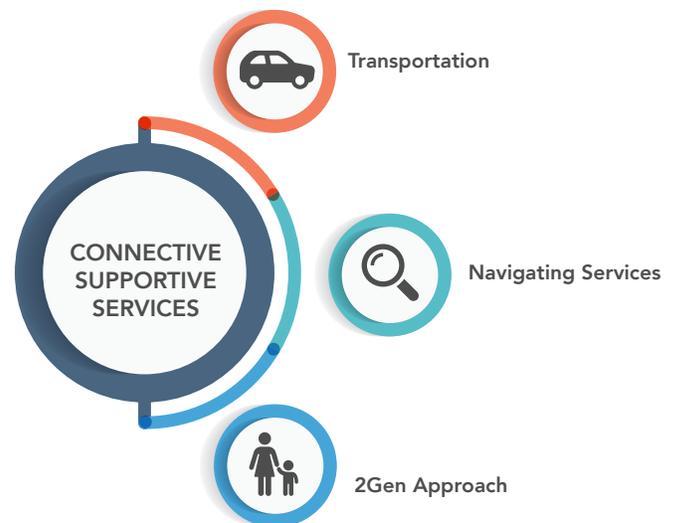
Throughout the entire community engagement process with over 400 individuals sharing insights on needs of Richmond's children and youth, three connective and overarching needs stand out:

1. Transportation. The need for transportation to connect families and individuals to jobs, schools, childcare, job training, education, health care and after-school programs that enrich their children is central to moving beyond poverty. Most low-income individuals and families can't afford reliable transportation and if they do, can't afford costly car repairs. Public transportation isn't conducive to schedules when juggling getting to childcare, jobs and after-school programs. This may explain why only 10% of workers in Richmond use public transportation to get to their jobs while 63% drive alone.¹ Youth often cited that there are neighborhood centers and programs they'd love to attend but there's no reliable source of transportation that allows them to get there from school and then back home. As a result, they simply don't have access to these valuable resources that could enrich their lives.

2. Navigation Support. There is a need to assist families and individuals in navigating social services, housing, educational services and health care delivery systems that could connect them to resources needed to address the numerous challenges they face. Parents and grandparents who attended the "Parent and Caregiver" focus group raised this as a very high need. They find that the eligibility criteria and application process to receive services is complex and overwhelming with every organization demanding its own set of requirements. It is a time-consuming task to track down much-needed resources, determine whether you're eligible and then provide the documents required to apply. This is why participants at the Community Needs Assessment Visioning event

viewed the idea of "Developing a city-wide universal application for health and social services" as a high priority.

3. It Takes Two Generations. There is a need for children and youth service providers and organizations to embrace a multi-generational approach (2-GEN) to support children and youth. This approach is based on the premise that if they uplift parents, they uplift children. Two-generation (2Gen) approaches "build family well-being by intentionally and simultaneously working with children and the adults in their lives together. 2Gen begins with the mindset that by designing pathways to educational and economic success that support children and families together, the resulting structure is stronger and better for both generations."² For example, if a center offers teens socio-recreational activities and homework help, they could arrange for assistance with resume writing, job-hunting or financial literacy to their parents to ensure the whole family's economic security. The 2Gen approach engages all organizations working with children to think of offering services that promote a family's well-being which secures the well-being of every member in it and community as a whole. This 2-Gen approach includes grandparents raising grandchildren, as well.



RFYC awarded \$300,000 in grants addressing Information, Guidance, & Case Management to 5 organizations during 2021-2023

¹ U.S. Census Bureau. "Selected Economic Characteristics." American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles, Table DP03, 2022, https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP5Y2022.DP03?g=040XX00US06_160XX00US0660620. Accessed on March 16, 2024.

² https://ascend.aspeninstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Ascend_FactSheet_2Gen_1.18.2024.pdf

7. RESOURCE NEEDS: CURRENT STATE

Child and Youth Community-Based Services in Richmond: The Current State

The City of Richmond seeks to ensure that all children and youth within the community are given the resources and opportunities they need to thrive, prosper, and grow within their vibrant and diverse hometown. One way of addressing those needs is through organizations from the public, private, non-profit, education and faith-based sectors offering a wide-range of quality services to children, youth and their families.

The 2022 Resource Guide that the Richmond Department of Children and Youth (RDCY) developed following the 2020 Community Needs Assessment and the Strategic Investment Plan for Fiscal Years 2021-2024, provides a framework of what the community-based services delivery system for children and youth looks like in Richmond. This is especially relevant to RFCY's focus on providing funds to community-based organizations seeking to enhance the lives of children and youth.

The goal of the guide is in response to community members needing a centralized list of organizations to easily find basic information on what resources and services are available to address their needs. Organizations have also found it useful as an "Information & Referral" guide for the youth and families they serve and as a means of learning about other organizations with which they can partner and collaborate to better serve their constituencies.

The 2022 RDCY Resource Guide identified 52 organizations that offer services to Richmond children and youth and their families. The Resource Guide provides the following information for each listed organization: name, address, phone number, description of services, age group, and link to its website. Among the 52 organizations listed in the Resource Guide, one-third are in the Health and Well Being Category and nearly one-quarter in the Education and Job Training Category while about ten percent are in each of the remaining Category.

The 2022 RDCY Resource Guide

CATEGORY	NUMBER OF ORGANIZATIONS	PERCENT OF ORGANIZATIONS
Health and Well Being	17	32.7%
Education and Job Training	12	23.1%
Media, Arts, and Culture	6	11.5%
Youth & Family Leadership/Organizing and Civic Engagement	5	9.6%
Outdoor Education and Recreation	5	9.6%
Parent and Guardian Support	7	13.5%
TOTAL	52	100%

A list of the 52 organizations in the Resource Guide by Priority Area is shown in Appendix C.

7. RESOURCE NEEDS: CURRENT STATE

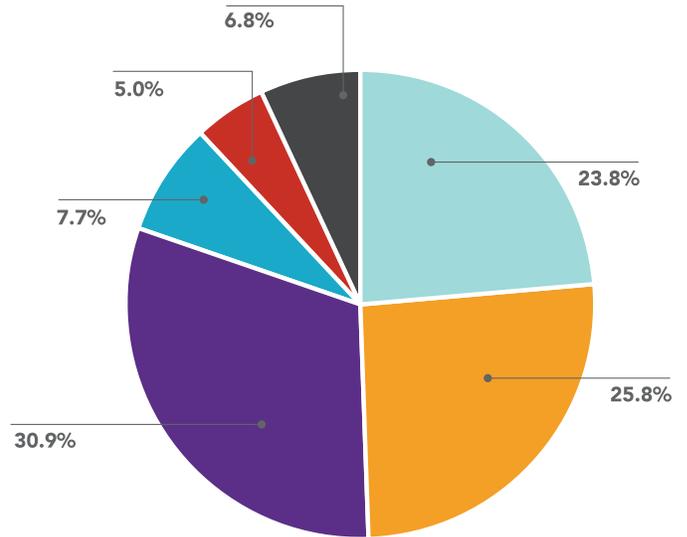
RFCY COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS

In response to the needs identified by RFCY in its previous 2020 Community Needs Assessment, the Fund has invested nearly 4.5 million dollars into services, programs and activities within Richmond. These have been delivered through non-profit community-based organizations to address needs identified by the community and cited in Article XV among the following six priority areas: School Time, After School, Sports & Enrichment; Employment/Training Support; Behavioral Health, Mental Health and Wellness; Youth Violence Prevention; Information, Guidance & Case Management; and Access to Basic Needs.

**\$4.5 million dollars
invested in children
& youth programs.**

In the three years following the 2020 Community Needs Assessment and the development of the Strategic Investment Plan, RFCY has awarded 55 grants to community organizations ranging from \$15,000 to \$150,000. The largest number of grants was awarded in the areas of: School Time, After School, Sports & Enrichment (18); Employment/Training Support (13); and Behavioral Health, Mental Health and Wellness (10). The remaining three areas were awarded four to five grants over the past three years: Youth Violence Prevention (5); Information, Guidance & Case Management (5); and Access to Basic Needs (4).

RFCY DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTS 2021-2023



	Behavioral Health, Mental Health & Wellness: Number Of Grants & Range: 10 Grants Range: \$41,000-\$150,000 Total: \$1,045,923
	Education Support & Employment/Training Support: Number Of Grants & Range: 13 Grants Range: \$22,000-\$150,000 Total: \$1,136,150
	Out-Of-School Time, After School, Sports & Enrichment: Number Of Grants & Range: 18 Grants Range: \$15,000-\$150,000 Total: \$1,361,200
	Youth Violence Prevention: Number Of Grants & Range: 5 Grants Range: \$35,000-\$100,000 Total: \$339,625
	Basic Needs: Number Of Grants & Range: 4 Grants Range: \$25,000-\$75,000 Total: \$218,004
	Info, Guidance, Case Management: Number Of Grants & Range: 5 Grants Range: \$20,000-\$110,000 Total: \$300,000
Number Of Grants & Range: 55 Grants \$15k – 150k Total Amount: \$4,400,902 Percent Of Total Funds Awarded: 100%	

7. RESOURCE NEEDS: CURRENT STATE

To appreciate the breadth and type of organizations receiving funds from RFCY to address the multi-faceted needs of Richmond’s children and youth, the following table presents the names of organizations receiving grants from RFCY by Priority Area and Year. It was very common to hear youth and survey respondents identify their participation in programs offered by these organizations and they did so in a very positive light.

RFCY GRANTEE ORGANIZATIONS

PRIORITY AREA	2021	2022	2023
1. Behavioral Health, Mental Health and Wellness	Familias Unidas	Mindful Life Project	West County Mandarin School;
	Early Childhood Mental Health Program	New Life Movement	Greater Richmond Interfaith Group (GRIP)
	Seneca Family of Agencies	Bay Service Area Community Services	Richmond Community Foundation (RCF)
			Bay Area Community Resources;
2. Education Support & Employment/ Training Support	College is Real (CIR)	Richmond Art Center	Bridges from School to Work;
	Urban Tilth	The Watershed Project	Improve Your Tomorrow
	Richmond Build	Things That Creep	Healthy Contra Costa
	Richmond Promise		City of Richmond Employment & Training
	Black Fighters Association (BFA)		Richmond Public Library
3. Out-of-School Time, After School, Sports & Enrichment	Youth Code Now	The Practice Space	Social Progress Inc. (SPI)
	West County Digs	Pogo Park	Easter Hill United Methodist Church
	East Bay Center for the Performing Arts	Aim High for High School	ABLE Community Development Foundation
	RYSE	Rosie the Riveter Trust	Community Services-Recreation
	Rosie the Riveter Trust	D.R.E.A.M. Financial Academy	Envisioneers Inc.
	Community Services Department Recreation	Oshiana Unique Thompkins Foundation	Community Education Partnerships
4. Youth Violence Prevention	Project Avery	Fresh Lifelines for Youth (FLY)	Richmond Police Activities League
	Community Violence Solutions		
	Child Abuse Prevention Council of CCC		
5. Access to Basic Needs	Richmond Promise	Fresh Approach	None
	18 Reasons	Greater Richmond Interfaith Program (GRIP)	
6. Information, Guidance & Case Management	None	Contra Costa Youth Service Bureau	Youth Finance Institute of America (YFIA);

7. RESOURCE NEEDS: CURRENT STATE

Resource Gaps: Current State

Overall, the Richmond community offers a wide array of programs and services focused on strengthening and enhancing children, youth and their families. Centers that offer comprehensive enrichment, recreational, sports and performing arts programs are highly regarded by parents and youth, alike. So are the many programs listed in the Resource Guide featuring what 52 community-based organizations offer in the community.

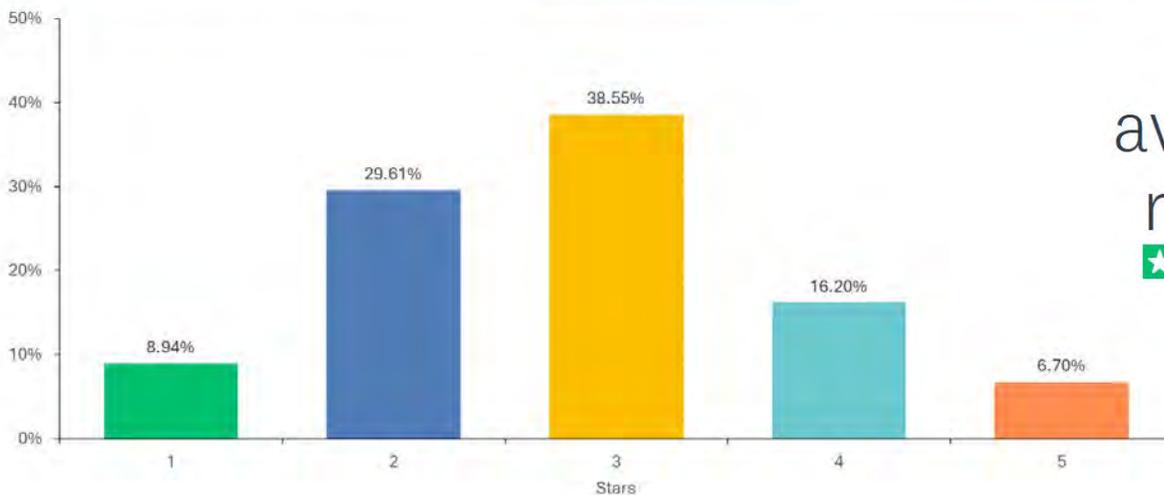
Yet, despite all the good works and initiatives being provided, community members feel there's substantial work that remains in meeting the needs identified and reviewed in this 2024 Community Needs Assessment.

Overall Rating on Meeting Needs of Children and Youth. Survey respondents were asked using a five-star rating with five as best and one as least, "Overall, how many stars would you give the Richmond community in meeting the needs of children and youth?" Nearly 40% gave a 1 or 2 star rating, while an equal number gave a 3 star rating. Nineteen percent chose a 4 or 5 star rating. The weighted average among all ratings yielded 3 stars.



Ratings

Overall, how many stars would you give the Richmond community in meeting the needs of children and youth? (One star being the lowest and five the highest).



3★
average
rating
★★★★★
(2.7)

Source: 2022 RDCY Resource Guide.

Source: COI – Child Opportunity Index for Richmond Census Tracts.

*Health & Wellness has 11 Richmond-based organizations; however, one of them only has a mailbox for an address; no census tract was identified for this organization.

**The census tract list cites 3690.02.

7. RESOURCE NEEDS: CURRENT STATE

Many of the open-ended comments throughout the survey suggest that community members and youth participating in focus groups find the services that are available helpful and believe there's a genuine commitment among organizations and civic leaders to meet the needs of children and youth. The problem is that the needs of children and youth are significant, escalating and remain unmet because the demand for services and resources exceeds the supply. The stark number of "Very Low" and "Low" Childhood Opportunity Index neighborhoods, the high concentration of poverty census tracts, a near 40% poverty rate (200% FPL) among children and youth, and Richmond's four separate designations as *Medically Under-served Area (MUA)*, *Primary Care Health Professional*, *Dental Health Professional*, and *Mental Health Professional* shortage areas are all indicative as to why demand for services is so difficult to meet.¹ This is especially true among the two core areas of Mental & Behavioral Health Needs and Physical Health & Access Needs.

This overall "Resource Gap" impacts all five of the Core Categories of Needs identified in this report. Addressing them will require— not one program or category at a time – but a systemic community-wide level to create a collective impact.

What does this mean? The Richmond Fund for Children and Youth in its role as a catalyst and convener, could bring together community-based organizations, anchor institutions like medical centers, major employers, and the school district along with fellow City departments to identify how they can find ways to collaborate to maximize the resources each brings to bear on the Five Core Needs.

To close the Resource Gap, it will be vital to collectively strategize, invest, and develop ways to stretch dollars and find new sources of funding through collaborative efforts such as grant writing and partnerships. Addressing the core need of "Connective Supportive Services" is also essential. Additionally, solving the

RICHMOND CHILDREN AND YOUTH FIVE CORE NEEDS



access barrier posed by lack of transportation, which prevents youth from attending after-school programs, summer camps, clubs, sports, STEM, music, and arts programs, will require a systemic response to achieve a community-wide impact.

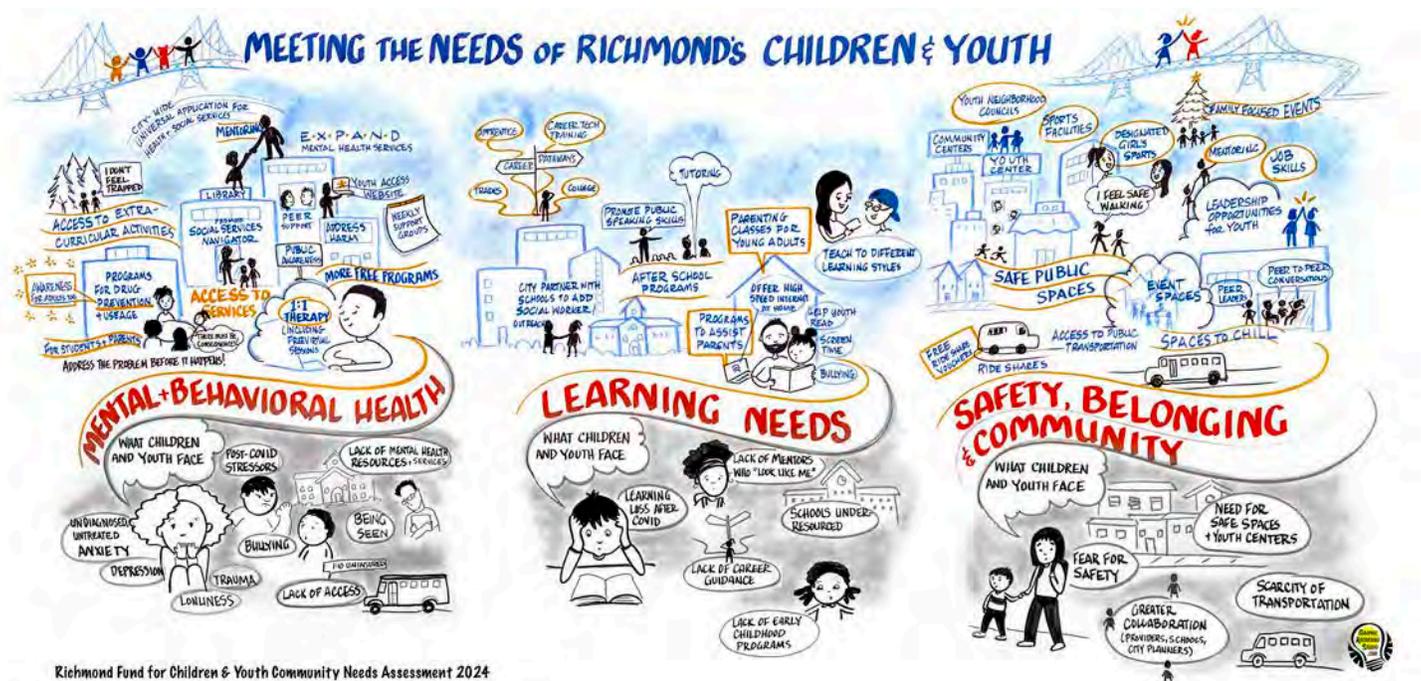
The City of Richmond recognizes that needs persist and are substantial and require continuous investment. The next phase of this project is to develop a *Strategic Investment Plan* that will explore, analyze and recommend steps in achieving collective impact through prudently investing in programs, services and systemic solutions that reduce the Resource Gap and Five Core Needs described throughout this Community Needs Assessment.

¹ CA Office of Statewide Health Planning & Development: <https://www.transparentrichmond.org/stories/s/Quality-and-Accessible-Health-Homes-Services/y8gx-ywn5>

8. ENVISIONING IDEAS TO ADDRESS NEEDS: NEXT STEPS

The energy, commitment, resilience and innovative ideas generated from community members and youth participating at the Community Visioning Event, gives every indication that community members are up for the challenge in addressing the core needs reviewed in this Community Needs Assessment. And they believe in the promise and aspirations of Richmond's children and youth despite the resource gaps in the community. The mural below is a testament to the innovative and thoughtful ideas generated by over 70 community members to change the course of the resource gap impacting children and youth in Richmond. During the next phase of this project, RFCY will engage the consulting team of Public Works LLC to facilitate the development of a Strategic Investment Plan to address the needs assessed in this report, including those that involve the connectivity issues of navigation of services, transportation and "2generational" programs that holistically uplift families as a means of supporting

children. The plan will also identify benchmarks and outcomes to guide the application and award process of RFCY grant-making to assure that the programs it chooses to fund realizes a return-on-investment worthy of Richmond's most treasured resource – its children and youth.



9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Richmond Department of Children and Youth deeply values the participation of Richmond community members and interest holders in the collaborative creation of the 2020 Community Needs Assessment Report. Special thanks go to the youth, parents, guardians, and service providers who contributed their insights. Their input was crucial in shaping a vision where children, youth, and families in Richmond and North Richmond are equipped with the opportunities and resources they need to thrive.

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Community Needs Assessment Partners

City of Richmond West Contra Costa Unified School District
Department
Fresh Lifelines for Youth
Contra Costa Youth Service Bureau
The Practice Space
Community Health For Asian Americans (CHAA)
West County DIGS - Mira Vista School
City of Richmond YouthWORKS
West Coast Chess Alliance
Things That Creep
YES Parent Fellows
Love Your Block
Mira Vista School of Art
Park Plaza Neighborhood Council

The Watershed Project
Literacy for Every Adult Program (LEAP)
College is Real
Social Progress Inc
Richmond Fire Youth Academy
The Berkeley Baby Book Project
Science Adventures for Girls
Mindful Life Project
Fierce Advocates
Seneca Family of Agencies
RYSE
Yes Nature to Neighborhoods
East Bay Center of the Performing Arts
West Contra Costa Public Education Fund (WestEd Fund)
New Life Movement
Familias Unidas
Greater Richmond Interfaith Program (GRIP)
Early Childhood Mental Health Program
Latina Center
Family Justice Center
Richmond Police Activities League
City of Richmond Office of Neighborhood Safety
Life-Long Medical Center
POGO Park
Bay Area Rescue Mission
Fresh Approach
18 Reasons
City of Richmond Library Department
NIAD
Men & Women of Valor
GroundWork Richmond
Urban Tilth
Contra Costa County Independent Living Skills Program

Richmond City Council

Mayor Eduardo Martinez
Vice Mayor Claudia Jimenez
Council Member Soheila Bana
Council Member Gayle McLaughlin
Council Member Doria Robinson
Council Member Melvin Willis
Council Member Cesar Zepeda

Appendix A:

diversitydatakids.org

data for a diverse and equitable future

Child Opportunity Index (COI) by Domain, Subdomain, Indicators

EDUCATION		HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT		SOCIAL & ECONOMIC	
SUBDOMAIN (4)	INDICATOR (12)	SUBDOMAIN (4)	INDICATOR (13)	SUBDOMAIN (6)	INDICATOR (19)
Early childhood education	Private pre-K enrollment	Pollution	Airborne microparticles	Employment	Employment Rate
	Public pre-K enrollment		Ozone concentration		High-skill employment rate
Elementary education	Reading and math test scores		Industrial pollutants in air, water or soil		Employment
	Reading and math test score growth	Hazardous waste dump sites	Median household income		
	Poverty-adjusted reading and math test scores	Healthy environment	Fast food restaurant density	Poverty rate	
Secondary and post-secondary education	Advanced Placement course enrollment		Healthy food retailer density	Public assistance rate	
	College enrollment in nearby institutions		Extreme heat exposure	Socioeconomic inequity	Adults with advanced degrees
	High school graduation rate	Access to Open Spaces	Very-high income households		
Educational resources	Adult education attainment	Healthy environment	Community safety-related non-profits		Adults without high school degrees
	Child enrichment-related non-profits		Healthy environment	Vacant housing	Very-low income households
	Teacher experience	Health resources		Health-related non-profits	Housing resources
	Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunches		Health insurance coverage		
				Social resources	Mobility-enhancing friendship networks
					Single-parent families
					Non-profit organizations
					Wealth
				Aggregate home values	
				Aggregate capital income	
				Aggregate real estate taxes	

Source: Diversity Data Kids.Org

To learn about the Child Opportunity Domains, Subdomains, Indicators and their definitions, please go to <https://www.diversitydatakids.org/research-library/child-opportunity-index-30-indicators>

Appendix B: Community Engagement Learnings

1. Summary and Survey Results
2. RFCY Survey Template

Appendix C: 2022 RDCY Resource Guide List of Organizations by Priority Areas/ Domains

Health and Well Being

18 Reasons
Brighter Beginnings
Child Abuse Prevention Council of Contra Costa County (CABC)
Multicultural Institute
Project Marc
Rotacare Bay Area
Rubicon Programs Inc. (Reentry Success Center)
Ryse Center
Shelter Inc.
The Latina Center
The Pinkney Foundation
Urban Tilth
West County Digs
West County Digs (Earth Island Institute)
YMCA of the East Bay
James Morehouse Project
Greater Richmond Interfaith Program (GRIP)

Media, Arts and Culture

Big Picture Anthems
East Bay Center for the Performing Arts
The Quinan Street Project
Los Cenzontles Cultural Arts Academy
Maya's Music Therapy Fund
Rosie the Riveter Trust

Outdoor Education and Recreation

Wheelhouse Academy of Baseball
Hercules Running Rebels
It Takes A Village Resource Center
Lead2Play
Mira Vista (elementary) PTA

Education and Job Training

10,000 Degrees
After-School All Stars Bay Area
Bay Area Community Resources (BACR)
Bright Future Growth and Development Center
Calculus Roundtable
City of Richmond- Library and Cultural Services
City of Richmond - Youth Works
Coco Kids, Inc.
College is Real, Inc.
Desarrollo Familias Unidas
Girls, Inc. Of West Contra Costa
Go Public Schools

Youth & Family Leadership/Organizing and Civic Engagement

Fierce Advocates (Formerly, BBK)
Healthy Richmond Schools and Neighborhoods Action Team (SNAT)
Raising Youth Resilience
Richmond Community Foundation (SPARKPOINT)
Safe Return Project

Parent and Guardian Support

Contra Costa County First Five: Richmond Center
Contra Costa Family Justice Center
Dreamcatchers Empowerment Network
Rich City Rides
Tandem, Partners in Early Learning
West Contra Costa Public Education Fund (West County Reads)
West Contra Costa Unified School District - Expanded Learning

Source: 2022 RDCY Resource Guide.

APPENDIX

Appendix D: Richmond Based Community Organizations Census Tract Analysis by Priority Area

CENSUS TRACTS	COI LEVEL BY CENSUS TRACT	PERCENT OF CHILDREN IN POVERTY	NUMBER OF ORGANIZATIONS BY CENSUS TRACT	HEALTH & WELLNESS (11)*	EDUCATION & JOB TRAINING (6)	MEDIA, ARTS, CULTURE & TECHNOLOGY (2)	YOUTH & FAMILY LEADERSHIP AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT (3)	OUTDOOR EDUCATION & RECREATION (4)	PARENT & GUARDIAN SUPPORT (4)
3620	High	2.4%	1					1	
3630	High	7.0%	1		1				
3650.02	Low	19.3%	3	1				1	1
3690.01**	Low	9.7%	1			1			
3700	High	0.0%	1	1					
3710	Moderate	8.0%	1	1					
3740	Low	46.6%	3	1	2				
3770	Very Low	28.7%	4	1		1	2		
3780	High	2.0%	2					1	1
3790	Very Low	25.0%	3	2			1		
3800.02	NA	21.9%	1		1				
3810	Very Low	29.4%	6	3	2				1
3820	Low	29.8%	2					1	1
TOTAL			29	10	6	2	3	4	4

Source: 2022 RDCY Resource Guide.

Source: COI – Child Opportunity Index for Richmond Census Tracts.

*Health & Wellness has 11 Richmond-based organizations; however, one of them only has a mailbox for an address; no census tract was identified for this organization.

**The census tract list cites 3690.02.