

2019 Program Report Card: Supports for Youth with Disabilities



Achieving Youth Results (AYR) Goal:
Children and youth will have optimal physical and emotional health.

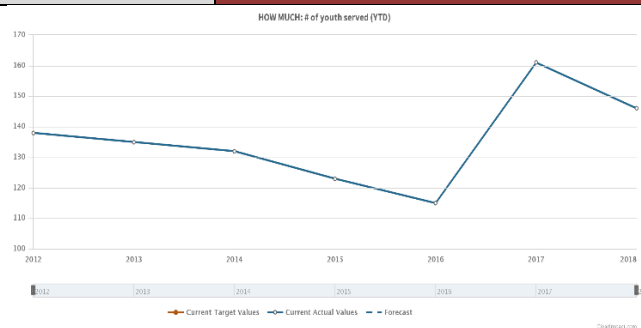
Program: Recreational Support Services
Agency: Ithaca Youth Bureau

CLIENTS:
Youth ages 2-21 who have a developmental disability.

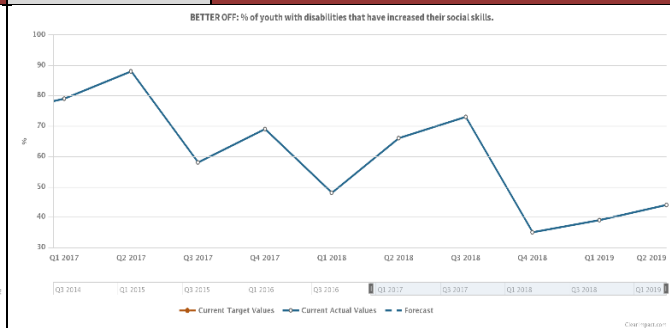
PARTNERS:
School districts, TST BOCES, Racker Centers, Blue Sky Center, Ithaca College, Cornell University, YMCA, OPWDD, TC Mental Health Services, Mental Health Association, LifePlan, Finger Lakes Independence Center, ABA Certified professionals

RESULTS BASED ACCOUNTABILITY HEADLINE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

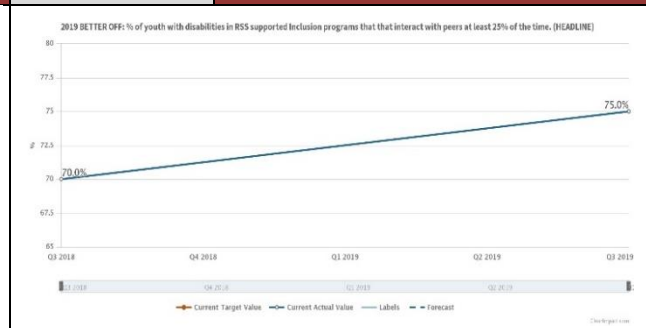
HOW MUCH:	146 Youth*	BETTER OFF:	44%*	BETTER OFF:	75%*
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*Youth served in 2018



*In Q2 of 2019



* In Q3 of 2019

THE STORY BEHIND THE DATA

GRAPH 1: # of youth served – At the end of Quarter 3 2019 RSS will have served 134 youth, thus surpassing the 120 goal. We strive to reach the appropriate balance between the number of youth served, quality of service, and how often each youth receives programming. For over 30 years the RSS staff would divide its work time between youth and adult programming. As the needs of youth have intensified as well as the demand for Inclusion it became obvious staff would work more effectively when having a more singular focus (youth or adult). In 2015 RSS began the transition of being divided into a Youth section and an Adult section. This resulted in less "big number programs" being offered in 2015 and 2016. Through very careful planning, we have established strategies to continue to offer those "big number programs" thus seeing a rise in youth served starting the later part of 2016. We also partnered with Ithaca College and the Racker Centers to offer a play group to over 40 preschoolers in the summertime. We anticipate these collaborations will continue and our numbers will be maintained.

GRAPH 2: % of youth with disabilities that have increased their social skills. – RSS anticipates the number of individuals that increase their social skills to increase to above 50%. Measure for social skill development consisted of a group goal (same goal for each participant). With the

number of youth being referred to our program with ASD and at a much younger age, the goal was not achievable for many. In 2019 we began to implement individualized goals for each youth that is reasonable. We feel with consistent programming youth will more readily improve their social skill ability.

GRAPH 3: % of youth with disabilities in RSS supported Inclusion programs that participate in activities with their typical peers 25% of the time. - This measure is captured annually during Quarter 3 only, to measure summer camp inclusion. In 2019, the measure was slightly revised from 50% to 25% of the time, which should increase the percentage of success as the goal of interaction with peers has been reduced. While progress has been made in the integration of youth with disabilities into typical educational environments, it has not in recreational programs. Training on Inclusion for staff of all departments serving youth is a dire need.

AGENCY ACTION PLAN TO "TURN THE CURVE"

2020 Action Plan

HOW MUCH

- Rotational offerings of programs and participants.
- Collaborate with Ithaca College Therapeutic Recreation and Outdoor Education Leadership Department.
- Job sharing with RSS Adult Department.

BETTER OFF

- Create individualized goals.
- Communicate with parent/caregiver and other staff.
- Utilize strategies like schedules, social stories, pictures.

BETTER OFF

- Training for staff that is high quality and consistent.
- Advertising programs as being inclusive for all.
- Information from parent/guardian and related agency staff on youth needs.

2019 Action Plan & Status

HOW MUCH

- Collaborate with Ithaca College Occupational Therapy and Speech Language Department. Meet with Professor of OT at Ithaca College. **↓ Not Accomplished due to faculty transitions and turnover.**
- Designate a staff as a Volunteer Coordinator. Meet with staff to discuss Volunteer Program Development. **↑ Accomplished**
- Specify 1 day a week as rotation of activities and rotation of participants. **↑ Accomplished**

BETTER OFF

- Refine social skill measurement tool. **↑ Accomplished**
- Research how to obtain ABA certification. **↔ In process**
- Include more typical youth in program. **↑ Accomplished**

BETTER OFF

- Include pictures of youth with disabilities in typical recreation programs. **↓ Not Accomplished due to transition of Recreation staff**
- Create training for Volunteer Coaches and offer training to other recreation agencies. **↓ Not Accomplished due to transition of Recreation staff**
- New RBA measure decreases peer interaction time to 25% which is a more reasonable goal. **↑ Accomplished**