

Voices of Louisville's Young Adults

Young Adult Survey: Listening and Learning

Who answered the survey?

Total Respondents

Ninety-five (95)

- **Gender**
Female: 64%
Male: 36%
- **Age**
16 year olds: 13.7% (13)
17 year olds: 17.9% (17)
18 year olds: 4.2% (4)
19 year olds: 7.4% (7)
20 year olds: 14.7% (14)
21 year olds: 7.4% (7)
22 year old: 16.8% (16)
23 year olds: 8.4% (8)
24 year olds: 7.4% (7)
N/A: 2.1% (2)
- **Race/Ethnicity**
African American: 49.5%
White: 32.6%
Hispanic: 5.3%
> than One/Other: 12.6%
- **The top five descriptive characteristics selected**
 - ◆ Smart
 - ◆ Kind
 - ◆ Attractive
 - ◆ Outgoing
 - ◆ Happy

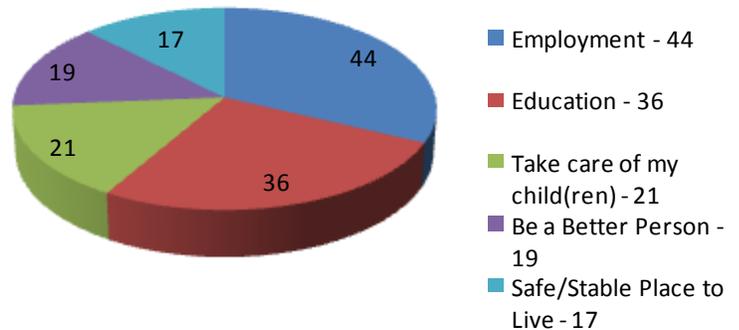
What do young adults in crisis without support care about? What are their goals and dreams?

When asked to select up to three of their goals within the next three months, the most frequent answer was "get a job" from 36.6% of the 82 respondents. If you add in those who want to "get a better job than the one I have," close to half (48%) of respondents identified an employment-related goal.

Education-related goals were the second most frequent answer for short-term goals, with 22% focused on more education beyond high school and another 13 percent concerned with finishing high school or doing well in school, for a total of 35% of respondents identifying an education-related goal.

Show People That I Have Changed (16 votes); Get Driver's License (13 votes) and Stay Out of Trouble (11 votes) were the next

Top Five Short-Term Goals



highest selections. An "Other" category with 27 votes represents all the goals that received fewer than ten votes, including: Buy a Car (8); Money Management (4); and Drug/Alcohol Free (3).

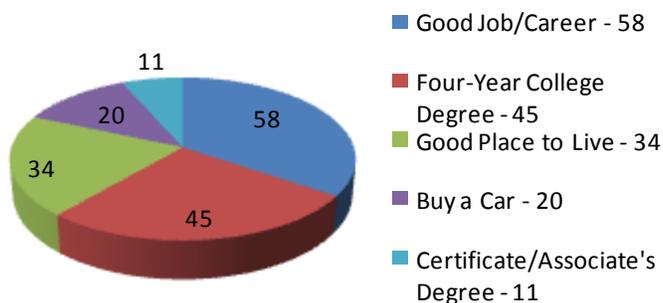
Goal Quotes:

"All A's in my classes"

"Don't feel there is nothing much happening for me here."

"Stay in state's care."

Top Five Long-Term Goals



Long-term Goals: Employment and Education

When Young Adults selected up to three of their five-year goals, the most frequently selected goals was "Get a good job/career" (46.9%).

However, if the "Certificate/Associate's Degree" (11.1%) response is combined with the "Four-year college degree" (43.2%) response, then education beyond secondary school becomes the top selected answer.

The top five responses comprised 80% of the 210 votes cast by 95 respondents. All other responses receive fewer than ten votes each.

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“I’m not in the real world because I have been in residential placements for a long time. I really don’t know how it will be. I’m afraid of how hard things will really be.”

Barriers To Success

“What barriers are keeping you from being successful?”

The responses covered many reasons including housing issues, lack of focus, family worries, drugs, single parenting and lack of support.

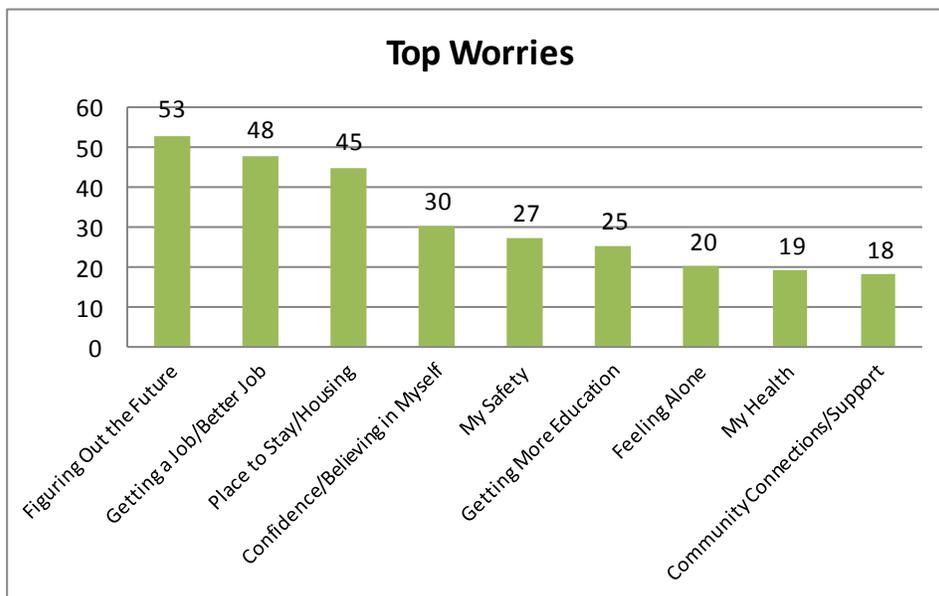
Of the 87 responses received, the most frequent were:

- “None” with 19
- “Myself” with 16
- “No Job” with 10,
- “In State’s custody” with 6 and
- “Other People” with 5.

The “Myself” response sometimes mentioned behavior, attitude, self-doubt and lack of confidence.

“Nothing—If I want to succeed I will.”

The Worries of Young Adults



“Of the areas listed , please select the top three things you worry about the most.”

Early focus sessions with young adults established the nine categories. With up to three votes, Young Adults made “Figuring Out the Future” the top answer, with “Getting a Job/Better Job” a strong second, and Place to Stay/Housing a close third.

The top three categories represented over half (52%)

Coalition Supporting Young Adults

Bringing the community together to focus on Young Adults 16-24 in crisis without support.

This community initiative is staffed by Natalie Harris, Senlin Ward, and Merritt Gill of the Coalition for the Homeless. Thanks go to the Planning Team: Kathy Adams, Anne Ames, Shannon Anson, Erica Bowen, Lisa Conrad, Pat Davidson, Shannon Davis, Janine Dewey, Shannon Frey, Larry Michalczyk, Rita Murphy, Harvetta Ray, Nancy Russman, Curtis Stauffer, Barry Steiger, Robert Tinker, Dwayne Westmoreland, Steve Williams, and Becki Winchel. Facilitator: Julia Inman. This report is printed by the Coalition for the Homeless with support from WellCare.

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