The State of Youth Philanthropy 2020-2021

"The State of Youth Philanthropy 2020-2021," is a part of Sillerman's Youth Philanthropy Project and was completed in collaboration with Foundation for MetroWest.

In this brief we discuss the direct and indirect effects of COVID-19 on youth philanthropy programs across the United States. We consider how young people and their adult supporters adapted to and stayed engaged with virtual youth philanthropy programming as the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic led to abrupt changes in the way that young people and program leaders work, learn, engage, and live.

Some of the main takeaways from this research include:

- **Hybrid youth philanthropy programming is here to stay.** Over 76% of survey respondents indicated that in the future they will retain some form of virtual learning and communications.
- **Flexibility, collaboration, and proper technology and training are key.** In order to best support young people's needs, youth philanthropy programs should be flexible, collaborative, and provide young people and their adult supporters with the proper technology and training to complete their community-centric work.
- **Youth philanthropists are extremely dedicated.** Through our research and case studies, we saw young people surpass expectations and demonstrate their dedication to their youth philanthropy programs.

Brandeis

THE HELLER SCHOOL
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Sillerman Center
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honeycomb
Jewish Youth Philanthropy Reimagined

Below you will find a brief comparison between responses from Honeycomb Youth Philanthropy Programs and the overall responses of Youth Philanthropy Programs surveyed.

	honeycomb Jewish Youth Philanthropy Reimagined	All Respondents
Number of Programs Surveyed	35	244
Number of Responses Received	12 (34 %)	86 (39.85%)
Programs that ran from 2020-2021	83 %	75.5%
Programs to continue hybrid format	75%	76.5%
Barriers due to COVID-19 [2]	Time [3] Financial Burden/ Restrictions [4]	Staff availability Lack of technology
Resources needed for successful virtual programming	Virtual team building (39%)	Virtual team building (36%)
Supports and resources young people need to engage [5]	More flexibility (27%) More group work/ collaboration (27%) Virtual fundraising tools (23%)	More flexibility (26%) More group work/ collaboration (26%) Technology access (20%)

Footnotes

[1] Survey respondents were those individuals who direct youth philanthropy organizations and/or programs

[2] Respondents were asked for rank/rate challenges faced on a scale of 0-10, with 0 indicating no challenge and 10 indicating the greatest challenge faced.

[3] Time, as a barrier, specifically relates to time restraints faced by young people that prevent them from engaging in youth philanthropy programs

[4] Financial burdens and restrictions are those that are faced or primarily relate to youth philanthropy organizations and programs

[5] Respondents could "select all that apply." Across all responses it is clear that more flexibility and more group work/collaboration are the most vital supports or resources young people need to engage in YP programming. No Honeycomb respondents indicated technology access as a needed resource.