May 23, 2023

# Teen Outreach

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Project Mentor: Vic Garber Assistant Director





## Our Goal:

- What Create a strategic outreach program that will challenge and engage teens for Harrisonburg Parks and Rec
- Who Teenagers between the ages of 13-19
- Where Community Activities Center, Simms Recreation Center, and Parks
- When In the near future!
- Why We lack challenging and engaging programs for the 3,300 Harrisonburg students

Coming next is

#### Research

- Benchmarked Departments
- Student Questionnaire
- Facility Tours and Staff
   Interviews

### Research of Other Departments



Phoenix, Arizona

Teen focused special programs



St. Petersburg, Florida
TASCO



Dallas, Texas

Teen interest focused groups/clubs and college readiness groups

#### Phoenix, Arizona



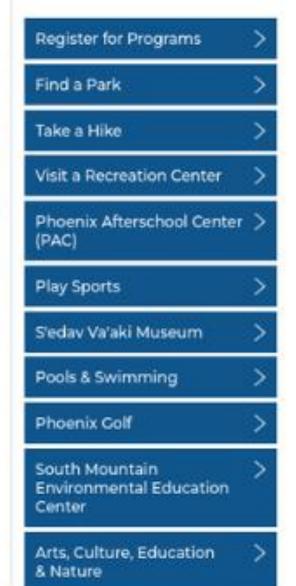
#### **Parks and Recreation**



#### Making Phoenix a better place to live, visit and play!

Phoenix provides residents and visitors more than 41,000 acres of desert parks and mountain preserve land with more than 200 miles of trails; 186 parks; 32 community and recreation centers; eight golf courses; 29 pools where thousands cool off and learn to swim each summer; and classes, programs and sports leagues where kids and adults learn, stay active and have fun!





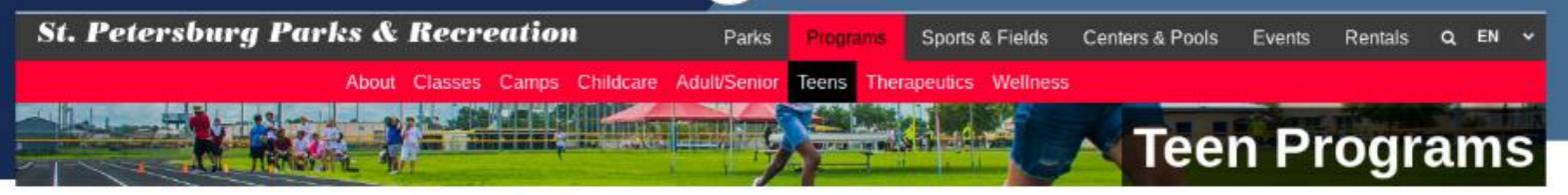








### St. Petersburg, Florida







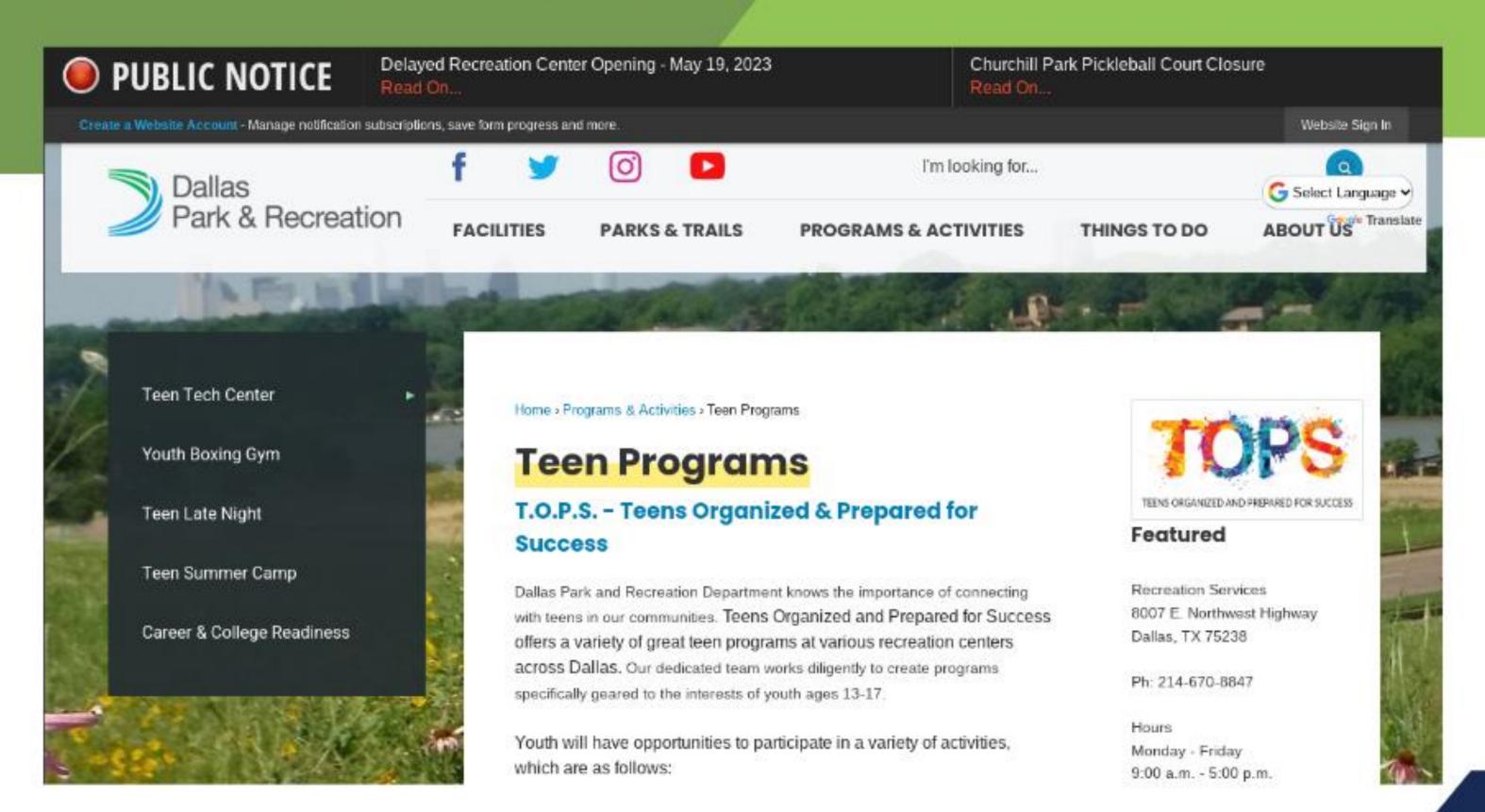








#### Dallas, Texas



#### Survey

Who We Surveyed

Teens Ages 13-19

How We Surveyed

**Google Form** 

Amount of Submissions

102

How We Collected Data

**Google Spreadsheet** 





#### Parks and Rec New Teen Outreach Programs for Harrisonburg

Have you ever wanted new activites for teenagers in Harrisonburg? As apart of our Honors In-field experience Goverment class we were tasked with the idea of coming up with new clubs and programs to fill the spaces of the Community Activity Center and the Lucy Simms building. By helping us fill this form out you could get new and improved programs you will enjoy. We are trying to reach ages 13-19 and grades 8th to 12th specifically as the teens need more programs.

snsyha00@harrisonburg.k12.va.us Switch account 0 \* Indicates required question Email \* Request edit access Your email

## Our Flyers

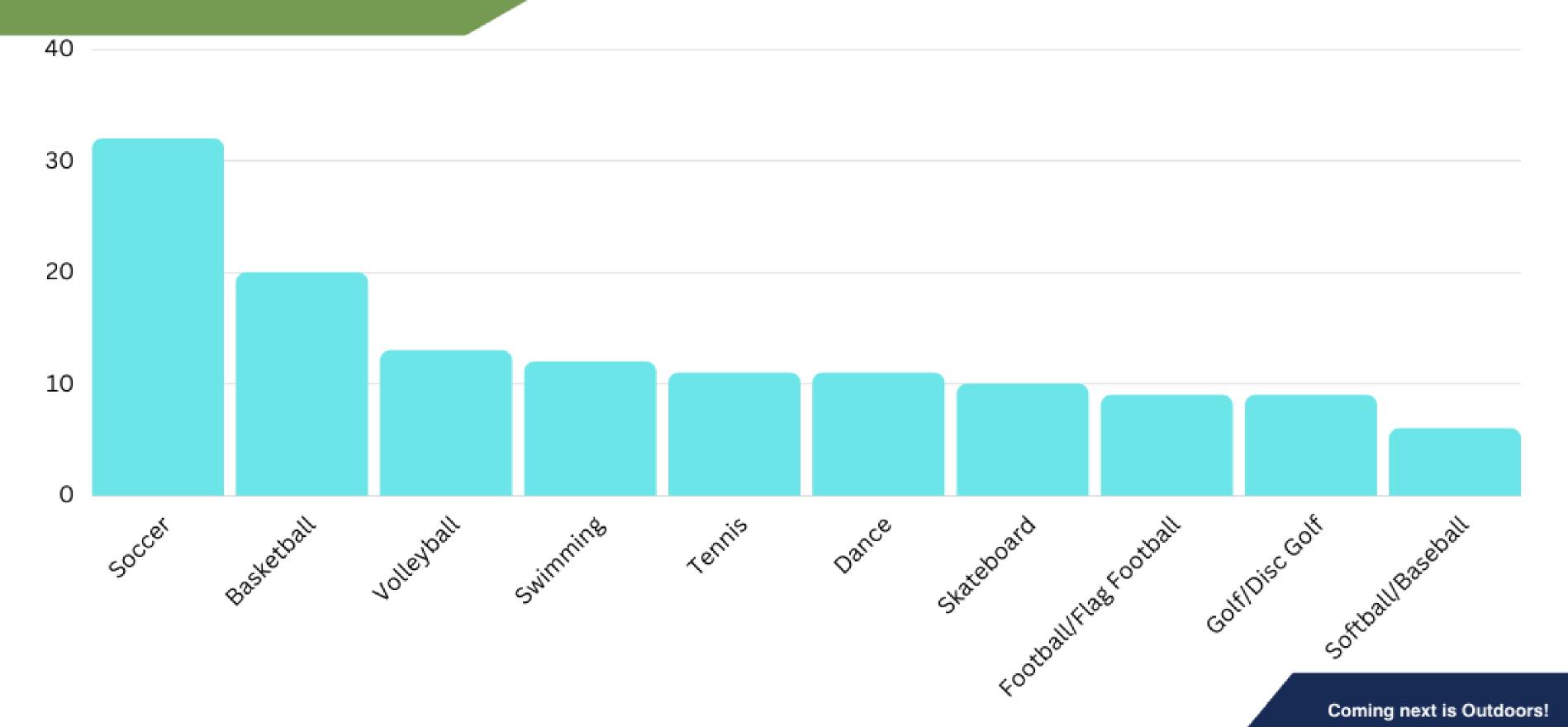




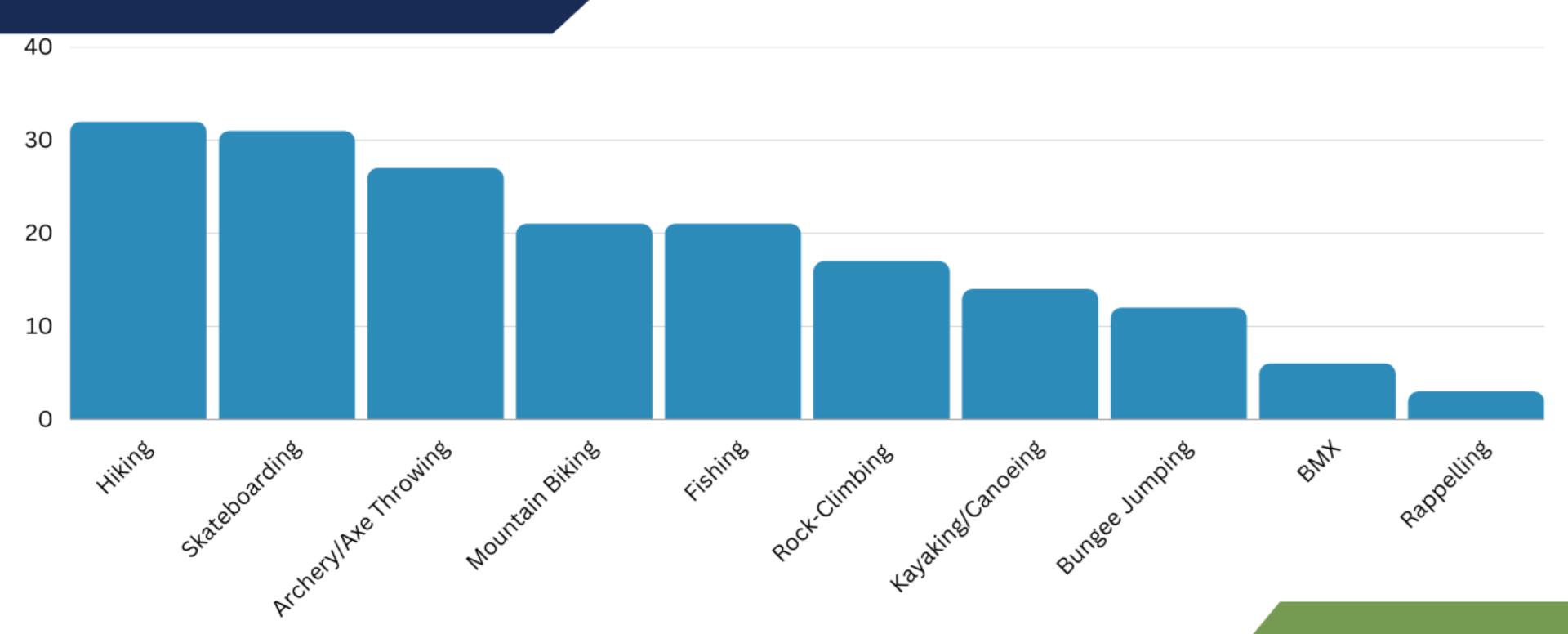
## Percent Use of Simms & CAC

- 54% Never used CAC
- 74% Never used Simms

## Sports!

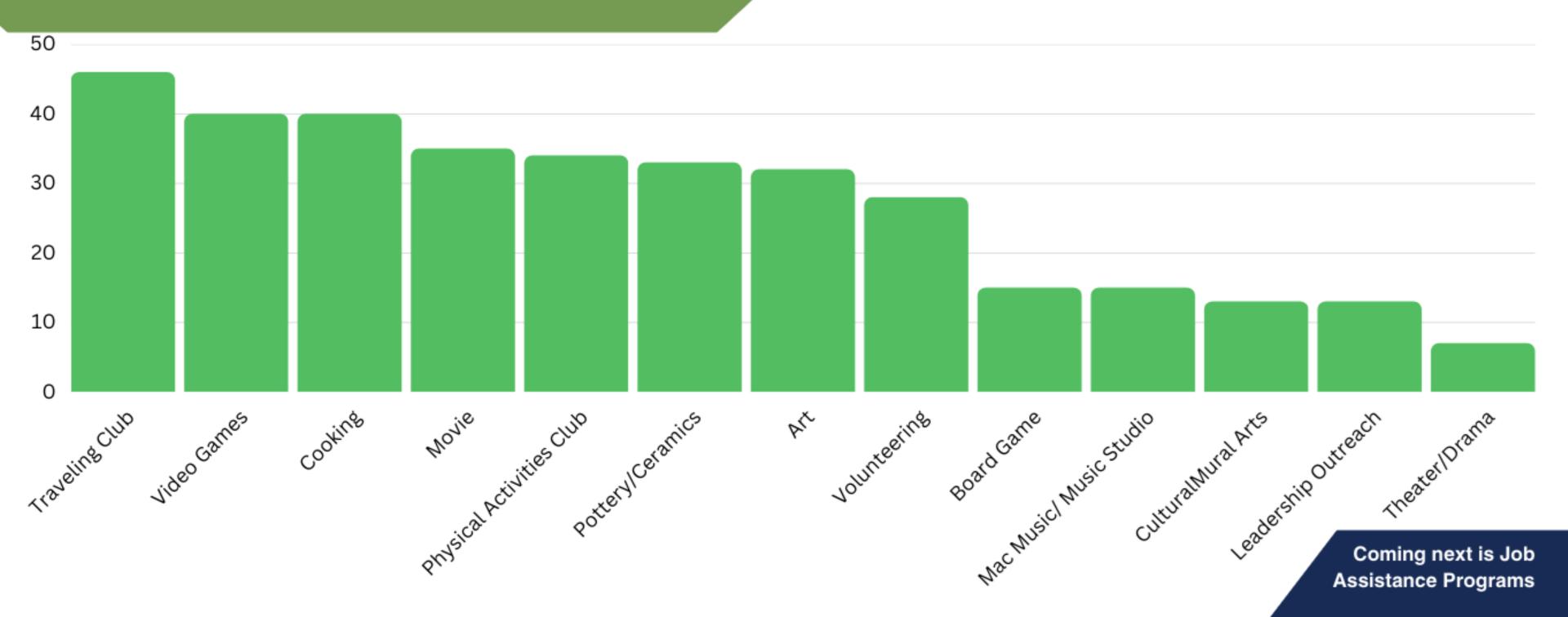


### Outdoors!



**Next is Hobbies & Enrichments** 

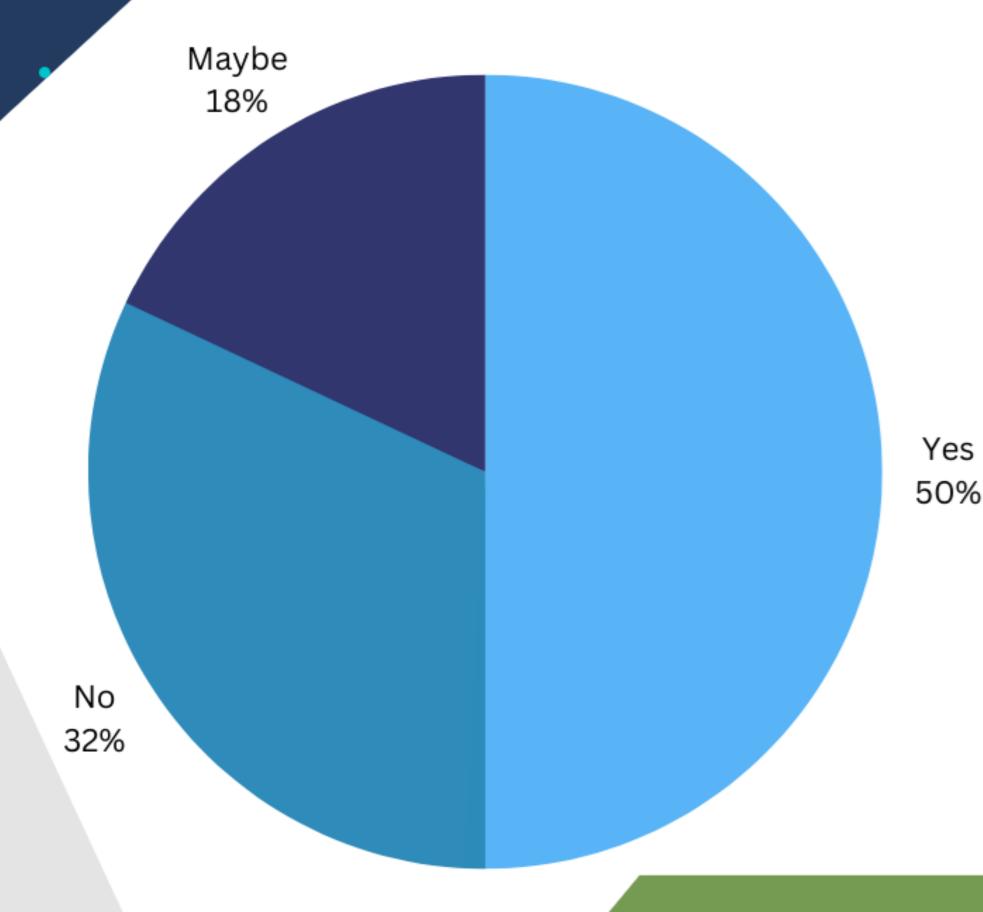
## Hobbies & Enrichments!



## Job Assistance Programs!

Teens interested in job assistance programs

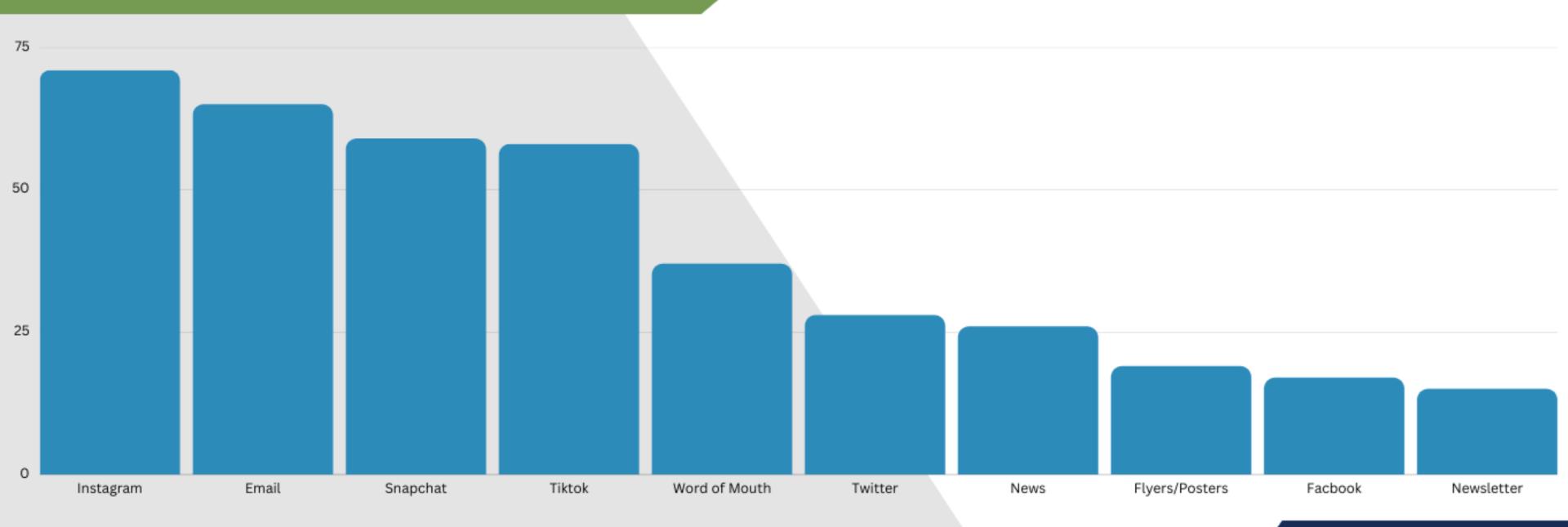
- Yes 50%
- No 32%
- Maybe 18%



Coming next is How to Reach You

Yes

## How to Reach Teens!



#### Staff Interviewed



Vic Garber
Assistant Director



Amber Craig

Recreation Program Specialist II
(Youth Development)



Harriet Flynn
Program Supervisor



Toto Ortiz
Center Supervisor CAC



Adam Basham
Recreation Facility
Coordinator



Matt Little
Recreation and Events
Manager



Stephanie Howard
Center Supervisor
Simms Rec Center



Lemons
Recreation Facility
Coordinator



Cory Jeffries
Recreational Specialists
Fitness

#### Interview Concepts

#### **Matt Little**

"We have a really good drop-in, open gym program that serves a variety of different demographics... and to be able to drop into the weight room at an affordable price."

Obviously, our weaknesses are teen programming, the specific, structured teen programs.. mostly those interested in basketball, but we know that not all teens wanna do that"

#### **Harriet Flynn**

"[Simms] has lots of space so multiple things could be happening at once. There are lots of possibilites"

#### **Corey Lemons**

"I think affordability is definitely our strength, accessibility is another one."

### Interview Concepts Continued

#### **Adam Basham**

"I think a lot of teens have gotten into the habit of just going home after school. We {Simms} aren't really offering a ton of teen programming and obviously, that is part of the issue."

#### Stephanie Howard

"[Simms] is a hub for the community, but that may also be a weakness because the greater community doesn't know about the significance of the building except for the immediate community. I think we should just get information out there by saying this is what we have to offer and can offer."

#### **Toto Ortiz**

"Simms is recognized as an extension of the community. A weakness of Simms is foot traffic. It seems that they don't get as many members to commit and much participation as compared to the CAC.

## Recommendations for the CAC Building

- Old dance room Teen fitness/dance
- Physical activities club/teen fun league
- Schedule more gym time for teens
- Swim club/lessons
- Transportation plan

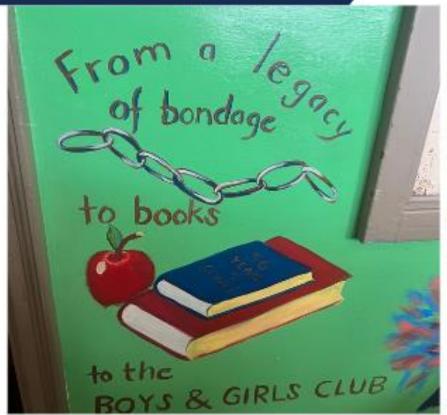
## Recommendations for the Simms Building

- Create a teen lounge/cafe
- Partnership with Boys and Girls Club for special events
- Video games/E-sports
- Cooking class
- Traveling club
- Welcoming atmosphere
- Transportation plan
- Job assistance program



### Teen Lounge/Cafe

- Hangout area
- Offer job assistance
- Teen outlet
- Volunteer programs

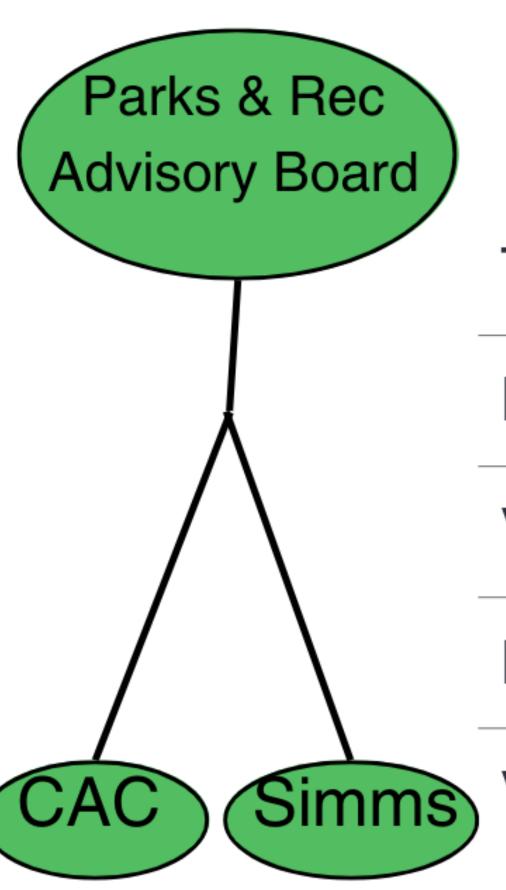






## Recommendations for the Outdoor Parks

- Teen adventure park:
  - Late night lit area
  - Forest coaster
  - Zipline
  - Music & stage
  - Skateboarding
  - Climbing wall
  - Food trucks



### Teens Helping Teens

Teen Council

Leadership Opportunities

Voice for all teens at Parks and Rec Advisory Board

Middles School and High Schools Levels

Volunteering

## Thank You

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