

### Attitudes of Youth Who Completed the Legacy Foundation *On The Table* Youth Survey

2018 Legacy Foundation *On The Table* youth participants who completed the survey hold a broadly positive view of their community, believe that they can help improve their community, and have clear priorities for issues facing youth that they would like their community to address.

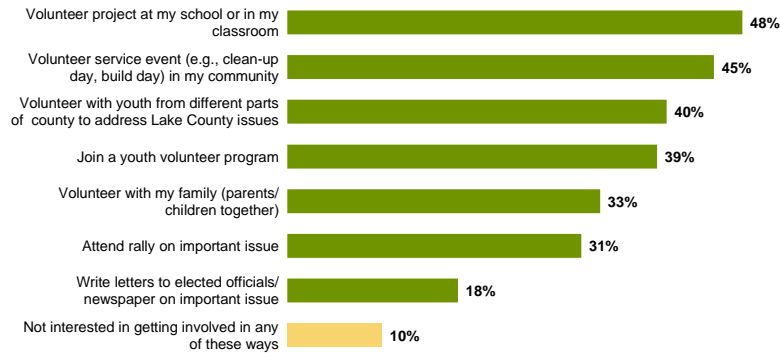
**A largely positive outlook on their community:** Most youth participants view their community positively on key dimensions.

- ✓ By 70% to 30%, youth are more hopeful rather than worried about the future of their community.
- ✓ More than seven in 10 (73%) feel that their community is changing for the better.
- ✓ Nearly eight in 10 (78%) think that the area where they live has a strong sense of community.
- ✓ Two in three (67%) think that residents have shared goals and priorities for the community.
- ✓ About seven in 10 (69%) feel that their community provides opportunities for everyone.
  - Across these measures, youth under age 15 are slightly more positive than are older youth.
  - In comparison, adult participants who completed the survey are more divided on whether their community provides opportunities for all: 49% say it does and 51% say it does not.

**Optimistic about effecting change:** The large majority of youth participants believe they can help make their community a better place to live, and they express the most interest in volunteering in a number of different ways.

- ✓ Three in four youth (75%) believe they can have an impact in making their community a better place to live, including 30% who think they can have a big impact.
- ✓ Youth are most interested in getting involved in addressing issues and challenges facing their community through volunteering, including:
  - Participating in a volunteer project at their school (48% select it as one of three things they are most interested in doing);
  - Participating in a volunteer service event (45%);
  - Volunteering with youth from different parts of Lake County (40%);
  - Joining a youth volunteer program (39%); and
  - Volunteering with their family (33%).
- ✓ One in three (31%) youth express interest in attending a rally on an issue that is important to them and one in five (18%) are interested in writing letters to elected officials or the local newspaper on issues that are important to them.
- ✓ Youth of all ages express high levels of interest in volunteering at school or at a service event.
- ✓ Youth age 15 and older express more interest than do those who are younger in volunteering with youth from different parts of Lake County, while those under age 15 are more interested than older youth in volunteering with their family.

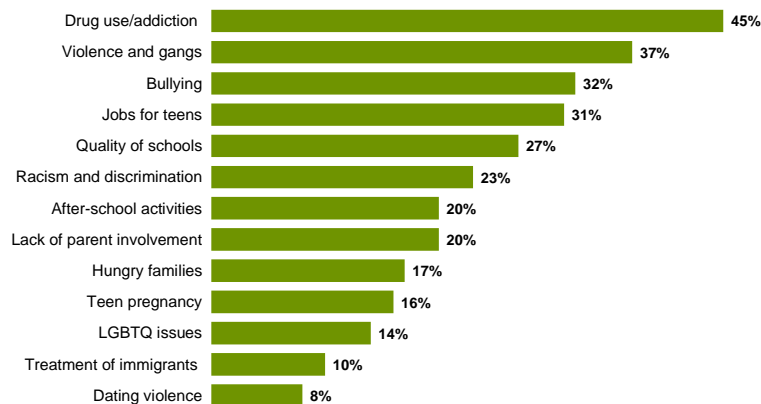
### THREE Ways in Which I Would Be Most Interested in Getting Involved in Challenges Facing My Community



**Issues facing youth in their community:** Drug use and addiction and violence and gangs are the most pressing issues facing youth that they would like their community address.

- ✓ They prioritize drug use and addiction (45%) as the issue facing youth that they would most like their community to address, followed closely by violence and gangs (37%).
- ✓ Second-tier priorities include bullying (32%) and jobs for teens (31%).
- ✓ Those are followed closely by quality of schools (27%), racism and discrimination (23%), lack of parental involvement (20%), and after-school activities (20%).
  - Youth across the board identify drug use and addiction as one of the most important issues facing youth in their community today, though those age 15 and older are more likely to see it that way.
  - Youth of color put violence and gangs on par with drug use and addiction as issues that need to be addressed, but white youth do not.
  - Youth of color are only slightly more likely than whites to select racism and discrimination as a top priority that needs to be addressed.

### THREE Most Important Issues Facing Youth that I Would Like My Community to Address



*On September 26, 2018, the Legacy Foundation hosted its 2018 On the Table conversations with youth in association with its partners in Lake County with generous support from the Knight Foundation. Approximately 790 youth participated in the conversations, and 399 youth whose parents provided consent to the Legacy Foundation or its partners completed the associated online survey.*