



FUTURE 4 TEENS COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMMING

Specific Demographic Profile

- To date, Future 4 Teens (F4T) programming has served over 500 youth, adolescents, and young adults since its establishment in the summer of 2006. Future 4 Teens programming participants range from 7 – 23 years of age, with a majority of participants between 14 and 20 years of age.
- F4T participants are majority (+/- 80%) African American, (+/- 9%) Hispanic, or (+/- 9%) Mixed Race. The White American population accounts for (+/- 2%) of active F4T programming participation.
- A majority of F4T participant's represent underrepresented populations and low socio economic statuses.
- To date a majority of F4T participant's live on the north, south, and east side of Kalamazoo. A number of participants reside in other surrounding areas such as; Portage, Bangor, Flint, Pontiac, Detroit, etc. Few participants travel from areas throughout the Midwest region for participation in the Annual F4T Summer Basketball League. * F4T seeks to expand its participation population.
- F4T serves both male and female populations almost equally. Most programs are facilitated under a co – ed format (e.g. Annual Real Talk Youth Retreat), while others are gender specific (e.g. Ladies Only Trip).

F4T participants are often coping with the following:

- Significant familial discord (e.g. single parent homes, parental divorce, foster care or living w/ extended family members or friends, history of drug/alcohol abuse within the family, assault and/or violence in the home, etc.)
- Compounded grief and/or Trauma (e.g. death of loved ones, abusive relationships, gang violence, near fatal interactions with peers, and/or sexual assault).
- Drug/alcohol abuse
- Adolescent parenthood
- Academic difficulties (e.g. truancy, disengagement, attrition, and/or illiteracy)
- Socio-emotional difficulties (e.g. hostile interpersonal skills, difficulty regulating emotion, etc.)
- Limited access to affordable, culturally appropriate, and responsive mental health resources
- Interactions with the judicial system due (in part) to unlawful behaviors
- Domestic disputes with romantic partners and violent interactions with peers
- Self harm and risky behaviors (e.g. cutting, burning, promiscuity, unsafe sexual practices, etc.)