



ANNUAL REPORT

COMMUNITY BASED AGENCY CONTRACT

Contract Period: 10/01/2024 - 09/30/2025

Executive Summary

Agency Name: For The Children Inc.

Program Name: Youth Empowerment Center (YEC), Summer Youth Internship

Prepared By: Reginale Durandisse

Methods: Methods: We collect quantitative information to be analyzed via descriptive statistics. This includes rates of class promotion, graduation rates, and involvement with the Juvenile Justice System. Achievement is measured using the following methods:

- Academic outcomes are gathered directly from schools via report cards, progress reports, standardized testing scores, and high school diplomas.
- JJIS face-sheet data is received from DJJ.

Post-graduation success, internships, and employment placement use both quantitative and qualitative methods, including:

- Interviews, placement logs, pre-posttest scores, youth essays, and school reports.

Outcomes: Outcomes

From October 2024 through September 2025, the program achieved all of six outcomes:

- All program participants demonstrate improvement in student academics;
- All program participants advanced to the next grade level or graduated on time;
- Targeted participants attained post-graduate success;
- All program participants remained crime-free;
- All targeted participants demonstrate increased employability skills;
- Ten of Ten of (100%) participants obtained internships at FTC and other nonprofit partners , and the other five were employed part-tie.

Conclusion:

The Youth Empowerment Center has demonstrated exceptional effectiveness in achieving its core objectives. The program achieved a 100 percent success rate in academic outcomes, including improved grade point averages, high school graduations, and course promotions. Additionally, YEC participants remained out of the juvenile justice system, a significant indicator of positive youth development and community safety.

The program successfully fostered asset-building skills that enhanced participants' employability and career readiness beyond high school. However, internship and employment placement outcomes showed a 66.67 percent achievement rate, as documented in placement records. This metric reflects only those participants who secured internships or employment through FTC; youth who obtained part-time employment outside the organization were not included in this calculation. A more comprehensive assessment that accounts for all employment secured by participants—both through the program and independently—would provide a fuller picture of the program's impact on workforce development.

Despite the lower employment placement rate, the YEC's success in academic achievement, youth development, and crime prevention demonstrates its significant value to participating youth and the broader Palm Beach County community. The program continues to serve as a vital resource for vulnerable adolescents facing complex barriers to educational and economic success.

Recommendations:

For the 2025–2026 fiscal year, the agency will measure program success by tracking eligible participants who secure part-time employment outside the organization. Additionally, For The Children Inc. will continue its collaborative efforts with the City of Lake Worth Beach to complete renovations of the YEC site. Simultaneously, FTC will pursue capital fundraising initiatives to support the development of Phase 2 of the building project at the Historic Osborne School location.

Date:

10/13/2025

Annual Report

Introduction:

For The Children Inc. (FTC) has served Palm Beach County since its founding on September 29, 1999. The organization began operations on April 1, 2000, launching its initial programs at the Historic Osborne School and Barton Elementary School. FTC provides academic support and tutoring to students reading and performing at levels 1 and 2 in reading and mathematics. The organization serves children ages 3 to 22, offering youth development activities designed to help young people meet academic standards while building the skills and confidence needed to become productive community members. The organization's motto, "A place where children come first," encapsulates its mission and values.

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Embracing the belief that "it takes a village to raise a child," FTC recognizes that strong families and supportive communities are essential to children's success. The organization offers monthly parent and child interactive activities that foster positive relationships and community engagement. These programs include health and wellness initiatives, mentoring support, participation in local and cultural events, and celebrations of youth and staff birthdays and achievements.

Scope of Work:

The Youth Empowerment Center (YEC) program provides activities and services to middle and high school youth, including out-of-school education and recreational programs/activities. The YEC focuses on empowering youth, promoting education, promoting health, promoting leadership and community involvement.

The Youth Empowerment Center (YEC) summer internship program provides activities and services to youth ages 16-19, including summer job readiness and job placement. The YEC focuses on empowering youth, promoting education, promoting health, promoting leadership and community involvement.

Services:

- Targeted Recruitment of youth (including juvenile probation office, youth court, school personnel, parents/guardians, law enforcement, diversion programs)
- Targeted Recruitment of youth (including juvenile probation office, youth court, school personnel, parents/guardians, law enforcement, diversion programs)
- Registration and Intake for each youth
- Registration and Intake for each youth
- Risk Assessment for each youth by utilizing a Risk Assessment Tool
- Risk Assessment for each youth by utilizing a Risk Assessment Tool
- Transportation Options for YEC program activities - aligned with designated schools and organizational policy

- Mentoring Support
- Teen Center (educational and recreational programming 5 days a week minimum with 10 interest-based programs/pro-social activities per week excluding recreation)
- Life Skills
- Youth/Teen Advisory Council meetings (every other month minimally) to recommend programs, activities, and policy of the YEC
- Financial Literacy
- Tutoring and Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) skill building
- Career Exploration/Readiness, Employability Skills Training, and Job Shadowing
- Mentoring Support;
- Summer Internship Job Placement
- Life Skills, Financial Literacy, Leadership Skills Training
- Summer Internship Job Placement
- Function as Evening Reporting Center for DJJ involved youth, as appropriate
- College Readiness & Tours
- Career Exploration/Readiness, Employability Skills Training, and Job Placement Assistance
- Community Service Projects incorporating Reflective Learning
- Connectivity to Resources
- Collaborative Partnerships (leadership participation in a minimum of 10 County/Youth Services Department and/or School District collaborative meetings and/or events throughout the year)

Demographics:

Youth Empowerment Center (YEC) participants face multiple complex challenges that significantly impact their academic success and future prospects. Economic hardship, food insecurity, and mental health concerns are prevalent among the population served. All participants meet Federal Guidelines criteria for the school free and reduced-price lunch program, indicating their families' low-income status.

Many YEC participants are classified as English Language Learners, a factor that compounds their educational challenges. Coming from immigrant families and representing first- or second-generation Americans, these youth often lack adequate language proficiency and struggle to acculturate to their environment. These linguistic barriers directly contribute to lower academic performance, evidenced by lower grades, increased course failure, and credit deficiency.

Educational obstacles are further intensified by heightened graduation assessment requirements. Recent changes to Florida's assessment policies have increased the rigor of the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) concordant scores required for graduation, and students may no longer substitute a passing score from the Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT) in place of the Algebra End-of-Course (EOC) exam. These policy shifts create additional barriers for struggling learners.

The YEC receives funding from the Palm Beach County Youth Services Department to address these multifaceted challenges and support participant success. The program attracts significant interest among older youth, particularly those seeking summer socialization opportunities and access to educational field trips that their families cannot otherwise afford.

Gender	(#)	(%)
Female	66	53%
Male	59	47%
FTM		0%
MTF		0%
Other		0%
Non-binary		0%
Not Applicable		0%
Unknown		0%
Age	(#)	(%)
0-4		0%
5-10		0%
11-13	89	71%
14-18	36	29%
19-22		0%
>22		0%
Unknown		0%
Not Applicable		0%

Race	(#)	(%)
Asian/Pacific Islander		0%
Black or African American	116	93%
Hispanic or Latino/a	5	4%
Native American or American Indian		0%
White	2	2%
Other		0%
Multiracial	2	2%
Not Applicable		0%
Unknown		0%
Family Type	(#)	(%)
Two Parent Household	77	62%
Single Parent Female Head of Household	44	35%
Single Parent Male Head of Household	2	2%
Grandparents		0%
Other	2	2%
Unknown		0%
Not Applicable		0%
Household Income	(#)	(%)
\$0.00		0%
<\$19,999	10	8%
\$20-29,999	9	7%
\$30-39,999	8	6%
\$40-49,999	8	6%
\$50-59,999	29	23%
>\$60,000	60	48%
Unknown	1	1%
Not Applicable		0%

Outcomes:

Target: of program participants served will demonstrate improvement in student academics

Actual for the grant year: 72 of 90 (%) achieved outcome, as evidence by Student Progress Reports and Report Cards will be collected to access improvement in student academics.

Target: of program participants served will advance to next grade level or attain high school graduation;

Actual for the grant year: 81 of 90 (%) achieved outcome, as evidence by Copies of Student Progress Reports, Report Cards, standardized testing scores and high school Diploma's will be collected to access academic progress.

Target: of program participants served will attain post-graduate success (college/vocational enrollment, employment, industry certification, military enlistment)

Actual for the grant year: 81 of 90 (%) **achieved outcome, as evidence by Copies of documentation supporting college enrollment, industry certification, employment, military enlistment will be collected.**

Target: of program participants served will remain or become crime free.

Actual for the grant year: 86 of 90 (%) **achieved outcome, as evidence by JJIS face-sheet data from DJJ.**

Target: of program participants served will demonstrate increase in employability skills;

Actual for the grant year: 8 of 10 (%) **achieved outcome, as evidence by Pre and Post Survey.**

Target: of program participants served will obtain employment/internship experience.

Actual for the grant year: 10 of 10 (%) **achieved outcome, as evidence by Placement log, final site evaluations and youth essays.**

Links:

[PANA9179-YEC Gang Awareness 9152025.jpg](#)

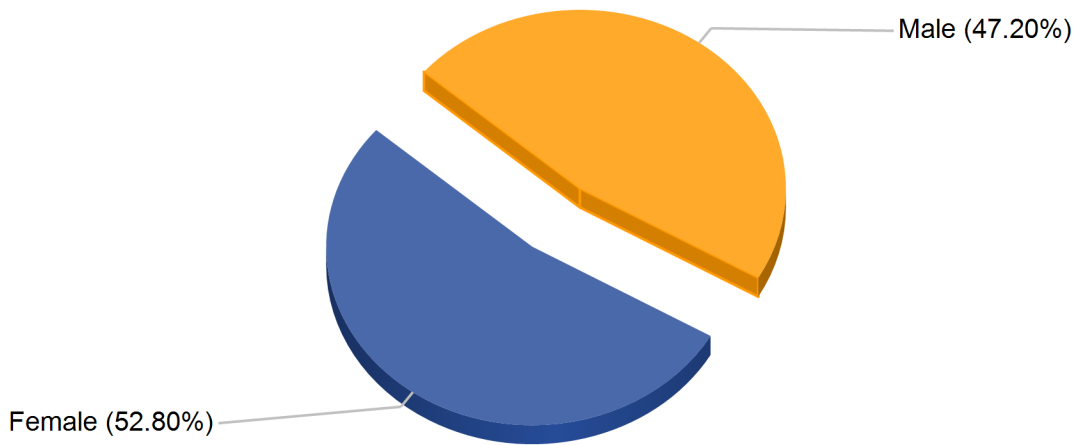
[Dual Enrollment Participants.jpg](#)

Charts:

Total population served: **125**

Program Demographics

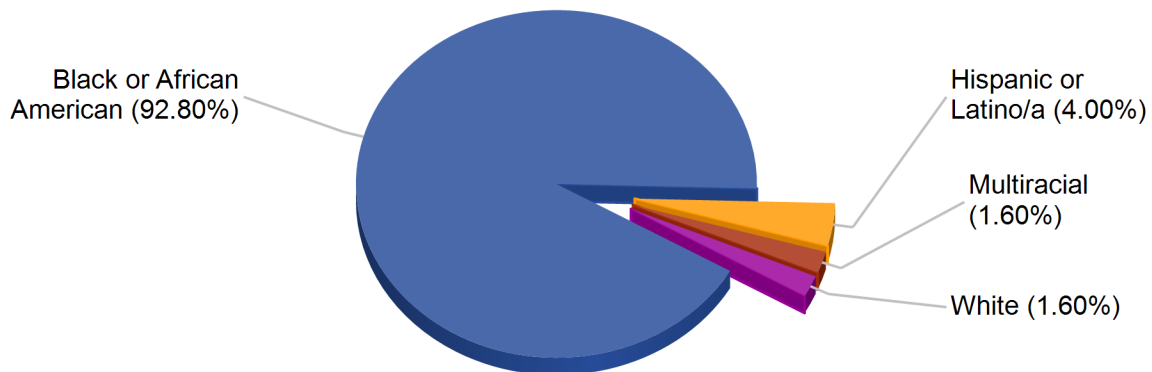
Gender



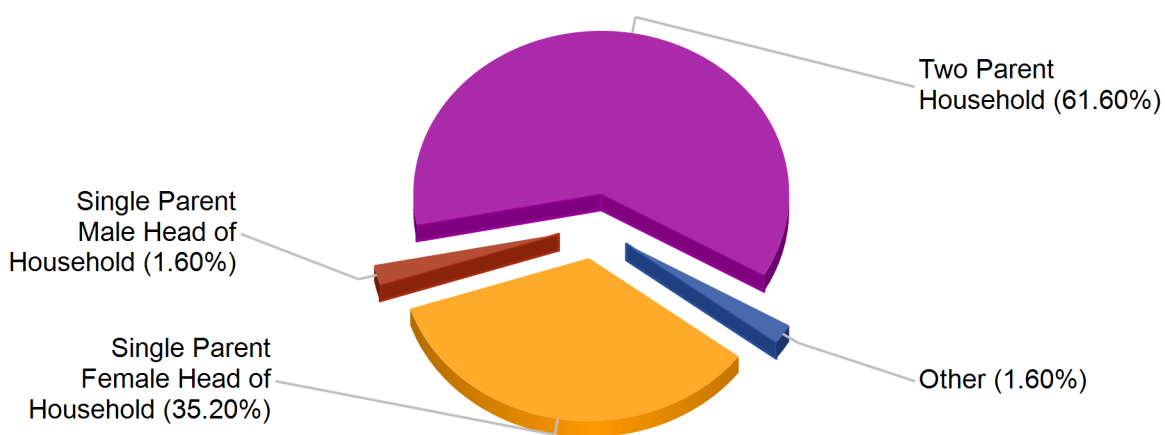
Age



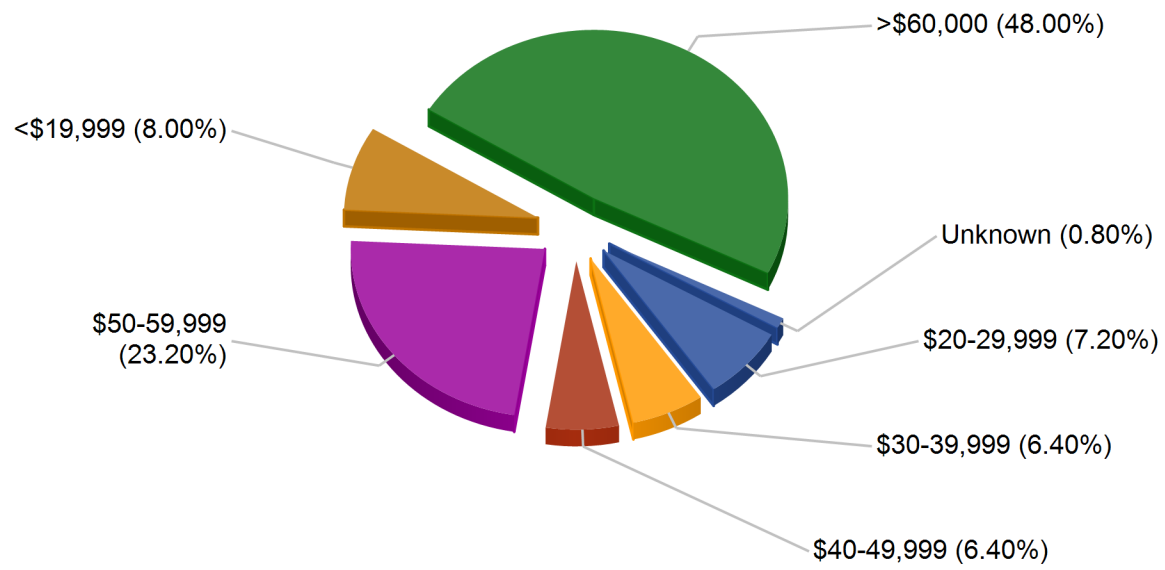
Race



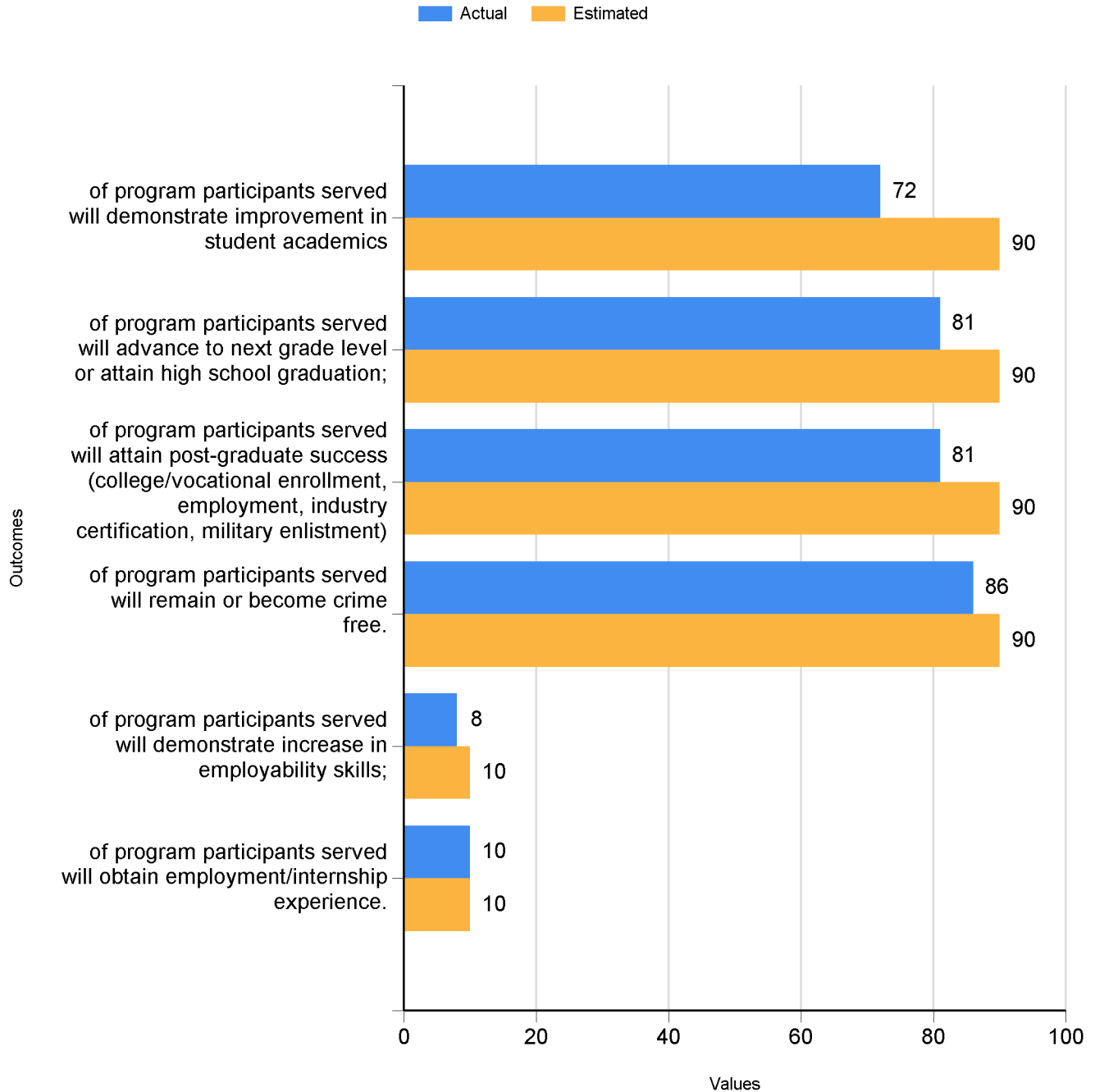
Family Type



Household Income



Program Outcomes



Conclusions:

The Youth Empowerment Center (YEC) provides comprehensive programs and services to middle and high school youth, including out-of-school education and recreational activities. The YEC is dedicated to empowering youth, promoting education and health, and fostering leadership and community involvement.

The YEC Summer Internship Program serves youth ages 16–19, offering job readiness training and job placement assistance. Through this initiative, the program continues its commitment to empowering youth while preparing them for successful entry into the workforce.