



San Francisco Youth Commission Agenda

Monday, March 18, 2019

5:00 pm-8:00 pm

City Hall, Room 416

1. Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl.

San Francisco, CA 94102

There will be public comment on each item.

Charley Obermeyer, Lily Marshall-Fricker, Maggie Dong, Josephine Cureton, Calvin Quick, Alysha Sadarangani, JoJo Ty, Natalie Ibarra, Bahlam Vigil, Arianna Nassiri, Nora Hylton, Drew Min, Grace Hoogerhyde, Alexander Hirji, Kaye Chin, and Savion Green

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call for Attendance (Discussion and Possible Action)**
- 2. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)**
- 3. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)**
 - A. March 4, 2019
[Document A](#)
- 4. Public Comment on Items not on Agenda (Discussion Only)**
- 5. Legislation Referred (All Items to Follow Discussion and Possible Action)**
- 6. Presentations (All Items to Follow Discussion and Possible Action)**
 - A. Youth MOJO: Our Healing and Our Hands
Presenter: Nevin Chin and Emily W., Core Leaders
Document B
 - B. College for All
Presenter: Celi Tamayo-Lee, SF Rising
- 7. Youth Commission Business (All Items to Follow Discussion and Possible Action)**
- 8. Committee Reports (Discussion Only)**
 - A. Executive Committee
 - i. LAO
 - ii. Communications Team
 - B. Housing and Land Use Committee



C. Transformative Justice Committee

D. Civic Engagement Committee

9. Staff Report (Discussion Only)

10. Announcements (This Includes Community Events)

11. Adjournment

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City Hall, Room 345
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone: (415) 554-6446, Fax: (415) 554-6140
Email: youthcom@sfgov.org
www.sfgov.org/yc

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Sunshine Ordinance Task Force
City Hall, Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
Phone: (415) 554-7724, Fax: (415) 554-5784
Email: soft@sfgov.org

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翻譯 必須在會議前最少四十八小時提出要求
請電 (415) 554-7719



**San Francisco Youth Commission
Minutes ~ Draft**

Monday, March 4, 2019

5:00 pm~8:00 pm

City Hall, Room 416

1. Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl.

San Francisco, CA 94102

There will be public comment on each item.

Charley Obermeyer, Lily Marshall-Fricker, Maggie Dong, Josephine Cureton, Calvin Quick, Alysha Sadarangani, JoJo Ty, Natalie Ibarra, Bahlam Vigil, Arianna Nassiri, Nora Hylton, Drew Min, Grace Hoogerhyde, Alexander Hirji, Kaye Chin, and Savion Green

1. Call to Order and Roll Call for Attendance (Discussion and Possible Action)

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 PM. Commissioners Vigil, Hoogerhyde, Green, and Ibarra are absent and unexcused. There is quorum.

Commissioner Nassiri motions to excuse Commissioner Vigil, seconded by Commissioner Quick. Approved by acclamation. All other absences are not excused.

2. Approval of Agenda (Action Item)

There is no public comment. Motion to approve the agenda by Commissioner Quick, seconded by Commissioner Hirji. The motion passes unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes (Action Item)

B. Feb 19, 2019

[Document A](#)

There is no public comment. Motion to approve the minutes by Commissioner Marshall-Fricker, seconded by Commissioner Quick. The motion passes unanimously.

4. Public Comment on Items not on Agenda (Discussion Only)

5. Legislation Referred (All Items to Follow Discussion and Possible Action)

A. BOS File No. 190164 [Police Code - Acceptance of Cash by Brick-and-Mortar Businesses]

Presenter: Derek Remski, District 5 Legislative Aide

Document B

History-a few months ago were working on it and folks thought it was about punishing businesses, which is not true. They are not asking businesses to do something that has been standard practice, as well as stems from an equity lens.



17.4% of African Americans lack access to banks, 14% of Latinx lack access to banks, and young people don't always have access to credit cards.

Cash is important for many reasons-youth, people of color, seniors, and folks who have had their identity stolen would be affected by this legislation.

If any business has a human that interacts with another human then they are a brick and mortar business. Have to accept all debts both public and private.

Department of Weights and Measures is who will be regulating this. Some exceptions, but not many. Two exceptions: people can reject suspected counterfeit bills or anything over a \$20 bill.

Hope for YC's support and will plan to redraft the legislation a little bit to include all brick and mortar businesses. We need to ensure that SF's have equitable access to our services and systems. Accepting cash brings back discrimination.

Commissioner Dong-aside from bigger companies, has there been push back from smaller mom and pop businesses? Talked with small merchants association across the city and the concerns were about insurance companies and that they didn't fall into it, and are now amending the legislation to include these types of business. Smaller business love cash.

Commissioner Hirji-does this include Uber and other app based services? No. Made it specifically for brick and mortar businesses. It would be a government overreach to try and get mobile services to take cash. A lot to ask for these folks to install a safe.

Commissioner Nassiri-is it more expensive to switch to cash? Depends on who you talk to. Overall it will be cheaper to not take cash so they don't have to pay employees.

Commissioner Quick-large denomination, are they required to take all bills over \$20 right now? Unless they are accepting debt payments they have to accept any dollars, if not, they don't have to.

Commissioner Min-what are the number of businesses who do accept cash? About 10% are cashless right now, but expecting this number to grow. Sounds archaic but cash is king when there is no electricity or there is an earthquake. What happens when the cloud is down?

Commissioner Min-what is your outreach to the businesses? Frequent members of a coalition that holds about 45 different businesses, as well as chamber of commerce.

Public comment: agrees with Derrick. Didn't have a debit card or bank account when he was younger, and wouldn't have been able to eat without cash being accepted. Ageism seems relevant in this conversation.

Commissioner Quick, seconded by Commissioner Nassiri, motion to support this legislation. Motion approved by acclamation.

6. Presentations (All Items to Follow Discussion and Possible Action)



- A. Presentation on MyPath Youth Financial Access Campaign
Presenters: Carlos Ramirez and Katie Huang, MyPath Youth Leaders
Document C

Youth from Mission High and 5 Keys and youth engagement manager speaking on this issue. MyPath is a national nonprofit based in the Mission District and believe in "financial capability" for youth. It's like riding a bike! Used this as an analogy to explain financial capability. If youth don't know how to save but have products, they can't use the products correctly. And if they have a lot of knowledge, but not the product, they don't have access.

Believe that if youth are old enough to work the youth are old enough to have a non-custodial bank account. This means that youth accounts are connected to their parents' accounts and this is an issue and should have separate accounts.

Want to give all youth non-custodial bank accounts so they can start learning skills independently now vs. later.

Benefits: manage own money, build good relationships with banks, save money in secure place, etc.

Youth face many barriers like: being 18 to open up a bank account, needing a parent if under 18 (and foster youth don't have this), needing a CA ID and/or driver's license, etc.

Solutions: accept ITINs and school IDs, not needing parent permission, not having a PG&E bill but using a report card, etc.

Passing a pledge around.

Questions:

Commissioner Nassiri-when asking for connections, what are you looking for? Looking for an array of things. Have tried to push this as policy and are establishing a coalition. So now just want a letter of intent to see who is interested and who back it, and who can they go to be a part of the coalition.

Commissioner Marshall-Fricker-have you gone to Supervisors? Not yet, but plan on it.

Commissioner Cureton-who have you connected with already? Opportunities for All, Here to Stay Coalition, Treasurer's Office, trying to build with both youth and adults.

Commissioner Quick-most of these barriers that youth face...are they barriers linked to the practices of financial institutions or to laws that need to change? What's the focus? No state or federal laws that say banks cannot offer. Looking to put a state wide bill to clarify that there are not state or federal regulations, they just aren't offering them.

So, legislatively they can do whatever they want so that's why they chose to put on these restrictions? Yes.

Have you thought about putting forward legislation to accept some of your demands? Want to have a first early win that would be a little easily which is to clarify that there



aren't barriers. So at a different time after clarification, they would want support from the BOS in about a year.

Commissioner Min-have you spoken to any of the financial institutions? Yes, reaching out to multiple stakeholders such as CA League of Credit Unions. Have met with bankers association and presented to them. In principle find it interesting and connect them with larger banks to start discussion. Want to see what opposition is and are still in early stages. Trying to get incentives first before going to the stakeholders. MyPath is a national nonprofit and working with 13 banks and credit unions across the country.

Commissioner Min-do you have parent input on this idea or data on what youth and parents think on this idea? So with all these barriers are a part of national youth banking standards and these are identified by youth and is a youth led process. Based on this input came up with these banking standards. Keep strengthening their models with and for youth. 52 pledges have been signed by youth in SF.

Commissioner Sadarangani-would you be providing education for youth to learn more about bank process? Yes, MyPath savings model. Connect youth with financial education and work a lot with DCYF and their youth workforce agencies.

Commissioner Nassiri-had class called Junior Achievement, would you be doing education through the school system or somewhere else? Will reach out to different organizations like MYEEP and are trying to do it country wide.

Have you thought about going through the state school system that requires youth learning about managing bank accounts? CA state law only requires education up to the third grade on money so this is on their radar.

Commissioner Min-to clarify goals, is it to have complete autonomy from parents? Commissioner Min has concerns that there is no clarification on required education if parents aren't involved. Any mention of facilitation? MyPath model is partnering youth in their programs and while they are earning their paychecks, they are providing the knowledge of finances and to practice via youth friendly bank accounts. This is core MyPath model. For the campaign, it's for bank accounts to be more accessible in general and more available in general. Just because you turn 18 doesn't mean you know how to use a bank account and finances. Giving youth access creates ownership earlier on to experiment and to have solutions earlier rather than later, if mistakes will be made.

Commissioner Cureton thanks the youth for presenting. What is your role in MyPath? Are you being educated or taking charge in the legislative portion? One is an alumni and TAY and speaks about the legislation part, and reaches out to the youth to get their input and feedback.

Discussion:

Commissioner Min-nice presentation but would be more comfortable if data was put onto paper or at least in email so to have it in writing. Unclear on idea vs. legislation. Not comfortable endorsing this if not about legislation change.

Commissioner Marshall Fricker-seems like it's still in the early stages.



Commissioner Nassiri-nuanced wording isn't about supporting legislation it's about supporting campaign in general.

Commissioner Cureton-if we are endorsing the campaign would this include the legislation?

Commissioner Obermeyer-when it comes to what the YC can do supporting an organization, we can support things that are being undertaking, but doesn't make sense to support through this means but can acknowledge the good work. They would like are stamp of approval. Would have appreciated, personally, the ability to slip up with someone who could help him.

Commissioner Ty-current bank situation is not for youth. And navigating the system is not made for everyone.

Commissioner Chin-strongly believes in MyPath and what they do. Works with a lot of youth, and for her first job, they provided Kaye with financial education and has made all the difference for her. We should support them and that youth have access to financial education.

Public Comment-Three members of the public: Maggie, would also include undocumented folks and need to think about the youth who go to school with us, or youth who are fosters who don't have legal guardians and can't rely on adults to open accounts for them. How do we give them tools? Another Maggie supports this initiative. When she was young would have to go to gas stations to change checks and they take a portion of money which is not fair. Having youth understand money is important and supports this. Sometimes adults take money out of youth's accounts and youth get upset about this. Youth don't have overdraft fees and want to keep things safe and create a buffer to learn how to use the account properly.

Commissioner Marshall-Fricker, seconded by Commissioner Quick, motions to support the non-custodial youth accounts campaign.

Commissioner Obermeyer - aye
Commissioner Marshall-Fricker - aye
Commissioner Dong - aye
Commissioner Cureton - aye
Commissioner Quick - aye
Commissioner Sadarangani - aye
Commissioner Ty- aye
Commissioner Nassiri - aye
Commissioner Hylton - aye
Commissioner Min - nay
Commissioner Hirji - aye
Commissioner Chin - aye

11 ayes and 1 nay with Commissioner Min in the dissent. Motion passes.

- B. Presentation on Youth Advocacy Day Feedback and Follow up
Presenter: Prishni Murillo, Senior Program & Planning Specialist, Department of Children, Youth & Their Families



Prishni thanks the Communications team for sitting with Colin to figure out the logo design. Because this is the 10 years of YAD, setting a new benchmark that includes a new logo to commemorate. Wanted a visual representation to show the amplification of youth voice, and showcase youth to step into power. Warrior colors. Logo will be on printed materials and t shirts. Don't have a youth advisory board and so are missing youth voices, and are hoping YC can give input on logo and colors. Black, heather grey, white t shirt colors as three options so far.

Shift from previous years-have budgeted that ALL youth will get a t-shirt, and not just leaders.

YAD Program agenda: space and staff availability. Vision is have young people step into City Hall and take it over. However, some costs associated with this. Able to work with a day that the first half of the day will be in City Hall and second half will be in Main Library. Starting at City Hall first thing. Hope that YC will be one of key partners.

YC needed for:
Opening greeting
Panelists

See's the YC as the formal youth voice in the city and would like you to welcome your peers to this space that is usually not thought of as youth friendly.

BOS office hours for meet and greet right after the opening greeting. Want to have greeting outdoors and ease youth into the space. DCYF planning to help with movement of large bags so goes faster.

Have spoken to all Supervisors and invited them. Have received a lot of yes and waiting on some confirmations. We want young people to know who their supervisors are and know where they handle business and engage in informal conversation. Will the go to 4th floor and hosting panel conversations with current city leadership and workers across multiple departments. Hope conversation will also focus on how city leaders got into their positions.

Wrap up: moving towards lunch and work with Mayor's schedule and hoping that since the Rotunda is booked for the youth the Mayor will greet them. Really want youth to experience City Hall. After lunch would go to the library and have conversation on issues and topics. YC budget and policy priorities have been the foundation for these panel discussions. Two sessions, so each youth will engage in two issues. Youth will be able to be matched to the panels based on their interest.

End-music and performances, and bring youth to close out the day.

Youth Issue Panels:

DCYF really needs support on how to title panel discussions in ways that youth will know what is being discussed and doesn't sound wonky. Using hashtags to match with hashtags?

Two questions:

- 1) Do we use the hashtag as primary title for discussion?
- 2) Use it the way it's being presented right now?



Power in using hashtags and can create their own and become visible, or use existing national hashtags that youth are already using and encourage youth to use these to insert a SF perspective in a national perspective.

6 panels:

- Restoring Justice - policy and support to keep youth out of the system
- Public Safety - youth arrests, community policing, more focused on relationships between youth and police (specifically separating these two to allow for more conversation)
- Livable Public Spaces
- Community Engagement & Civic Identity
- Housing & Supportive Services
- Education and Workforce Opportunities

BOS participation:

Confirmed in 5 offices. Asking Youth Commissioners to nudge their Supervisors to respond to this request.

Outreach: save the date has been released. Goal is to have 25 youth leaders and to have youth visible and know the schedule. Have 25 confirmed and first leader training is this Thursday. Lots of diversity from different organizations and goal of 200 youth to participate.

Flyer and Registration release is March 11

March 30th is soft deadline for registration, April 12th is harder deadline

Formal support needed:

1) Commemoration of Jeff Adachi (he made it a point to attend YAD every year, and he represents the intention behind the day)

- want to make him visible in the program, or put in a quote, image
- want visuals to draw attention this isn't a regular day at city hall and wants to highlight prominent SF leaders who may/may not still be with us
- June Jordan, Maya Angelou, Jeff Adachi, other names?

2) Panelists for Youth Commissioners

Discussion on presentation and requests:

Commissioner Nassiri- on civic engagement panel, will all these happen at the same time? They would be 6 concurrent and happening at the same time, twice. 1:30-3:15pm time bracket for these panels. Commissioners can't do full day but can do the panels. So could be Commissioner for that particular panel.

Commissioner Hylton - for panels on restoring justice, encourages youth representing on this panel who have been through the justice system and this would be powerful. Encourages DCYF to work with SFUSD. Yes, have been meeting with wellness coordinators and get in contact with principals. Has high school partnership schools which will be primary schools to attend. Dr. Su will be meeting with the Superintendent and reiterates the communication with principals.



Commissioner Obermeyer-third YAD to take part in, and would be happy to introduce the day. This has already been taken so just talking about panels.

Commissioner Ty-Housing panelists.

Drew-interested in sitting on public safety (priority should be given to TJ folks)

Commissioner Cureton -not sure if she can make it to the panels and would be happy to sit on TJ related issues.

Commissioner Obermeyer - be illustrative and clear on the names without being confusing and out of touch. Please send digital copy for youth commissioners to look at. For SF leaders: Alex Nieto. Prepping questions-had youth leaders walk other youth on questions for the panels, is this changing?

Prishni-trying to strengthen the pre communication. Having a lot more in follow up who are chaperoning youth to the event. Things to consider on the cards for the facilitators. Make the process a little more organic by giving topics of discussion and things to consider on how to prepare the day of. This will be a trial run.

Commissioner Nassiri-have you thought of doing voter pre-registration drive? Yes, voter education cards will be there with Dept. of Elections.

C. Proposed Youth Seat on the San Francisco Police Commission
Presenter: Petra de Jesus, San Francisco Police Commissioner
Document D

Youth Commission (YC) has been in collaboration with the Police Commission in the past. This is a draft resolution. Lots of issues that impact youth: use of force, tasers, incident at Balboa etc. and don't have input from youth at these meetings.

Idea would be to have either Youth Commissioner on the Police Commission or to have other youth on the Police Commission. You or a representative that the YC could send to discuss or give input. Couldn't sit on body, but could have opportunity to share and comment on what is coming up for youth or any general orders the YC thinks should be important.

Looking for feedback from YC on this draft resolution and likes idea of keeping it open on who you want to send.

Vice Chair Cureton-title is about urging a youth seat, but resolved clause shows sending a youth representative? Police Commission is set up by the Charter.

Do you want a representative to speak or to be formally on the commission? Police Commission is set up like YC. Whole new Commission-envision youth sitting up on the dais with us or at least sit on the side chair with youth being part of the agenda. Would follow the structure of reports and could envision youth giving a report and feedback as well. Would want youth to sit and be an acting part.

Commissioner Hylton - encourage the addition of a member of youth who has had interaction with juvenile system or police to be a part of the advising process? Youth could recommend someone as a representative.



Commissioner Obermeyer-thank you for presenting this and wanting to include youth in local govt. Hypothetically-if youth had voting abilities, would this require revision of charter? Yes. So that's why couldn't participate in formal things.

Would they be able to engage in dialogue along other members or limited to a report? Actual participation on whatever is being discussed. Would want youth to participate in discussion, including the Chief of Police and be able to ask questions. Doesn't want youth to just sit there, but wants your ideas for youth input.

Petra-could you put committee together to help finalize the resolution.

Commissioner Hylton-would this be the same representative this week? This would be up to the Youth Commission.

Staff-we have language that could help identify the process and internally want to check in on staff capacity to help support the youth.

Commissioner Cureton-should refer to this Transformative Justice. LAO support is happy to help. Commissioner Obermeyer willing to help provide support since OAC experience.

Discussion-Commissioner Obermeyer, when it comes to meetings like these it's filled with layered language and acronyms. So when we think about youth in the chair, revolving it wouldn't make sense to build their capacity. We are privileged to have the seats that we have, it makes sense to hold this as a place for another youth to grow and develop as youth leader in their own right. Having ownership of the process can help get input on youth who can handle this.

Petra-can work on appendix for abbreviations to help.

Commissioner Obermeyer-talk about onboarding process when goes to TJ.

7. Committee Reports (Discussion Only)

E. Executive Committee

- i. LAO
- ii. Communications Team

Saw much higher traffic when folks are tagged in social media.

F. Housing and Land Use Committee

Had presentation to Human Rights Commission (HRC) on Budget and Policy Priorities (BPPs). HRC received it well and asked a lot of questions and were astounded by the numbers they presented on. Looking forward to continued partnership. Commissioner Quick and Ty will be working on getting a BOS hearing on permanent supportive housing goals.

G. Transformative Justice Committee

No official meeting but had meeting with SFPD to prep on their roundtable.



H. Civic Engagement Committee

Received presentation on Youth Leadership Institute regarding price minimum on tobacco products, working on BPPs, and another working issues.

8. Staff Report (Discussion Only)

- 2019 Gender Analysis of San Francisco Commissions and Boards
- Project WHAT youth summit on March 30th 11-4 Oakland Impact Hub
- Budget and Policy Priority Process
- Youth Applications coming down the pipeline soon
- School Of The Arts health fair March 12th from 12-1:10pm
- Youth Police Roundtable on March 12th
- Opportunities for All tabling on March 13th, 11-4pm at City Hall (focused on government, policy, and law)
 - Shift help: Commissioners Min, Obermeyer, Nassiri
- Youth Advocacy Day trainings: March 18th and April 1st. Times are flexible but hope to start at 4pm in City Hall. Naomi is negotiating to see if you only have to attend one vs both.
 - March 18th: Commissioners Cureton, Hylton, and Min
 - April 1st: Commissioner Nassiri, Obermeyer, Chin, and Ty
- SAC March 22nd Youth Summit, 11:30-12:30 for tabling. Commissioners Nassiri, Chin, and Min will table.

9. Announcements (This Includes Community Events)

- Commissioner Obermeyer, taking photos for this night and other meetings to post on social media. Let him know if you aren't comfortable with photos.
- Youth Commission (YC) open House May 2nd to get more info out about youth applications.
- LYRIC has resource for undocumented youth. See Commissioner Ty for mini zine.
- The YC passed a resolution on youth activist groups on gun issues and control. Doing a lobby day on March 14th. If interested contact Commissioner Quick. Bay Area Student Activists (BASTA)

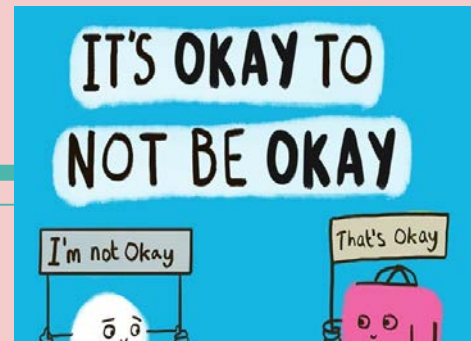
10. Adjournment

- This meeting is adjourned at 7:06pm.



OUR HEALING IN OUR HANDS

FINDINGS FROM A MENTAL HEALTH SURVEY WITH
SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH



Research Question:

**WHAT ARE THE
MENTAL HEALTH
NEEDS AND
EXPERIENCES OF
YOUTH OF COLOR,
PARTICULARLY
ASIAN AMERICAN
YOUTH, ENROLLED
IN SF PUBLIC HIGH
SCHOOLS?**

971



surveys of
high school
youth

31



**student
participants
in focus groups**

30



interviews
of wellness staff and
administrators, key
community-based
organizations

KEY SURVEY DISCOVERIES!

Experiences of Bullying & Feelings of Safety:

ARAB AMERICAN/
MIDDLE EASTERN
AMERICAN
STUDENTS; BISEXUAL AND
LESBIAN/GAY STUDENTS,
AND STUDENTS WITH 1.0-
1.9 GPA'S FELT THE LEAST
SAFE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE
OF SCHOOL. THESE
GROUPS WERE ALSO THE
MOST LIKELY TO REPORT
BULLYING FOR A RANGE
OF REASONS, INCLUDING
RACE/ETHNICITY, GENDER/
SEXUAL IDENTITY,
RELIGION, AND CLASS.



- Lesbian/gay students were almost **13x as likely** as straight students to be **bullied for their gender/sexual identity**.
- Students whose primary home language is **not English** reported **feeling less safe in almost all areas of school** compared with their primarily English-speaking peers.
 - ◆ **Toisanese speakers** reported lowest levels of safety in classes and bathrooms.

*“A lot of undocumented members are in **constant fear**. You can tell they are **consistently stressed, aren’t as engaged and aren’t as present**. There’s lack of involvement... Grades dropping... [students] often don’t have time to do homework.”*

Barriers to Accessing Wellness Centers:

- Lack of **awareness of services**, **low rates of referrals** to services and **cultural and systemic barriers** (stigma/peer pressure), especially for **Asian Americans and ELL students**, particularly **Toisanese speakers**.
- **Almost all students of color** were **less likely** than white students to **use the wellness center**.
- Due to the higher rates of internalized mental health needs, together with the bias rooted in the **Model Minority Myth**, **Asian American students** are **under-referred to services**.

OVERALL, 91.28%
HAD NEVER SEEN
A THERAPIST AT
SCHOOL, AND
57.66% HAD NEVER USED
THE WELLNESS CENTER AT
SCHOOL.



Wellness Service Needs

- **Desire for an increase of services** understanding and pertaining to both mental and physical health



CHINESE STUDENTS WERE ABOUT 2-3 TIMES AS LIKELY AS OTHER ETHNIC GROUPS TO INDICATE THE IMPORTANCE OF SERVICES RELATED TO BODY IMAGE, PEER COUNSELING, HANDLING STRESS, SAFE SEX, AND HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS.



Focus Group Findings

ARAB RESOURCE AND ORGANIZING CENTER (AROC):



- ***Middle Eastern students who were surveyed reported higher barriers than their peers:*** not wanting to talk to a stranger, not knowing who to approach, a fear of family or friends finding out, and a desire to work out one's problems on their own.

Focus Group Findings

FILIPINO COMMUNITY CENTER (FCC):

- “Sometimes it’s hard to open up to teachers or adults. [We need] **peer led spaces for counseling -- students taught how to talk to their peers.**”

SFUSD Wellness Center Staff:

- “Teachers, adult allies, and students need to unpack systems of oppression and power... **having culturally competent trainings** could help understand black and brown pain and **not read it as anger/defiance but as depression/anxiety.**”—Lowell Wellness Center staff
- “There’s currently **not enough funding** to provide services like **translating outreach** into different languages.” – SFUSD Wellness Center Staff

CPA TENANT WORKER CENTER (TWC):

- **No parent reported knowing about existing mental health resources** at their children’s schools or how services work.

“I feel like they take **more punitive measures** rather than sending us to the wellness center.” - Arab Resource and Organizing Center youth member

“Black and brown youth often get referrals to the dean, and are **often criminalized when they should have been referred to the Wellness Center**”- Lowell Wellness Center staff

How do you feel? Did this surprise you or not? Why?

INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS & NEXT STEPS



1. Youth-anchored counseling



2. Expand on current wellness funding



3. Integrate culturally congruent mental health education in the classroom!



4. Increase youth and staff voice at schools to make decisions around wellness budgets, programming, and hiring.



5. Strengthen preventative care services and outreach (mindfulness practices, restorative justice)

ENDORSEMENT!

We are would love your
support on our campaign!