

**Arab-American Family
Support Center**

YOUNG ADULT & YOUTH PROGRAM EVALUATION RESULTS

Examining the impact of
culturally-responsive after-
school support for
immigrant youth

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YOUNG ADULT & YOUTH PROGRAM

The Arab-American Family Support Center's Young Adult & Youth Program (YAYP) is an innovative initiative designed to support youth from NYC's immigrant and refugee communities on the path towards social and economic empowerment. Unique in its cultural competence, this program employs curricula that have been specifically designed for the communities we serve and is facilitated by linguistically diverse staff who are representative of program participants.

YAYP offers a safe space for youth to explore their bi-cultural identities, while offering a broader package of **academic enrichment, life skills training, mental health support, and access to arts**. AAFSC provides intensive academic and leadership programming that emphasizes academic preparedness, homework help, test-prep, English literacy, and college/career road mapping. This is particularly important as many immigrant youth have fallen behind on academics due to interruptions in their schooling and literacy issues. We also provide mentorship opportunities for participants with leaders at companies like Google and AIG.

AAFSC complements this programming with our gender-based support groups that provide **peer networking, leadership development opportunities, a safe place to manage discrimination, healthy relationships skills, and mental health counseling**. In the Audacious Young Women of Action (AYWA) program, young women develop financial literacy, explore college and careers, challenge relational and cultural expectations, identify role models, and explore female empowerment. Complementary to AWYA, Funny Girls is a weekly program developed for young women to learn improv performance techniques while developing skills and values such as self-expression, leadership, public speaking, trust, collaboration, and empathy. Finally, the MENar program works with young men to develop life skills such as financial literacy, college and career readiness, healthy relationship habits, and healthy masculinity using our culturally and linguistically competent Healthy Relationships curriculum.

As an essential service provider, AAFSC has delivered uninterrupted service to **139 participants** in the past year, and expanded eligibility to support young learners ages 8 - 13 as they navigate remote learning and the return to in-person schooling. As NYC heads back to school, **AAFSC's Young Adult Youth Program remains committed to supporting immigrant youth in their path towards success and fulfillment.**



PROGRAM EVALUATION STYLE

AAFSC aims to support the overall cognitive, social, and emotional development of youth and young adults. To this end, YAYP strives to help participants achieve improvements across several outcomes, including: **college/career readiness, academic enrichment, healthy behaviors, advocacy, female empowerment, and safety & belonging.** YAYP also prioritizes providing wrap-around support for participants and their families as they navigate the COVID-19 public health crisis. As such, our program evaluation measures our impact during the pandemic as participants navigated a changing world. We are committed to maintaining high-quality programming through virtual means and support continuous program improvement.

AAFSC has developed a Knowledge-Attitudes-Behavior survey for YAYP participants measuring self-perceived improvement in each of the program's targeted outcome areas. **This data informs our ongoing program strategy and approach with each student.** Surveys are administered verbally to participants following the conclusion of each academic semester. The survey is comprised of 15 questions covering each outcome, measuring participant agreement that acquisition or enhancement of knowledge, changes in attitudes, and adoption of behavior has occurred. For each question, responses are captured via a likert scale, where 1 indicates "Strongly Disagree" and 5 indicates "Strongly Agree." Accordingly, each indicator is assessed on a scale of 1-5, with a minimum score of 1 and a maximum score of 5.

The following report summarizes the results of 67 KAB post-test surveys collected in the 2020-2021 academic year. Results include composite scores for each outcome area used to assess program success, as well as the responses to each question measuring participant knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors.

Results from the 2020-2021 academic year demonstrate an average outcome score of 4.3/5, indicating strong agreement that knowledge was enhanced, attitudes were attained, and skills were adopted as a result of AAFSC program participation.



RESULTS

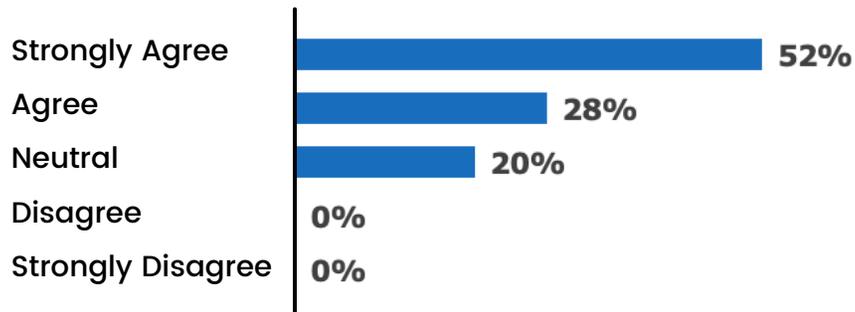
	OUTCOME	SCORE
	College/Career Readiness	4.3/5
	Academic Enrichment	4.4/5
	Healthy Behaviors	4.4/5
	Healthy Relationships	4.4/5
	Advocacy	4.5/5
	Female Empowerment	4.5/5
	Safety & Belonging	4.3/5
	COVID-19 Support	4.1/5
	AVERAGE	4.3/5



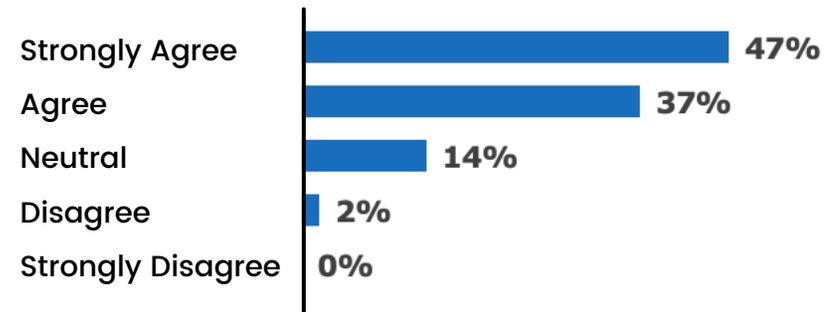
RESULTS



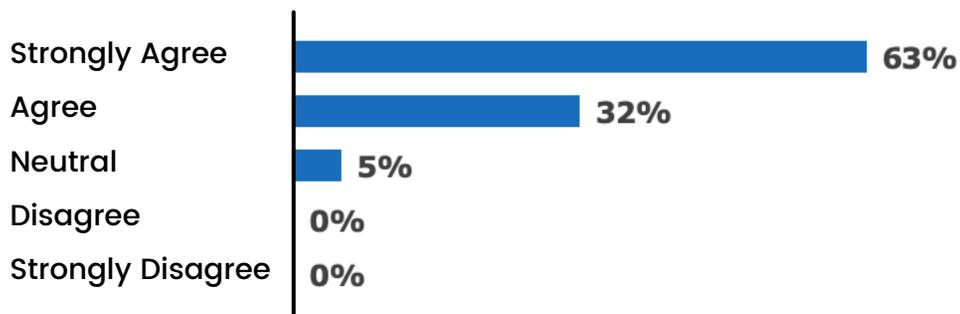
I have met new role models and explored new college/career paths through the mentorship speaker series.



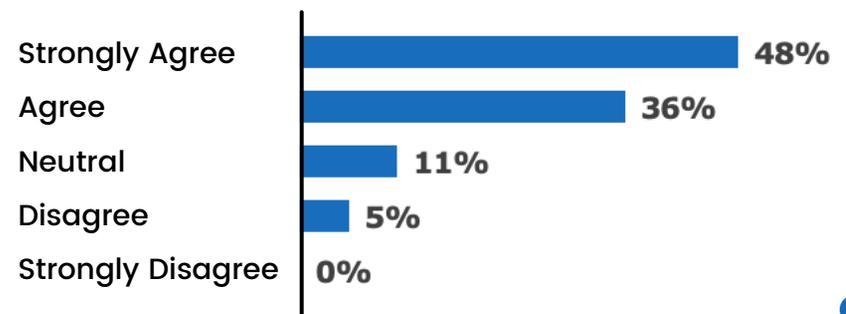
I have improved my English reading and writing skills.



I ask for help when I'm having trouble completing my homework assignments.



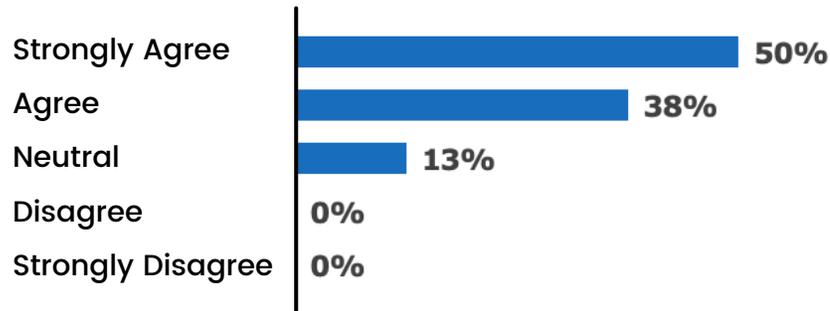
I have developed skills that help me work through difficult homework assignments.



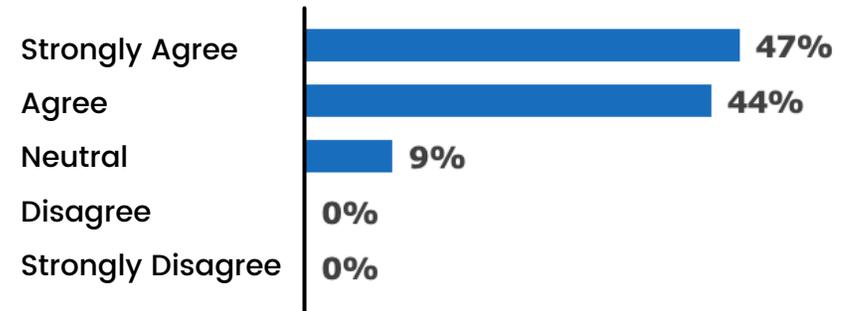
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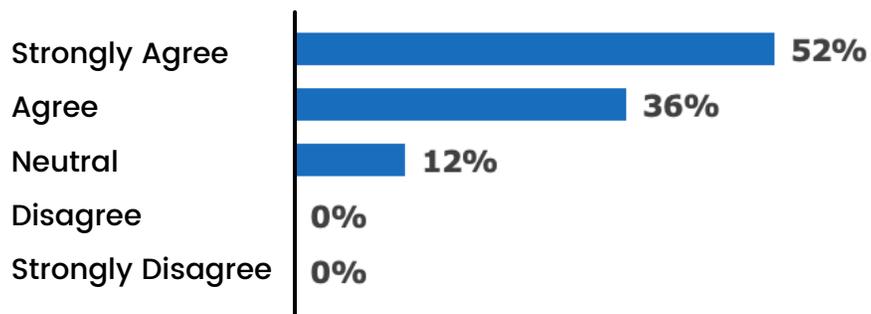
I understand how stereotypes reinforce discrimination and negatively affect self esteem.



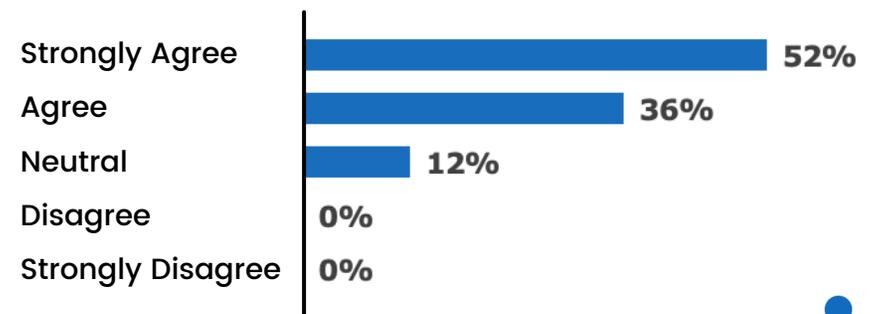
I have developed healthy strategies to help in times when I am out of my resilient zone/not feeling like myself.



I have learned to identify and explain the traits of a healthy relationship with myself and others.



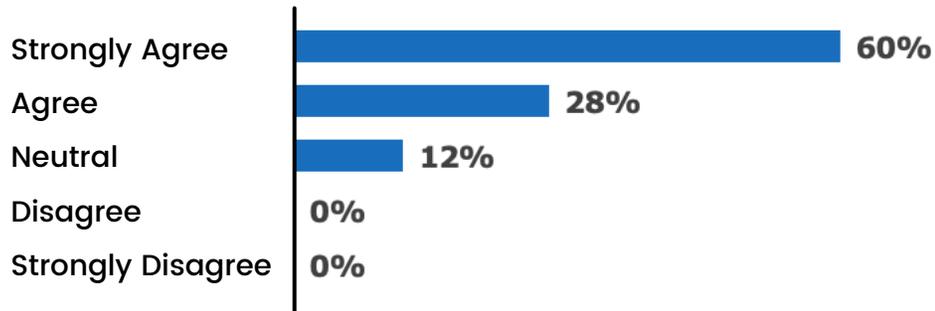
I have learned to identify when a relationship is unhealthy and how to take steps to improve the situation.



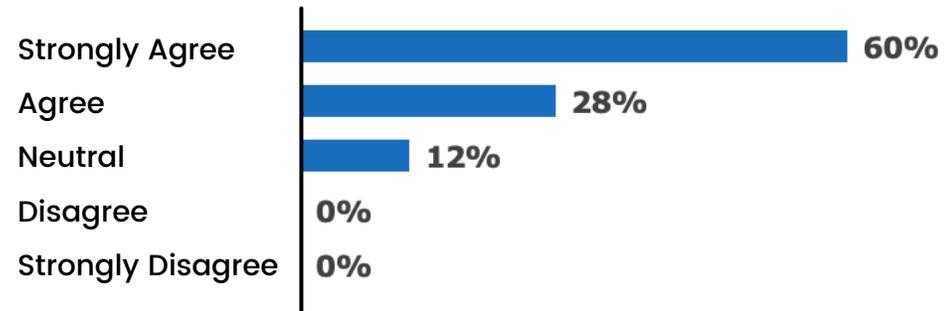
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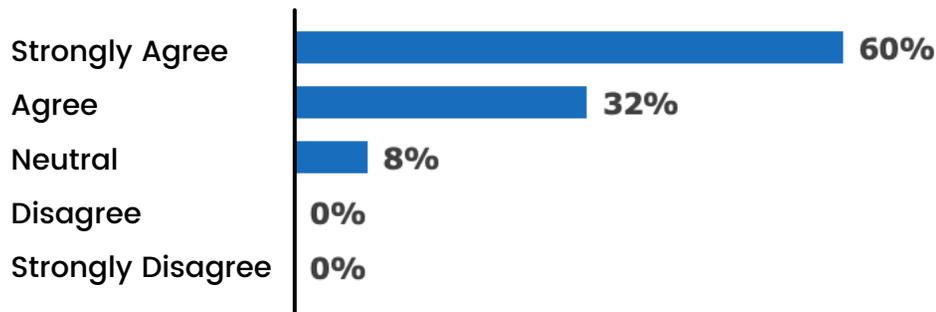
I have gained a new understanding of the role of activism in generating positive social change.



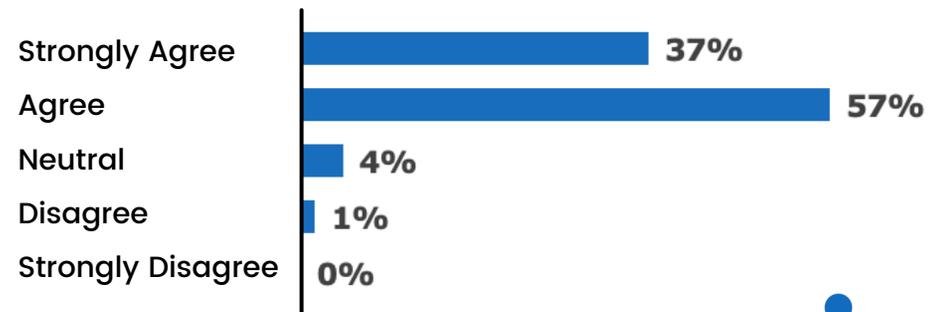
I have learned new information about social causes and movements that impact my community and communities like mine.



I have developed a deeper understanding of gender roles and norms and the importance of gender equity.



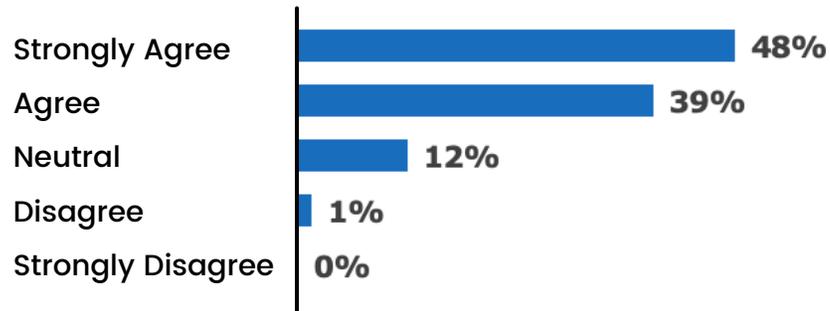
Arab-American Family Support Center is a safe, positive place to learn, make new friends, and connect with my community.



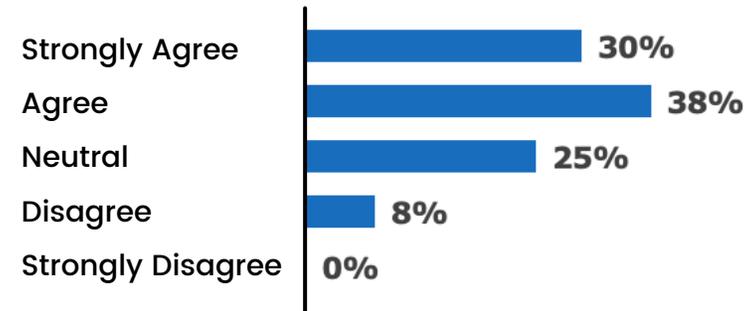
RESULTS



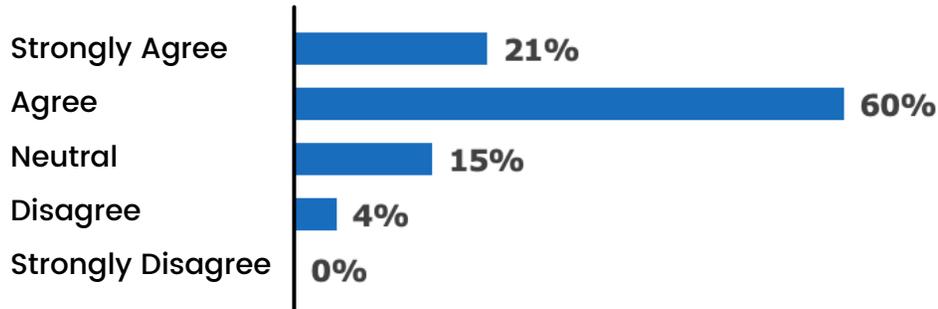
AAFSC's Young Adult Youth Program has helped me navigate online schooling and stay on track in my classes.



AAFSC's Young Adult Youth Program has helped me stay connected to my peers during this time.



AAFSC's Young Adult Youth Program has helped me process the impact of COVID-19 and manage the feelings and emotions that result from the drastic changes to our world.



As we continue to navigate the evolving impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, AAFSC is using these learnings to provide individuals with holistic and meaningful support while maintaining the safety of participants, their families, and our staff. We are committed to the health and well-being of our community members, and engage in continuous program improvement to ensure our programs remain highly impactful.



PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

AAFSC complements robust quantitative evaluation methods with qualitative participant feedback, enabling us to hear from beneficiaries in their own words.

Here's what our Young Adult & Youth Program participants had to say:

"Thanks to all the teachers for their help."

"I would like to continue getting support in reading and writing in English."

"My coach was helped and explained my homework well."

"The program was good and helped me get through online school."

"I really appreciate it, thank you so much! Without your help I will not be able to pass my classes."



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AAFSC's Research Institute is a hub for research & evaluation that measures community needs and analyzes the impact of culturally and linguistically-responsive programs and initiatives. For more reports and insights, visit our Impact page at aafscny.org/our-impact.

To support the immigrant and refugee families that AAFSC serves, please donate today at aafscny.org/donate

Brooklyn Headquarters

150 Court St, 3rd Fl, Brooklyn, NY 11201 • 718-643-8000

Queens Offices

37-10 30th St, 2nd Fl, Queens, NY 11101 • 718-937-8000

37-14 30th St, 2nd FL, Queens, NY 11101

Bronx Office

966 Morris Park Ave, 2nd Fl, Bronx, NY 10462 • 718-643-8000

At the Khalil Gibran International Academy

362 Schermerhorn St, Brooklyn, NY 11217 • 718-237-2502

NYC Family Justice Center, Bronx

198 East 161th St, Bronx, NY 10451 • 718-508-1222

NYC Family Justice Center, Brooklyn

350 Jay St, Brooklyn, NY 11201 • 718-250-5035

NYC Family Justice Center, Manhattan

80 Centre St, New York, NY 10013 • 212-602-2800

NYC Family Justice Center, Queens

126-02 82nd Ave, Kew Gardens, NY 11415 • 718-575-4500

NYC Family Justice Center, Staten Island

126 Stuyvesant Pl, Staten Island, NY 10301 • 718-697-4300

