

MOTIVATION

Members of our society face stressors that can't be solved overnight. However, as a neighborhood collective, we hold the power to cultivate community-centered joy and well-being. Local resources, like community centers, can serve as spaces for connection, healing, and the cultivation of joy.

The World Health Organization identifies well-being as a key resource for daily life and a crucial factor in addressing health equity.¹ Communities can withstand, adapt to, and recover from adversity through sustained, collective efforts that promote wellness.²

By designing programs inspired by community voices, we can begin to transform individual stress into a shared joy. Through connection and care, neighborhoods can grow stronger and build more resilient communities together.

Every Neighborhood Needs A Community Center



PROJECT OUTCOMES

- **Support System:** 100% of survey participants reported feeling a sense of wellness within their community, highlighting the strength of local community spaces.
- **Access Limitations:** Survey results indicated that transportation limitations and traffic concerns potentially reduce residents' ability to attend events.
- **Connection:** Respondents shared that events and resources provided by The Corner fostered a sense of wellness by bringing people together and helped build new connections within the community.

PROJECT IMPACT

- Survey assessment **provided a platform for community members to share experiences**, needs, and personal definition of well-being
- Survey responses can **help develop future programming** reflective of residents' needs
- **Identify gaps in resources**, highlight strengths, and bring light to issues going unheard
- **Foster a greater sense of trust** between The Corner and community members

CONTEXT

The Corner is more than just a building; it's a hub for community connection and support. Founded in 2011, The Corner Community Center's mission is to provide arts and social safety net programming within a welcoming "third place" environment for residents of West Oakland, Oak Hill, the Hill District, and the greater Pittsburgh area. The Center offers a diverse range of programs, including jazz concerts, neighborhood council meetings, homework help, summer learning lunchbox enrichment activities, monthly food distributions, clothing drives, exercise classes, computer literacy workshops, etc. Through these varied offerings, The Corner tirelessly works to enrich lives, foster community engagement, and address the needs of its neighbors.

SURVEY LIMITATION

1. **Sample Size:** With only 14 responses, participation was limited, and results may not reflect the views of the entire neighborhood
2. **Time Constraint:** Limited time to survey residents in person during set program hours

OBJECTIVES

- **Create** activities that promote and cultivate community wellness.
- **Assess** how community members are accessing The Corner resources
- **Identify** barriers that impact the community and access to resources
- **Strengthen** community resilience by fostering trust and defining a shared vision of joy within the community.

SURVEY RESULTS



Figure 1. Word cloud representing the most common terms reported by community members to define communal joy.

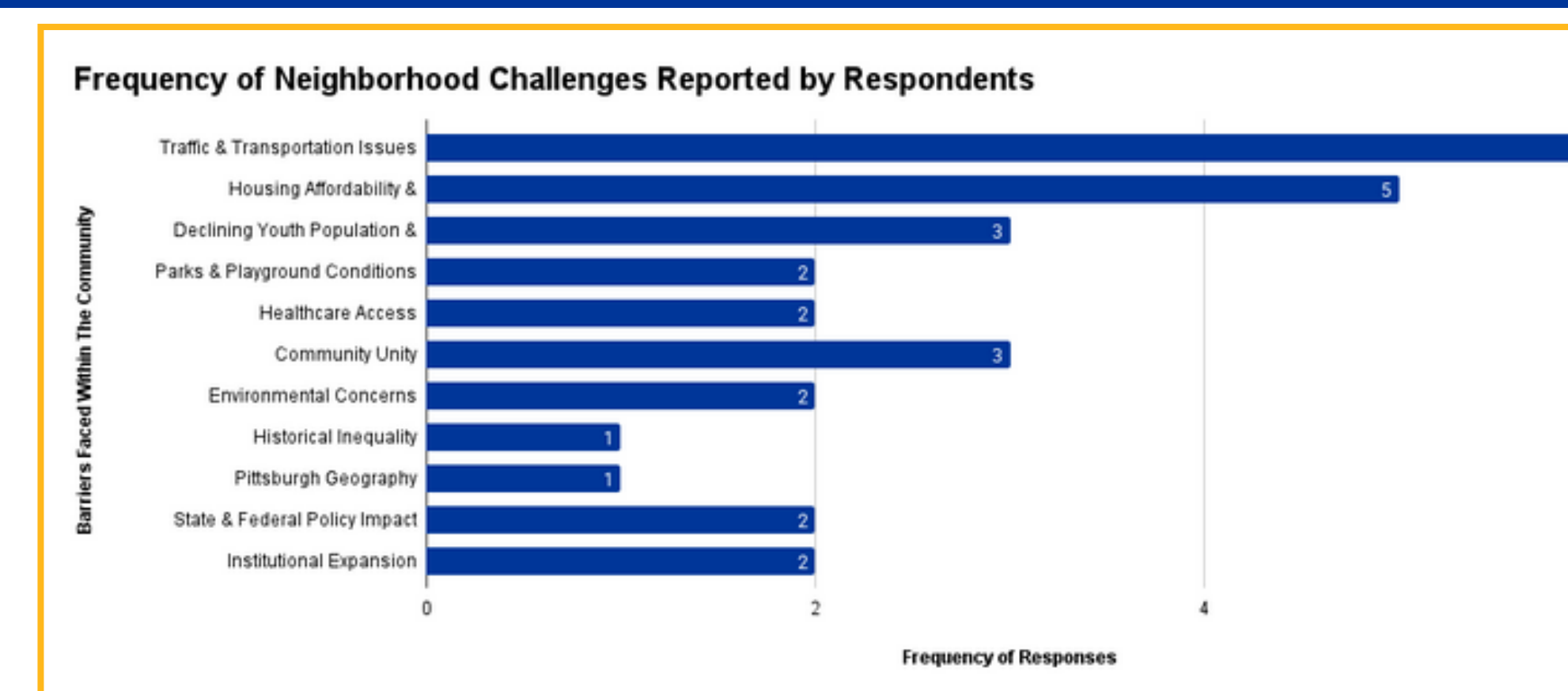


Figure 2. Number of respondents who identified barriers within their neighborhood.

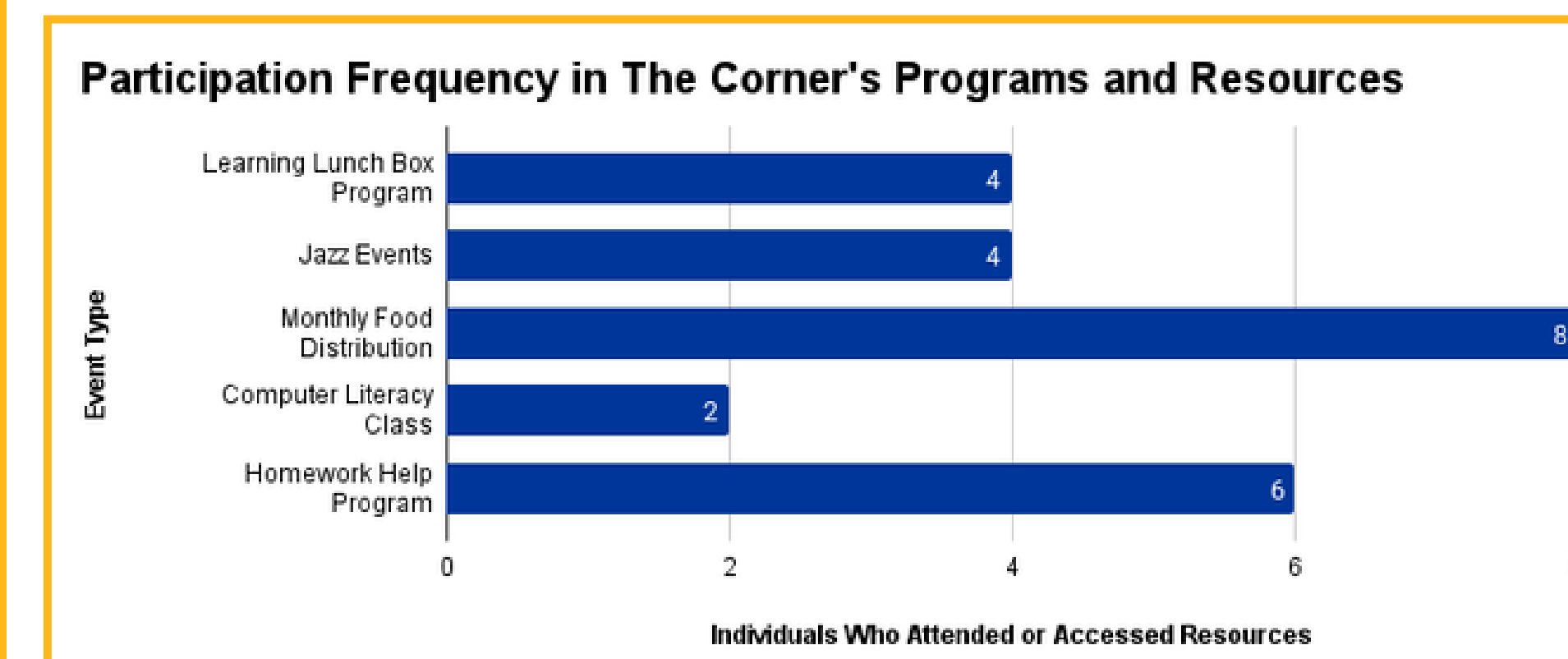


Figure 3. Number of respondents who participated in events or accessed resources from The Corner.

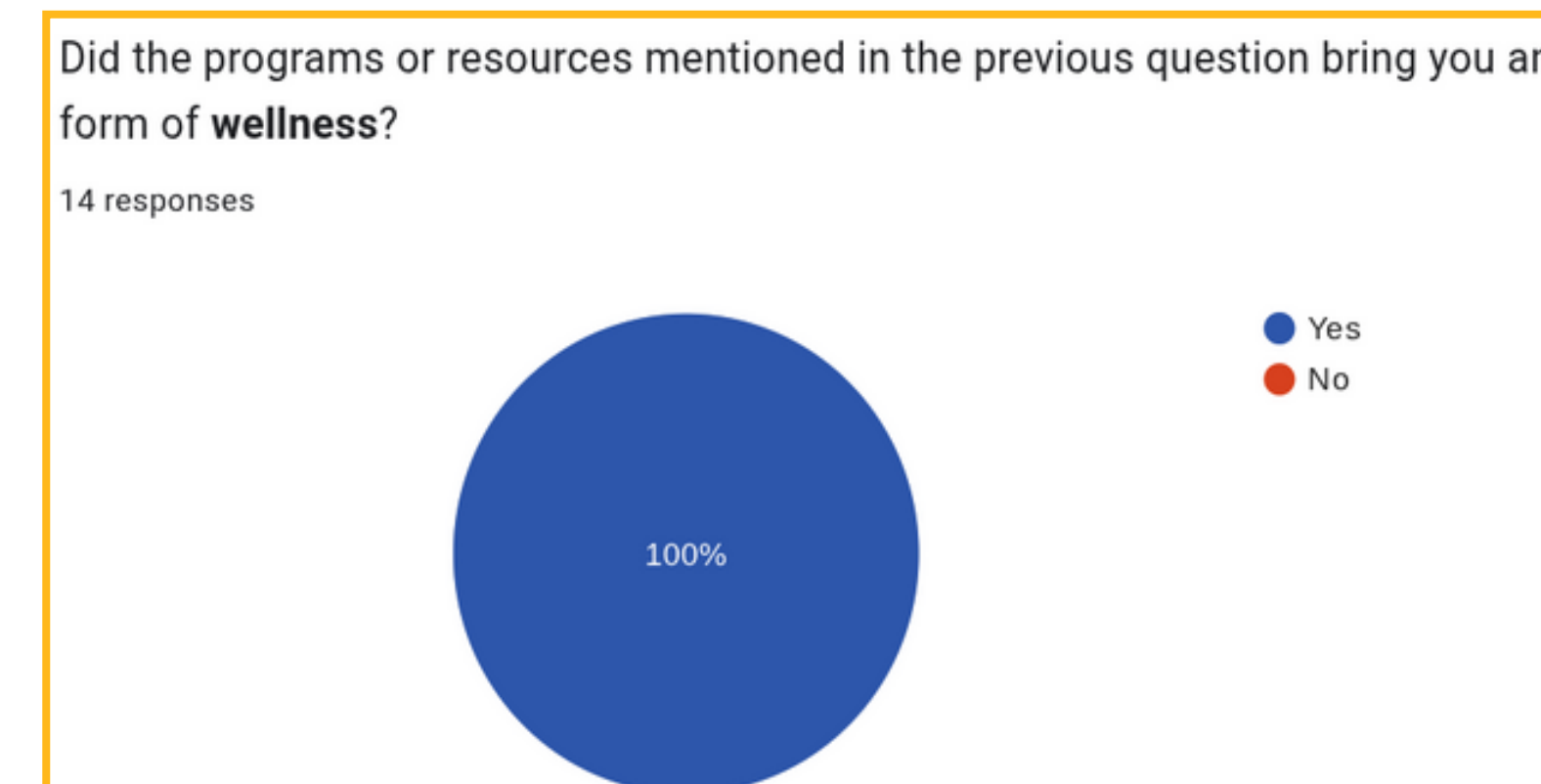


Figure 4. Residents' responses regarding whether The Corner's resources and programs supported their well-being

METHODS

1. Planned enrichment activities for the **Learning Lunch Box Program**
2. Conducted a neighborhood **"Wellness assessment"** survey
3. Developed new **outreach strategies** to increase awareness of local resources provided by The Corner

NEXT STEPS

- Plan to conduct additional surveys to identify the most convenient event times, aiming to enhance future community engagement.
- Deepen the relationship between The Corner and the community by prioritizing ongoing engagement and community input.

REFERENCES

SCAN HERE FOR



REFERENCES, WELLNESS ASSESSMENT SURVEY RESULTS, & PHOTO GALLERY

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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