



Shaping Our Inclusive Future

Cross-Cultural Programming Public Outreach Study

OCTOBER 2018





Bellevue is made up of a large, diverse population - encouraging communication between individuals and providing activities for populations (youth, seniors) as well as services to those in the community only spreads the multi-generational impact.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Bellevue City Councilmembers

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<https://www.bellevuewa.gov/city-government/departments/city-managers-office/diversity>



TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. Executive Summary	01
II. A Changing Bellevue	03
A. Significant Demographic Shifts	
B. Cultural Competence in the Community	
III. Shaping Our Inclusive Future	10
A. Community Expertise	
B. Community, Culture and Arts Resources Map	
C. Cultural Liaisons	
D. Participant Highlights	
IV. Values, Concerns & Aspirations.....	22
V. Goals & Recommendations	33
A. Centralized Cross-Cultural Program Coordination	
B. Implementation Strategies	
VI. Appendices	48
A. Case Studies	
B. City Diversity Programs	
C. Values Framework Data	
D. Survey Materials	



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BELLEVUE WELCOMES THE WORLD. OUR DIVERSITY IS OUR STRENGTH.

In the fall of 2016, the Bellevue City Council approved funding for a “Cross-Cultural Programming Public Outreach Study.” This study is the first of a three-phased approach by the Council to explore how to better support and advance local cross-cultural programs and services. The City desired to conduct research and engage in a public outreach process that facilitated feedback on the adequacy and effectiveness of existing cross-cultural programming.

Additional policy guidance comes from the 2014 Bellevue Diversity Advantage Plan, which highlights growing Bellevue's cross-cultural interaction and education under the action recommendation - "Cultural Competence in the Community". Cross-cultural interaction succeeds through community building, collaboration and partnership with community-based organizations. Cross-cultural programming helps build cohesion with the wide diversity of work currently happening in the community and may serve as a sustaining symbol of Bellevue's community-wide commitment to keeping diversity a priority.

To arrive at the findings of this report, KAYA Strategik engaged in a public outreach process that included a community survey translated in major languages and community listening sessions. They facilitated feedback on the values, concerns and aspirations for a shared strategy to support sustainable cross-cultural programming and activities that build community cohesion, collaboration, trust and celebrates all of Bellevue's diversity. Research included regional, national and international case studies for cross-cultural programming and space.

The adequacy and effectiveness of existing cross-cultural programming are strong for those who participate. Community feedback also emphasizes a significant desire to privately retain control of programming while wanting endorsement by, support from, and partnership with the City of Bellevue. The greatest barrier is access. The recommendations of this report, therefore, offer mechanisms for enhancing access to cross-cultural programming.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Residents Value and Aspire to:

- 1) Increase knowledge and awareness, particularly with historically underrepresented communities, of existing cross-cultural programs, services and spaces.
- 2) Address social-cultural barriers to participation in existing programs and services
- 3) Increase and expand cross-cultural programming and community partnerships that prioritize multi-generational, arts and performance, social service, civic learning and action; and gathering space resources.
- 4) Affordable, accessible convening space(s) of various size and location.

Recommendations for Enhancing Access:

- 1) Conduct an assessment of access and inclusion of existing City-directed cross-cultural activities and programs with particular attention to accessibility regarding (e.g. time of day, geography, multi-generational participation, and affordability) to evaluate opportunity for improvement.
- 2) Strengthen the marketing and communications about a City of Bellevue cross-cultural programming with an internal team to centrally coordinate information, engagement, partnerships, space and explores opportunities to grow cross-cultural programs and services in Bellevue.
- 3) Explore options to form community-centered program models that will work in partnership with the City.
- 4) Implement phase two of the Council's approach that would analyze the effectiveness and adequacy of the places of cross-cultural programming and gatherings.
- 5) Strengthen the use of Bellevue community liaisons as they conduct culturally relevant outreach, education, and technical assistance to support the goal of maximizing public access and participation to Bellevue diversity programming and social/human resources.

A CHANGING BELLEVUE

Known as a “City in a Park” with nearly 100 parks and a vast network of trails and greenbelts, Bellevue is the fifth largest city in Washington. The Eastside city spans 33.5 square miles from Lake Washington to Lake Sammamish. As part of the Innovation Triangle, Bellevue is the high-tech and retail center with a downtown skyline of gleaming high-rises, a diverse population of approximately 140,000 and schools that are consistently rated among the best in the country.



2018 Bellevue City Council

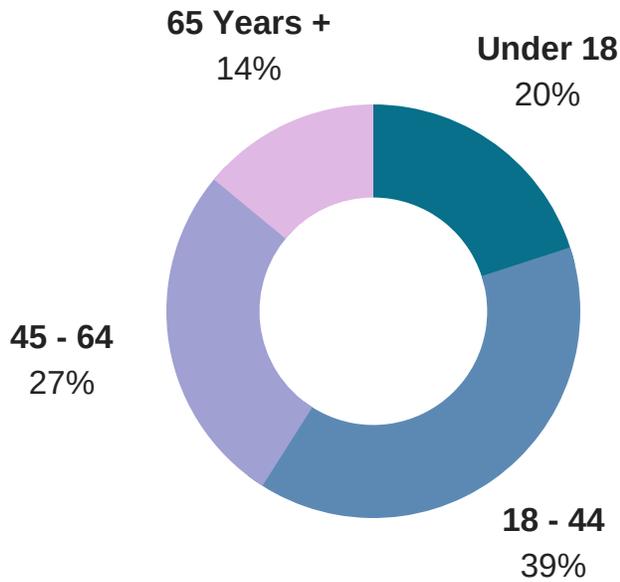
From Left to Right: Councilmember Jared Nieuwenhuis, Councilmember Jennifer Robertson, Councilmember Conrad Lee, Mayor John Chelminiak, Deputy Mayor Lynne Robinson, Councilmember Janice Zahn & Councilmember John Stokes

Significant Demographic Shifts

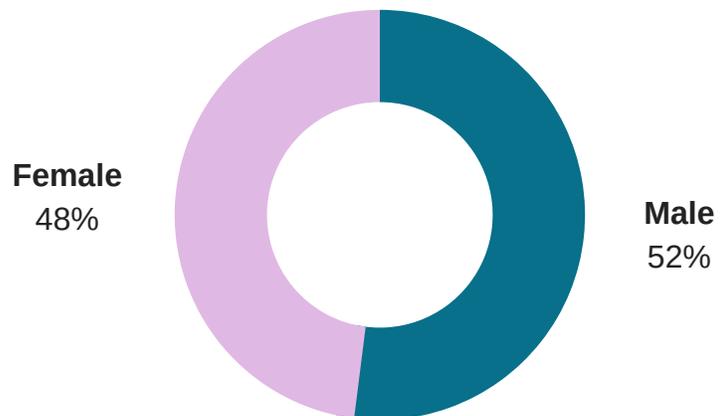
Over the past several decades, Bellevue has grown from a quiet suburban bedroom community into a dynamic, international, and multicultural city. Residents in Bellevue have witnessed their city grow significantly and the composition of their neighborhoods change. In October of 2016, the front page of the Seattle Times reads, “Bellevue now Washington’s biggest majority-minority city”. Increasingly, the city mirrors the culturally diverse and globally interdependent world that we live in.

Bellevue's definition of diversity refers to people of all cultures, languages, classes, races, ethnic backgrounds, disabilities, ages, religions, genders, sexual orientation and other diversity related factors.

Age



Gender



Bellevue's resident median age is 37.5. 39% of residents comprise a younger workforce and 27% an older workforce population. 14% of Bellevue residents are seniors and 20% are youth under 18.

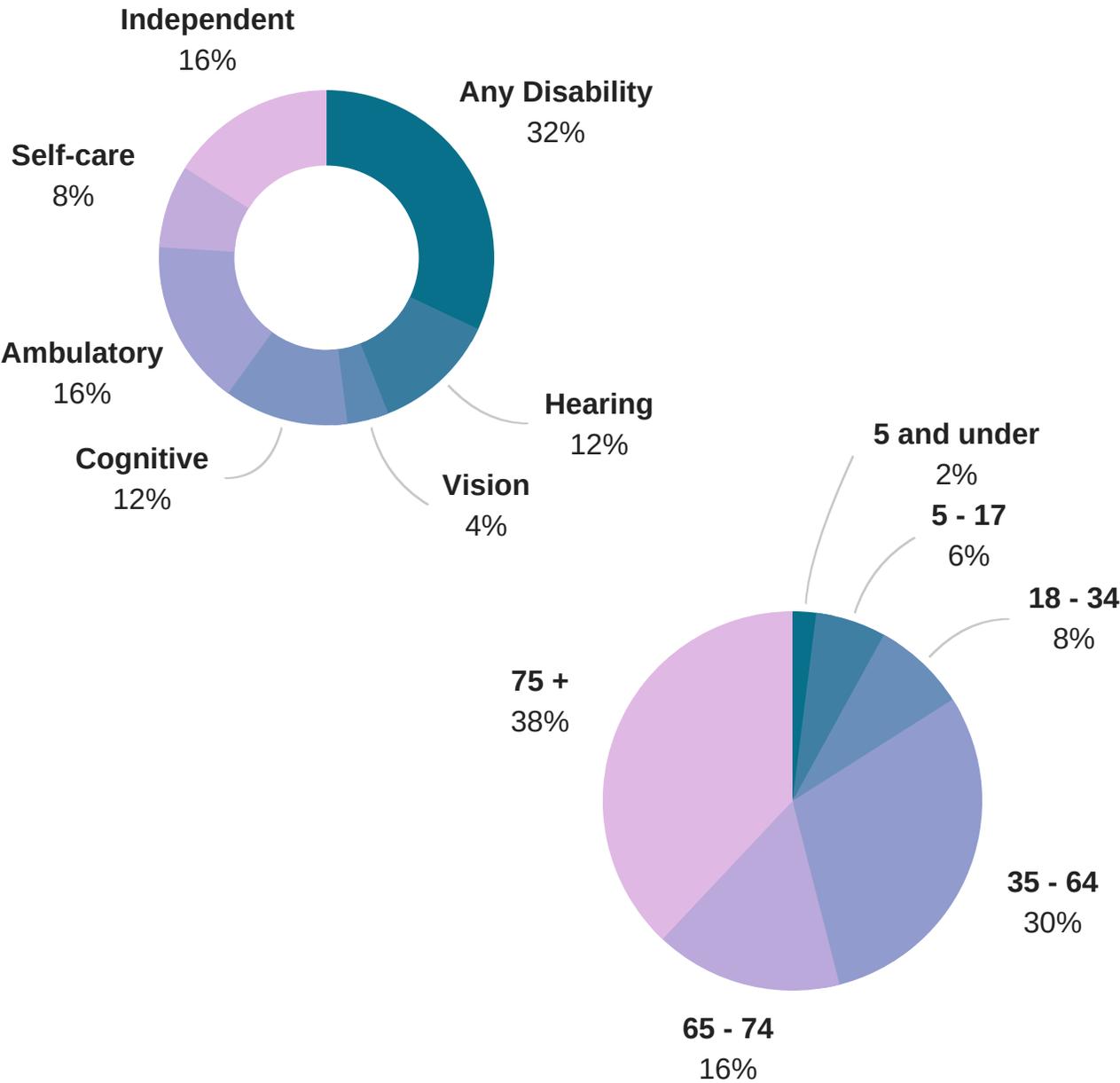
Bellevue's age population breakdown by youth, younger and older workforce and seniors have stayed relatively consistent over the decades and across the County.

Source: 2017 U.S. Census, American Community Survey

Disabilities

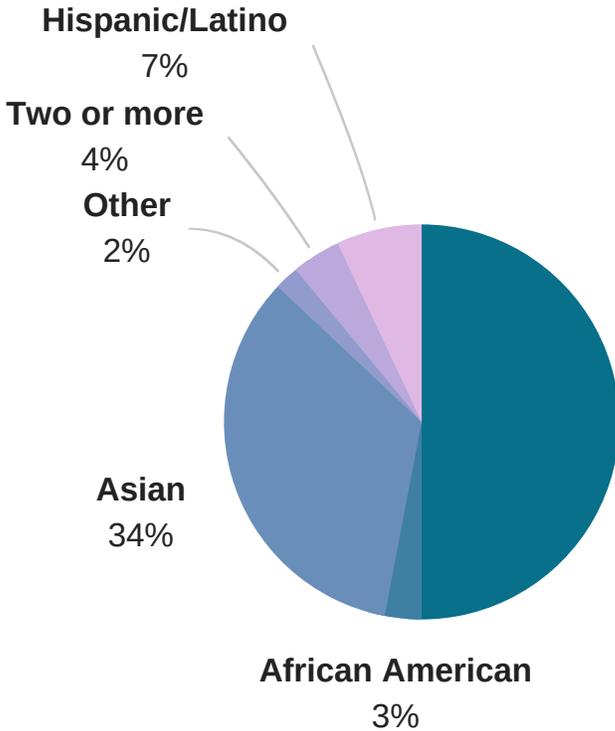
Bellevue has lower shares of its population with a disability for all disability types compared to King County and Washington state.

Bellevue also has smaller shares of people under 65 with disabilities compared to the State and County and a higher share of people 75 and over with a disability.



Source: 2017 U.S. Census, American Community Survey

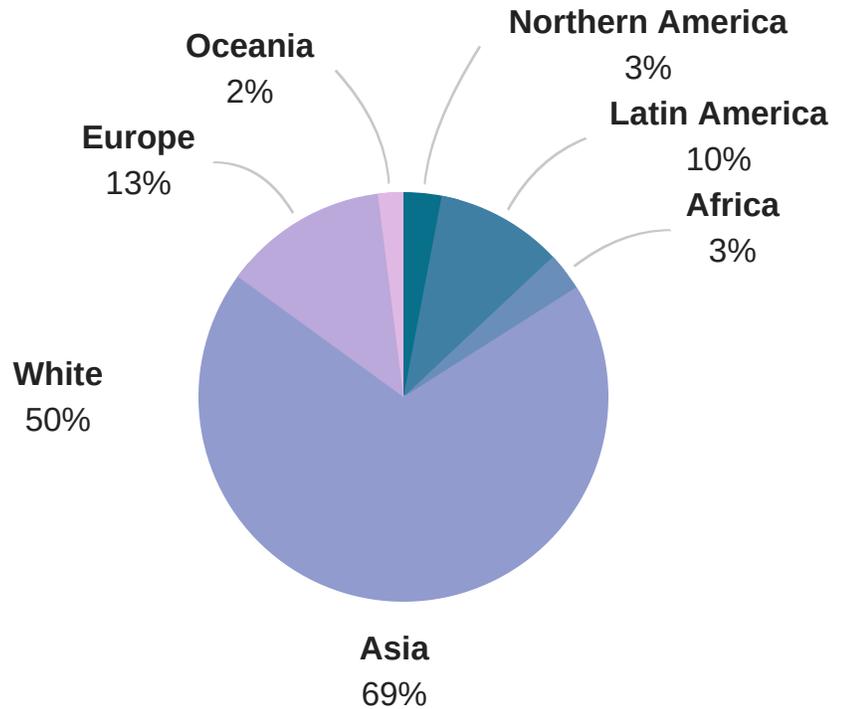
Race



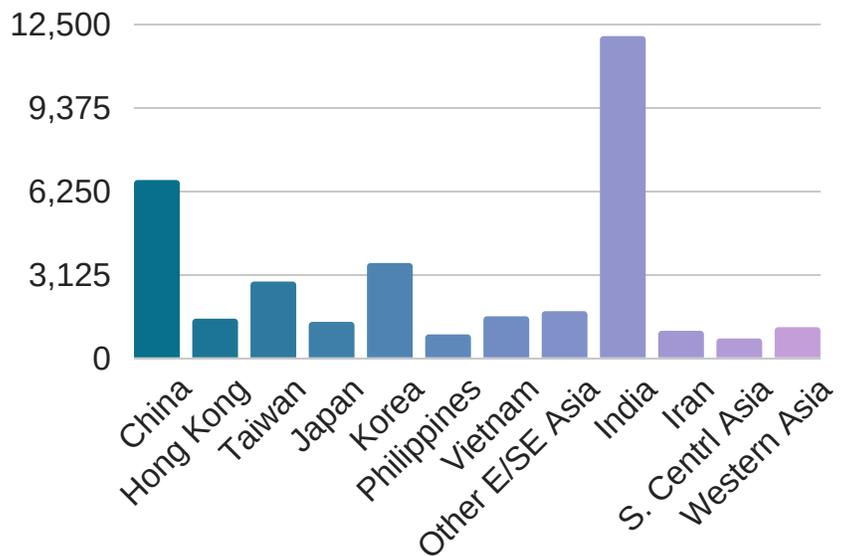
50% or one half of Bellevue's population comprise of white residents and one half people of color. The majority of people of color are Asian with 34% comprising Bellevue's total population. Latino communities are next most populous at 7% with African Americans at 3%.

Of Bellevue's foreign born population, 69% come from Asian countries. The majority of foreign born Asians come from India and the 2nd largest is from China (excluding Taiwan and Hong Kong).

Foreign Born



Foreign Born from Asia



Source: 2017 U.S. Census, American Community Survey

Languages

Language	Bellevue Citywide		Speak English less than "very well"	
	Estimate	Percent of Pop 5 and Over	Estimate	Percent speaking specific lang.
Chinese	11,983	9%	5,945	50%
Spanish or Spanish Creole	7,121	6%	3,451	48%
Other Asian languages	5,204	4%	1,329	26%
Korean	4,260	3%	2,180	51%
Hindi	3,818	3%	838	22%
Russian	2,900	2%	1,305	45%
Japanese	1,862	1%	795	43%
Other Indic languages	1,618	1%	567	35%
Vietnamese	1,431	1%	776	54%
French (incl. Patois, Cajun)	1,340	1%	122	9%
Other Indo-European language	1,001	1%	379	38%
Tagalog	879	1%	335	38%
Persian	831	1%	414	50%

The top ten languages other than English spoken in Bellevue (in order from highest to lowest) are: Chinese, Spanish, Korean, Hindi, Russian, Japanese, Vietnamese, French, Tagalog and Persian. Additional Asian, Indian and Indo-European dialects and languages are aggregated.

Of almost 12,000 Chinese speaking residents, 50% indicate they speak English less than "very well". Similarly, about half of Latinos, Koreans, Russian, Japanese and Persian indicate they speak English less than "very well". The majority of Vietnamese speaking residents at 54% indicate they also speak English less than "very well."

Source: 2017 U.S. Census, American Community Survey

Cultural Competence in the Community

The rapid demographic shift in Bellevue presents unique opportunities and challenges. With newcomers to the community emerging from around the world, residents are especially challenged with the redefinition of community, as known in past decades. Multitudes of languages, widely varying cultural practices, and cross-cultural conflicts can be points of strain. Without opportunities to connect there would be greater chances for cultural misperception and misunderstanding.

Cross-cultural activities and spaces help welcoming communities and new immigrants build powerful connections that can change the way we relate to each other.

Many residents feel enthusiastic for the opportunities to broaden their global perspectives and make new friends, and it is important that programs focus support on residents in encouraging opportunities to bridge the gap with their new neighbors.

The City has long seen diversity as an advantage. The City Council's vision statement begins with, "Bellevue welcomes the world. Our diversity is our strength."

With the adoption of Bellevue's Diversity Advantage Plan in 2014, the work of making this vision a reality has informed and fueled new citywide efforts to grow as a culturally competent organization and to broaden resident engagement.

"Cultural Competence in the Community" was identified as an action recommendation in the 2014 Diversity Advantage Plan to demonstrate the City's leadership in promoting diversity and cultural competency among residents in collaboration with other public and private institutions.

Therefore, engaging residents in co-developing a vision for city-wide cross-cultural programming is relevant to the successful implementation of cultural competence in the community.

Civic Engagement & Community Organizing

The City of Bellevue and partners offer a wide array of diversity-based programs, town-hall like discussions, educational opportunities, advocacy, classes, festivals, and other forms of expression. This includes an emphasis on addressing cultural identifiers such as race, ethnicity, religion, disabilities, age, sexual orientation and more.

With 39% of Bellevue's population being foreign born, the City of Bellevue supports community members' aspirations to retain and pass down aspects of their cultural identity and traditions. As Bellevue continues to diversify and grow, it is clear that cultural groups have strong desires to retain cultural connections and pass on

the structures, values, and traditions that maintain family cohesion and group identity.

These types of community based cultural groups manifest through a variety of forms including professional non-profit institutions, arts organizations, religious affiliations, student cultural clubs, classes, community celebrations, and community associations.

Building civic engagement and developing community leadership are byproducts of such multiple program offerings. These activities also allow individuals to collectively bond around identity and present a unique opportunity for cross-cultural sharing and interaction.



SHAPING OUR INCLUSIVE FUTURE

methodology

The Cross-Cultural Programming Public Outreach Study identified and engaged key stakeholders, supported mapping of community based cultural groups and analyzed community interest and opportunities for cross-cultural engagement.

Engaging in a public feedback and reporting process cannot happen without building trust and transparency among all stakeholders. Thus, inclusive engagement and feedback methodologies were undertaken to minimize barriers to community participation.

A values-based approach to public engagement included trust-building, collaboration and employing culturally relevant and respectful engagement and feedback techniques while being flexible and nimble to unique or emerging needs.

Diverse community engagement approaches were employed including a community resources mapping process, cultural community liaisons, survey administration and a hosted diversity forum that included culturally facilitated table discussions and an audio response system.

The approach included utilizing existing relationships, expertise by staff and the Bellevue Diversity Advisory Network (BDAN) while piloting a community liaisons program and a multi-prong approach to community engagement.





We need more places that are more receptive to minorities and make them feel safe.

Community Expertise

City staff and the Bellevue Diversity Advisory Network (BDAN) were knowledgeable community resources to assist with identifying where Bellevue's diverse communities live, work, eat, shop, play, etc.

BDAN is comprised of a diverse group of members who provide counsel to the city on how to better reach, serve, communicate and collaborate with Bellevue's diverse community. BDAN acts in an advisory capacity to the City of Bellevue and meets monthly, with members appointed by the City Manager. BDAN's function is to collect community feedback to help assess city services from a cultural competency lens; engage in cross cultural dialogue focused on diversity issues; provide feedback and insight on issues relevant to communities in Bellevue and support mobilization and coordination to diversity-related national and local events warranting a city response

BDAN members performed a critical role in helping inform the engagement process and supporting community outreach, turnout and facilitation at the June 30th diversity forum. BDAN members were core resources to the community mapping of cultural assets. Members played a key role in identifying cultural and community groups on the "Community, Cultural and Arts Resources Map" and coordination, outreach, engagement and facilitation at the large community event.



Community, Culture and Arts Resources Map

BDAN members were core resources to the community mapping of cultural and community based organizations and events in Bellevue. BDAN initiated the compilation of a list of community groups engaged in cultural preservation, arts and established community partners. The result was a partnership with the Bellevue Arts and Culture program on the creation of an online mapping tool called the "Community, Cultural and Art Resources" map. This online, interactive tool identifies cultural community based groups, businesses and individuals involved in providing arts and cultural resources in Bellevue.

Of note, the list is a starting point for compiled and mapped multicultural organizations. It is non-exhaustive with ongoing opportunity to update. In addition, only organizations with physical addresses located inside Bellevue are mapped. Thus, organizations that provide services but may be located just outside of Bellevue in the greater Eastside or who operate remotely (no physical address) are not mapped. The complete list and map can be accessed at:

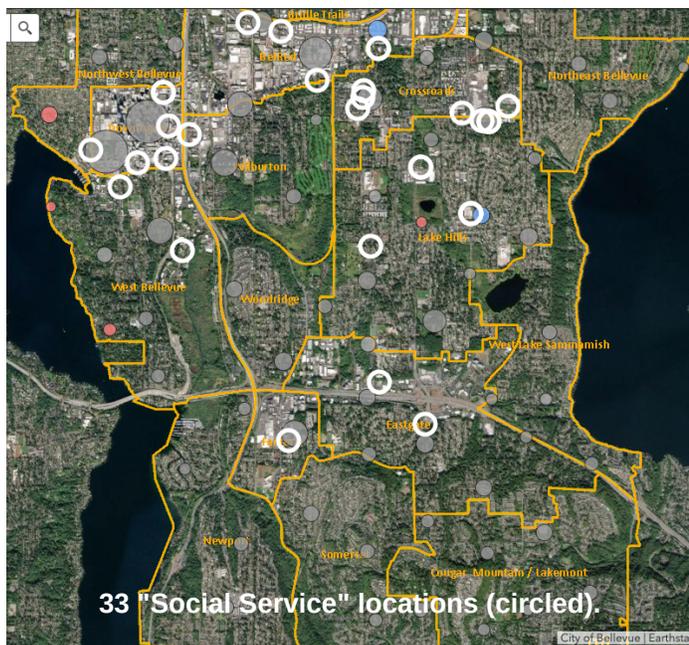
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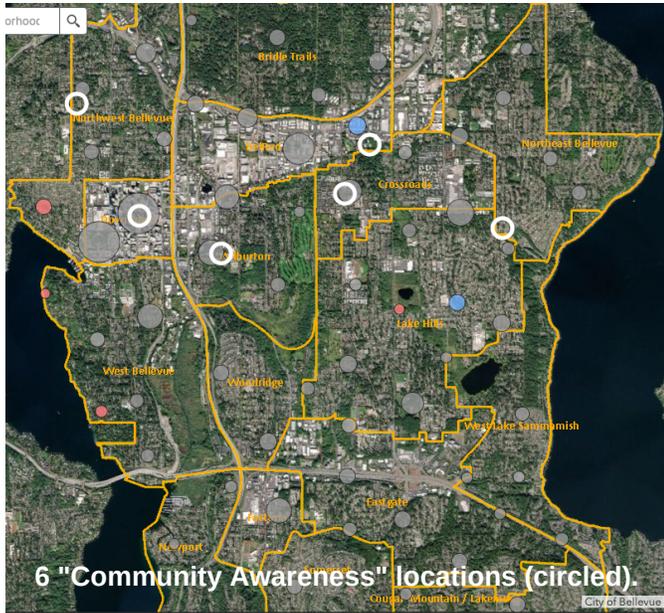
SOCIAL SERVICES

33 social service organizations were identified in Bellevue.

These social service offices cluster significantly around the Crossroads and Lake Hills neighborhoods followed by Downtown, Belred and West Bellevue.

3 out of the 33 are located south of the I-90.





CULTURAL AWARENESS ORGANIZATIONS

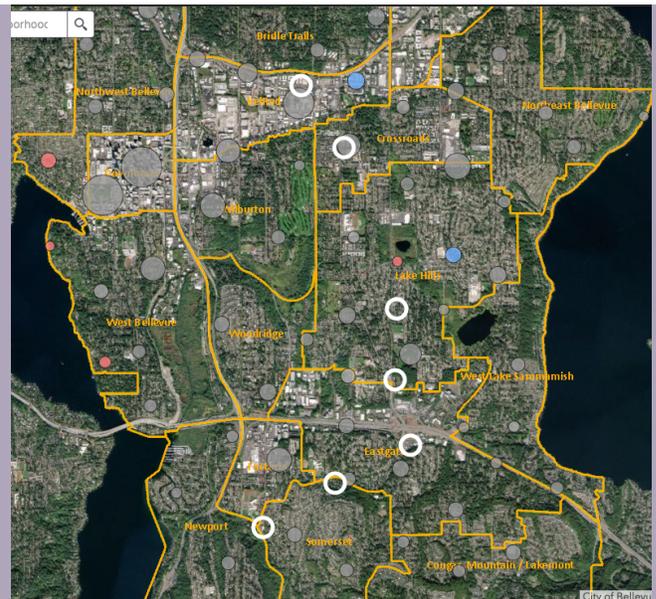
6 "Cultural Awareness" organizations were located in Bellevue's Crossroads, Belred, NE Bellevue, Wilburton, Downtown and NW Bellevue.

These include the Bellevue Parent Alliance of Black Scholars, Armenian Cultural Association of WA, Chinese Cultural Heritage Foundation, Culture Center of Teco Seattle and Turkcha Bellevue.

MULTICULTURAL ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

7 "Multicultural Arts" organizations were located in Bellevue's Belred, Crossroads, Lake Hills, Eastgate and Somerset neighborhoods.

These include the Rong Rong Chinese Folk Choir, Russian Chamber Music Foundation, Chinese Culture & Arts Association, Hengda Dance Company and Chinese Opera.



MULTICULTURAL FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

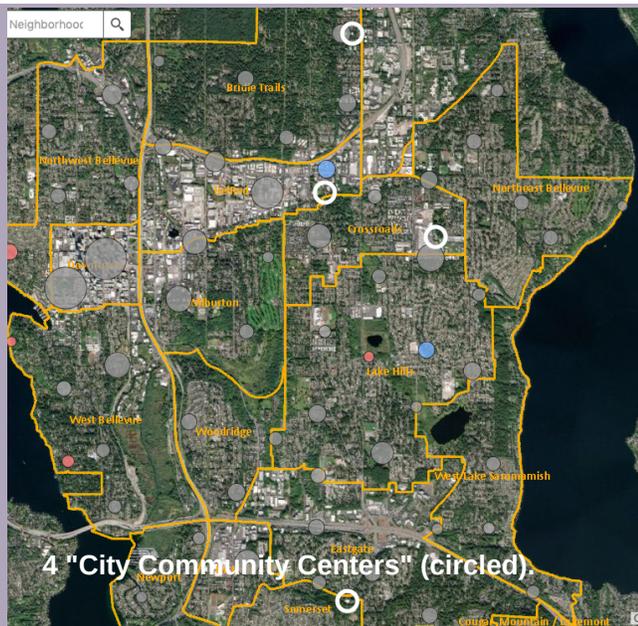
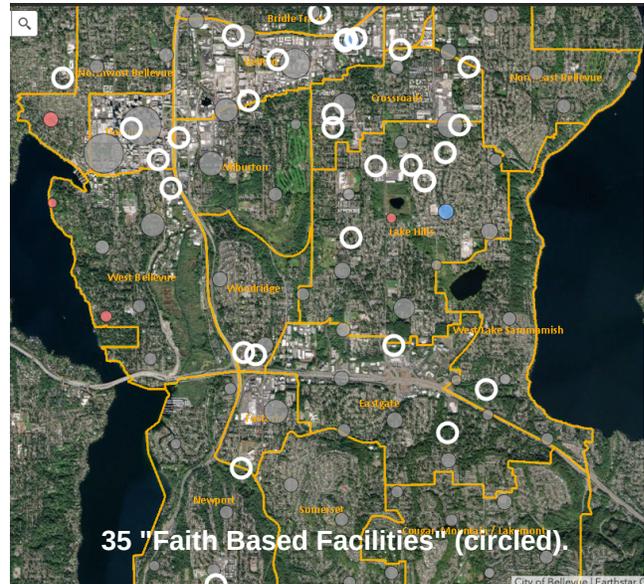
24 "Multicultural Festivals and Events" were mapped in Bellevue. The majority happen in Downtown and also occur in Lake Hills, Crossroads, Belred, Wilburton and West Bellevue.

These events include Cry Holi, NW Ukrainian Intl Festival, World Taiko Festival, Islamic Center Open House, Strawberry Festival, Lunar New Year and Jazz Club.

FAITH BASED FACILITIES

35 "Faith Based" organizations and facilities were identified in Bellevue. About 75% are located in northern Bellevue and 25% southern Bellevue.

The majority are clustered in Lake Hills, Crossroads and Belred. There are also facilities in Newport, Facotria, Woodbrdge, Eastgate and West Lake Sammamish, Downtown and West and NW Bellevue.



CITY OF BELLEVUE COMMUNITY CENTERS

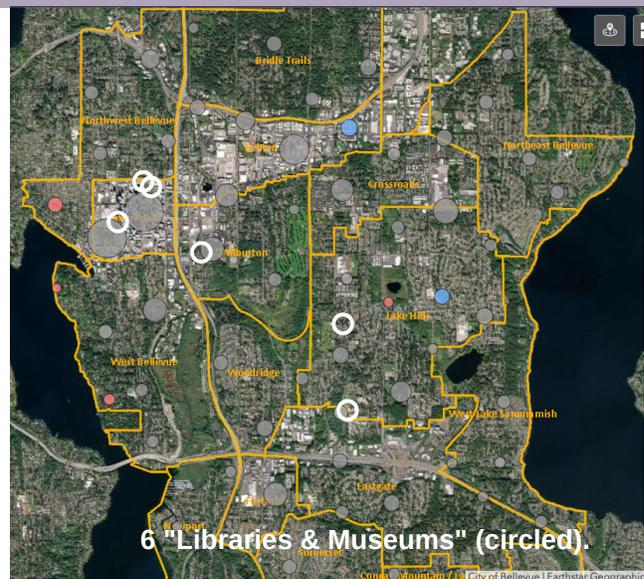
There are 4 City owned and operated Community Centers in Bellevue:

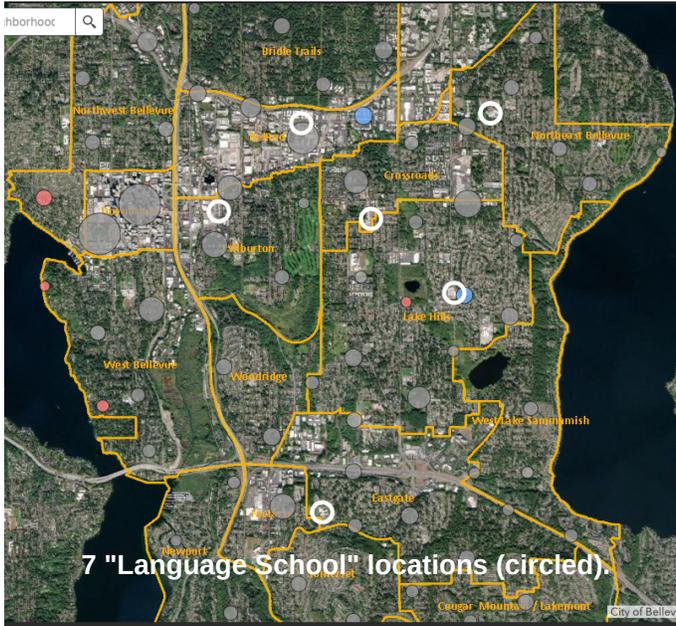
- North Bellevue Community Center
- Highland Community Center
- Crossroads Community Center
- South Bellevue Community Center

LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS

There are 7 identified libraries and museums. The majority are in downtown with additional locations in Wilburton and Lake Hills. :

These include the Tomoshibi Library Jubilee Reach, Kidsquest Children's Museum, King County Library, Eastside Heritage Center and Bellevue Arts Museum.





COMMUNITY-BASED LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

7 community-based language schools were identified in Bellevue.

Language school locations exist in the Belred, Northeast Bellevue, Crossroads, Wiburton, Lake Hills and Eastgate neighborhoods.

Community Liaisons

Community members that are trusted, bicultural, bilingual, actively engage and are familiar with their respective community establishments were subcontracted to provide culturally relevant community engagement assistance.

Community liaisons were hired from the Chinese, disabilities, Latino, LGBTQ, Muslim, Russian and South Asian communities. With the community liaisons as a resource, cultural relevant language-based technical assistance was provided in Mandarin, Cantonese, Russian, Spanish and Hindi.

The liaisons translated the survey and flyers as well as conducted focus groups, direct outreach and facilitation at the community listening session.



Multicultural Programming Study Community Liaisons: Mohamed Yousef, Lalita Uppala, Seema Bahl, Katherine Ma, Liliana Benavides, Julianne Panagacos, Irina Vorona and Consultant Cherry Cayabyab

Community Engagement

In culturally responsive and inclusive engagement, there is no “one-size fits all” approach to engaging stakeholder feedback. The “focus group” feedback method at a church or restaurant may be conducive to some communities whereas others might prefer one-on-one surveying.

Based on staff and BDAN feedback, relevant engagement approaches per community were employed while ensuring standard feedback goals are met.

A combined strategy of survey administration, culturally relevant outreach and technical assistance, community listening sessions and one-to-one outreach was employed to maximize input. A short, anonymous online and paper survey (approximately 5 minutes to complete) of nine questions with mostly multiple choice and some short answer questions was released. The survey was available in 6 translations – English, Hindi, Russian, Spanish, Simplified and Traditional Chinese.

The survey was broadcasted through City community communications online, website and social media. A communications press release covered the large diversity forum on June 30, 2018. Feedback results were received in the form of the online survey, physical copies, note-taking from the community listening session, in-person outreach as done for the event at location such as the Crossroads mall and Strawberry Festival.

The diversity forum received over 125 attendees from diverse communities. The event was designed to be as inclusive and accessible as possible. Food, refreshments, translation, interpretation and childcare were offered to maximize diverse participation.



Participant Highlights



443

443 individuals participated in the 2018 Bellevue Community Survey: Shaping our Inclusive Future.

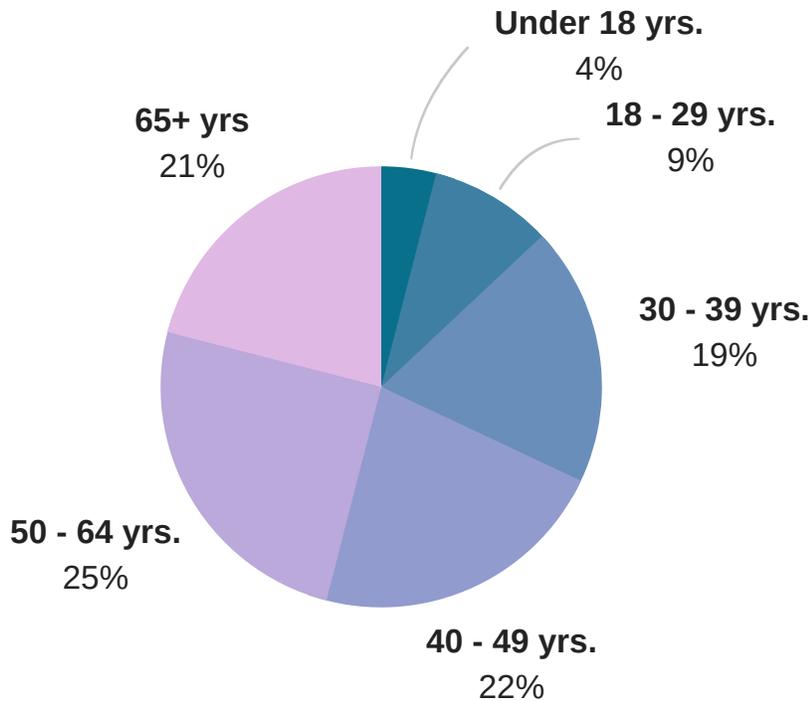
With the option of completing either a paper survey or an online survey - both were offered in 6 languages: English, Russian, Hindi, traditional and simplified Chinese; and Spanish. The majority of respondents completed the online English version.

6

With 125 attendees, information was also collected from the June 30, 2018 Diversity Forum where people engaged in table discussions and an audio response system.

125

Age



The age of respondents ranged from 11 years old to 88 years old with the mean age 48.23 and median 47 years old.

This median age of survey respondents is higher than that of the median age, 37.4 of Bellevue residents.

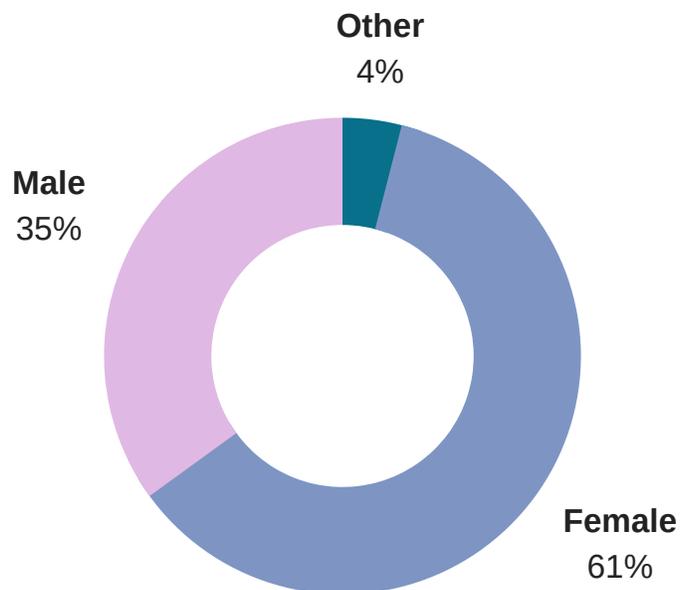
Source: U. S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey

Gender Identity

The majority of respondents identified as female at 61% while 35% identify as male. A small number of individuals identified as non-binary, genderfluid or transgender.

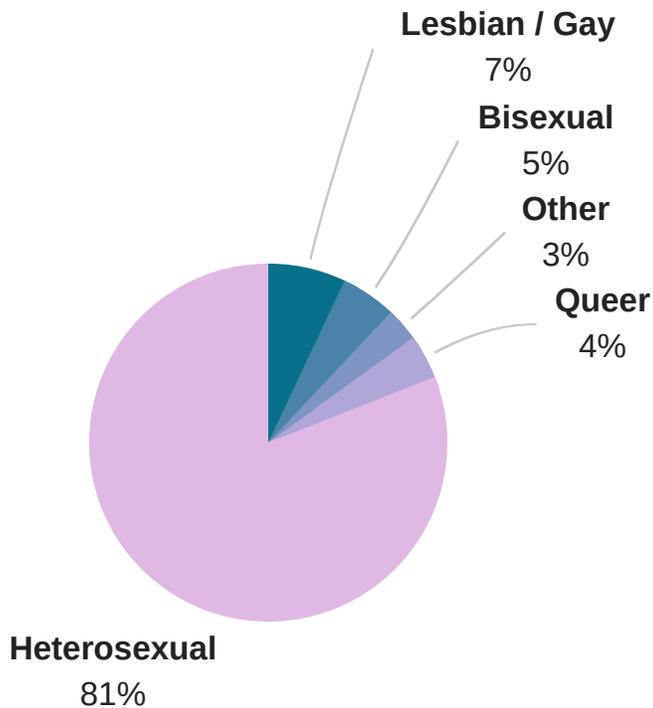
The responds overwhelming trend towards female given Bellevue's population of males at 52% and females at 48%.

Source: U. S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey



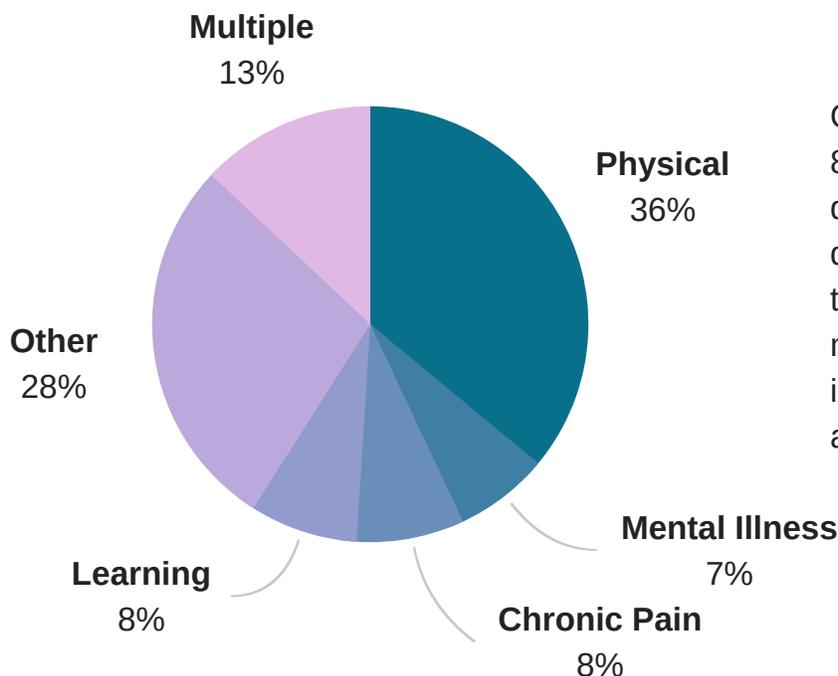
Source: 2018 Multicultural Programming Community Survey

Sexual Orientation



The vast majority of respondents identified as straight or heterosexual with the next largest category homosexual, gay or lesbian. A number of individuals identified as bisexual, queer with some as asexual, demi-sexual or pansexual.

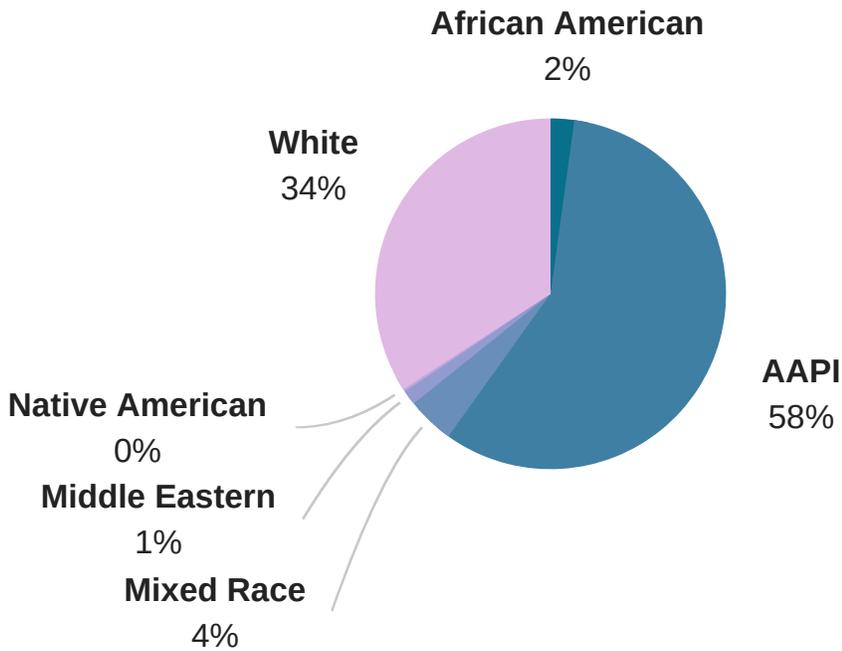
Disabilities



Of the respondents who replied, 84% stated they had no disabilities. Of those who listed a disability, physical disabilities were the most common. Those with multiple disabilities typically included both physical disabilities and mental illness.

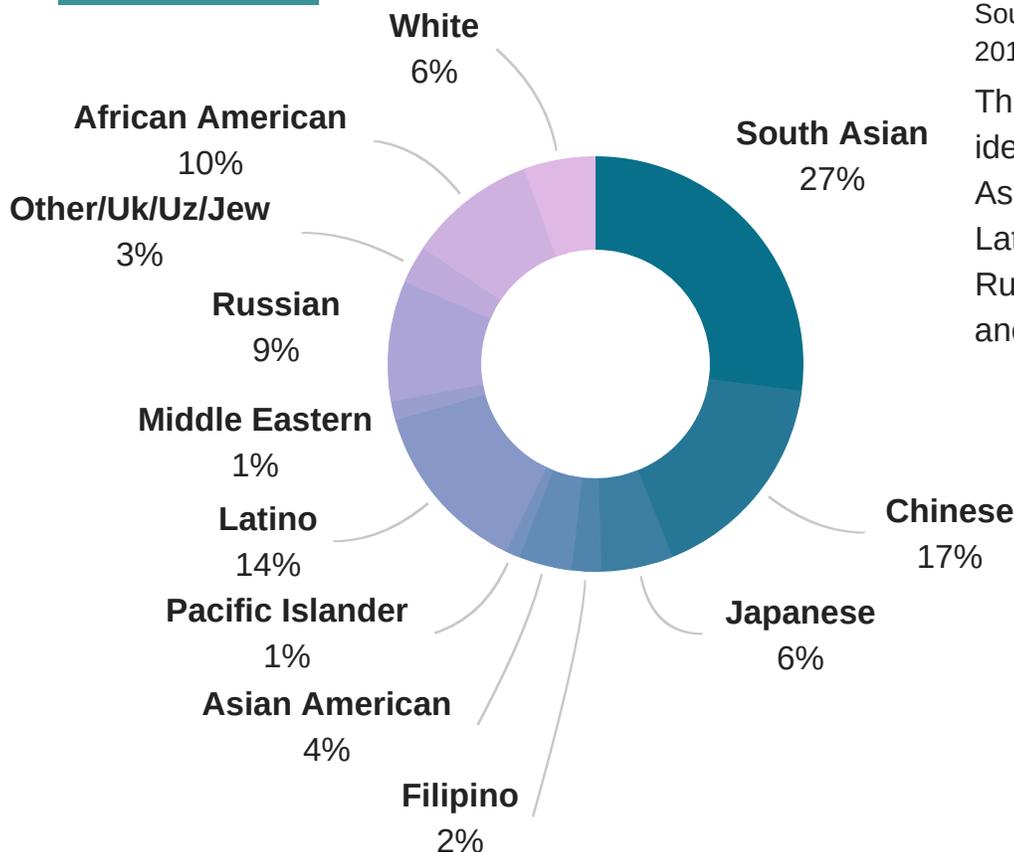
Source: 2018 Multicultural Programming Community Survey

Race



Respondents were diverse both racially and ethnically. Over 50% of respondents identified as Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) compared to that of the 34% of the actual Bellevue population. Whites were the second most chosen category, then Latino/Hispanic. This is also consistent with Bellevue's 3 top populations by race.

Ethnicity

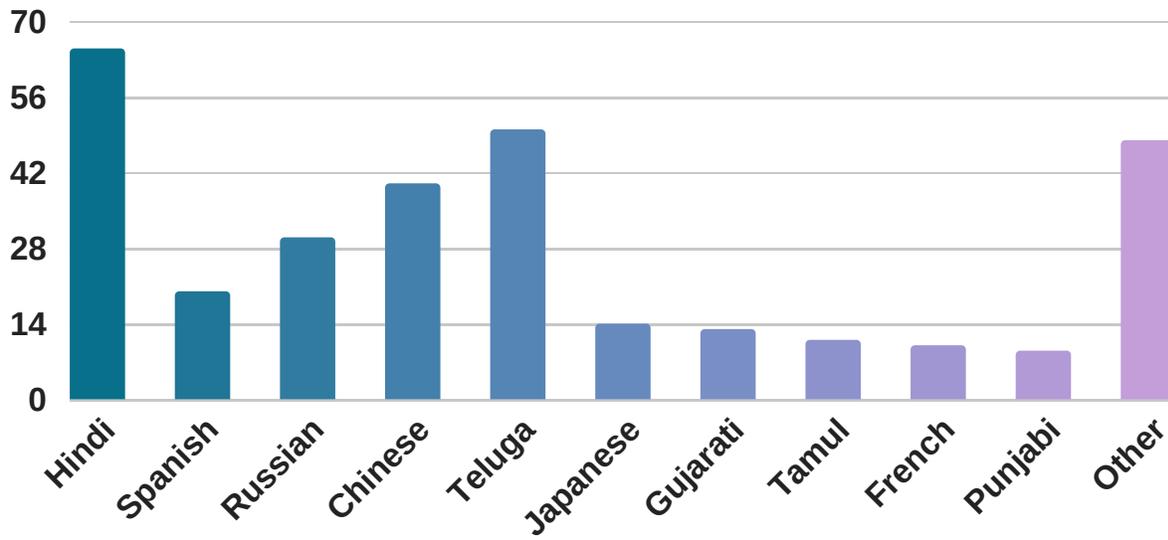


Source: U. S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey

The top three ethnic identities were South Asian, Chinese and Latino/Hispanic with Russian consisting of another 10%.

Source: 2018 Multicultural Programming Community Survey

Languages Spoken other than English

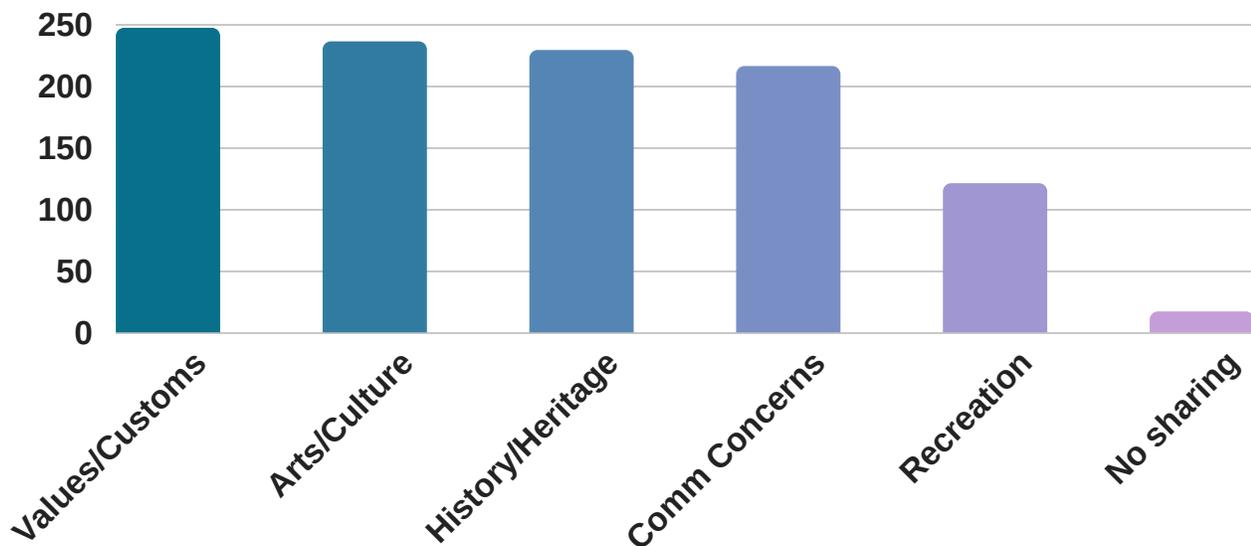


The majority (71%) of respondents indicated they spoke English with nearly 300 respondents indicating they spoke a language other than English. The most reported language besides English was Hindi (18% of respondents) with Spanish (15%) the second most listed language. Most (62%) reported speaking one language but a quarter of respondents spoke two languages with 13% speaking three or more languages.

VALUES, CONCERNS & ASPIRATIONS

findings and analysis

What I want Others to Understand and Learn about my Identity and Culture?



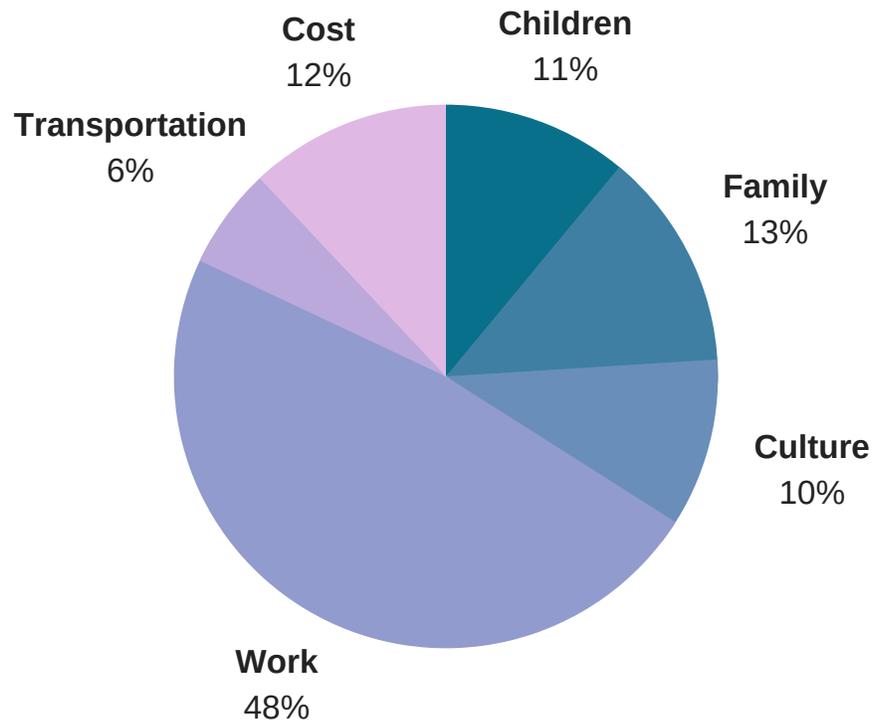
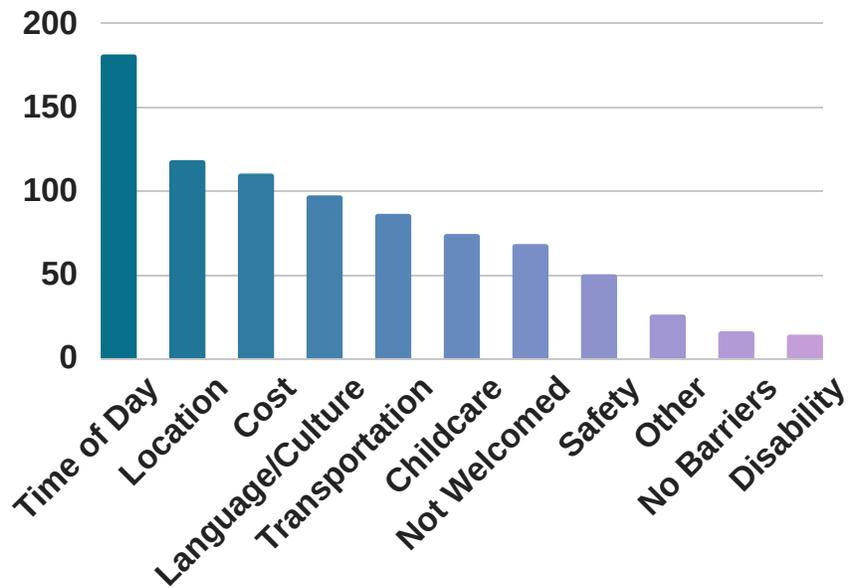
Over 50% of respondents would like others to understand and/or learn more about their 1) Values, Customs, Norms and Practices, 2) Food, Arts, Culture and Language, 3) History and Heritage and 4) Community Concerns.

Source: 2018 Multicultural Programming Community Survey

Barriers to Participation

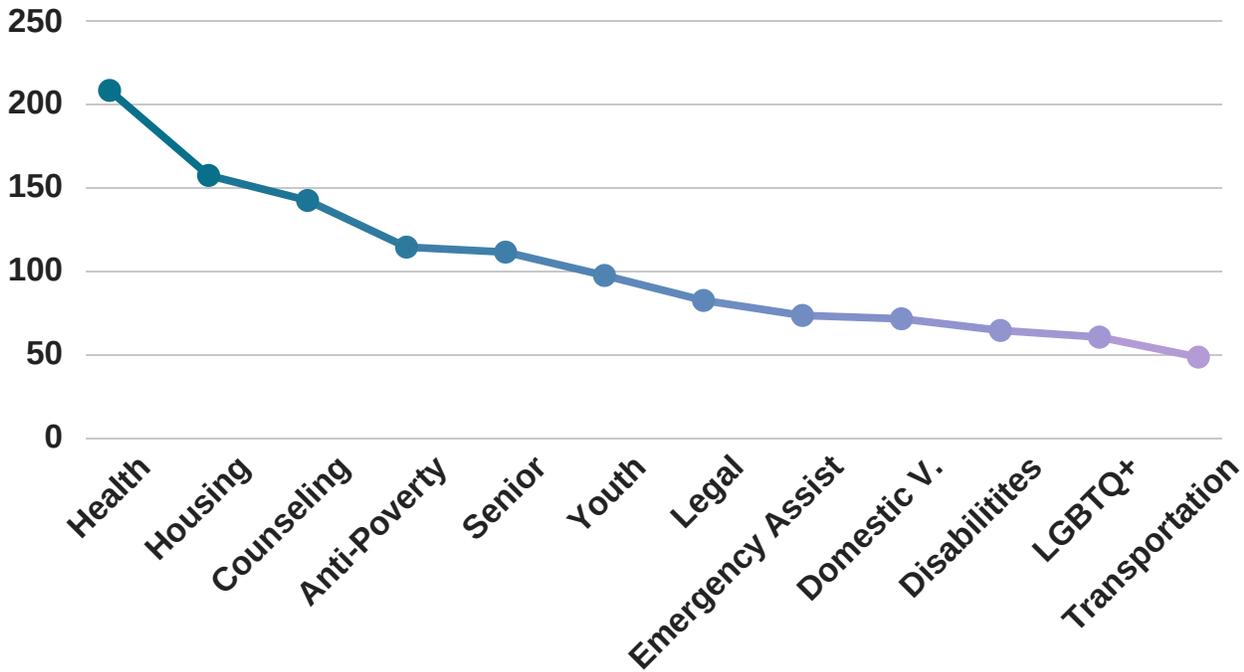
Nearly 50% of respondents felt Time of Day was a barrier to participating with Location and Cost the other top barriers.

The most significant barrier elaborated on was time conflict usually do to respondents' work schedules. Wanting to spend time with family, children, and cost were all barriers as well. Nearly 10% of respondents mentioned some sort of cultural, community or language barrier, such as not enough specific community events or lack of community and fear their English was not good enough.



Source: 2018 Multicultural Programming Community Survey

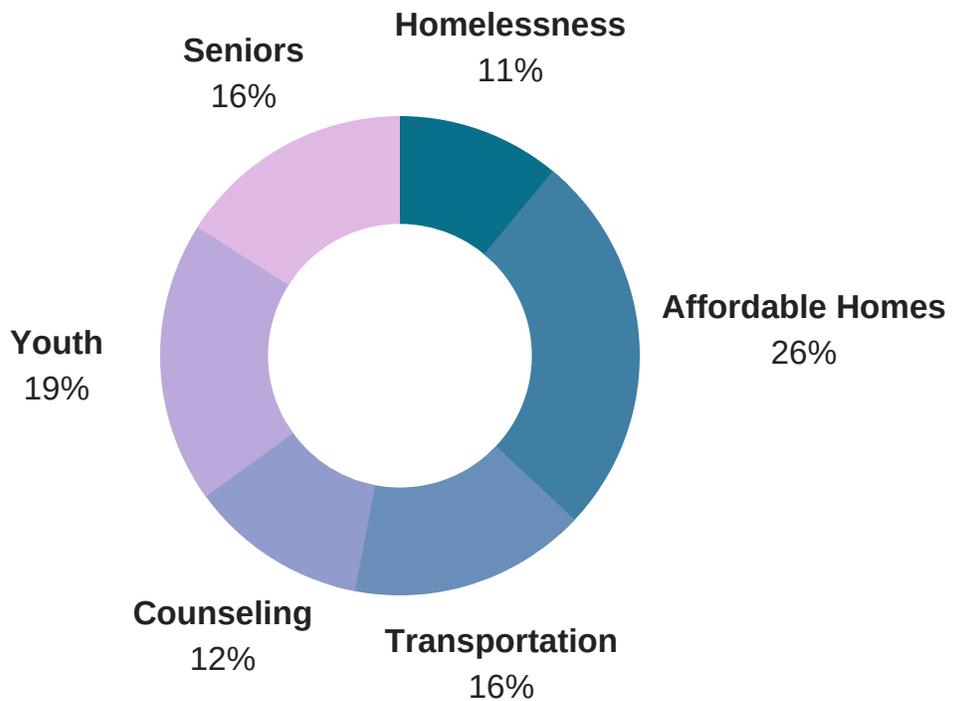
Social Services Needed



Over 50% respondents felt more culturally responsive health services were needed in Bellevue with housing and counseling services the other most required.

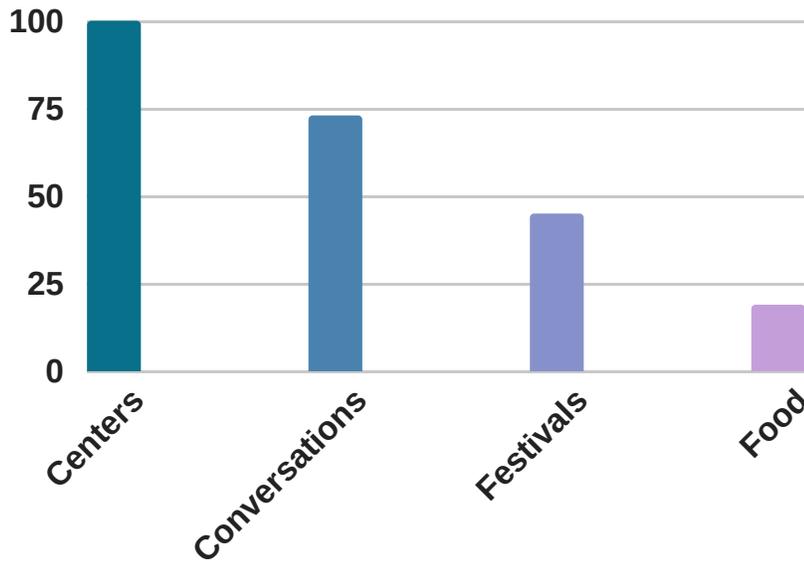
When asked for more details, over 25% of respondents mentioned affordable housing as being a major issue with another 11% commenting that services addressing homelessness was required.

Services for both youth and seniors were suggested as well, as was transportation and counseling.



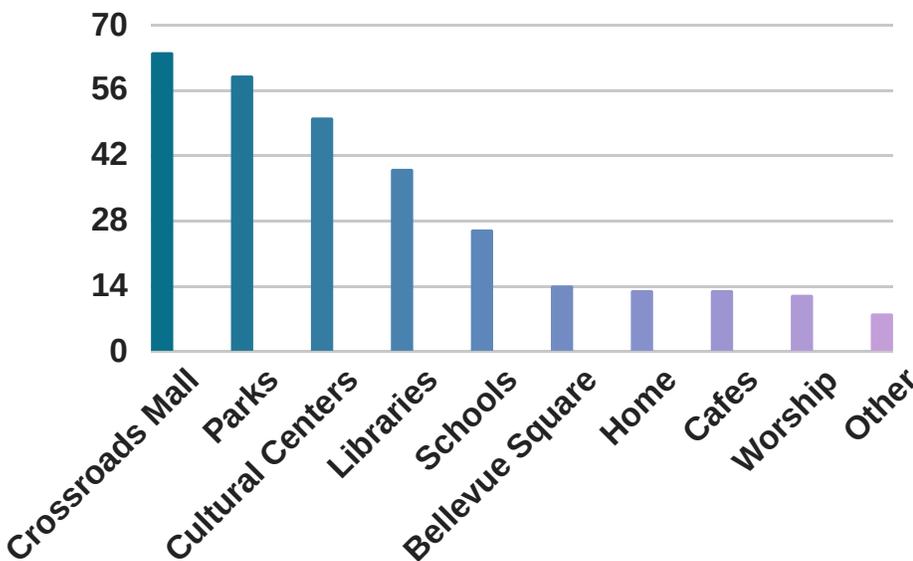
Source: 2018 Multicultural Programming Community Survey

Appreciated/Recommended Multicultural Programming



48.8% of respondents mentioned they appreciated and/or recommended Centers, be it Cultural Centers or Community Centers. Crossroads Community Center and North Bellevue Community Center were both mentioned multiple times. Many people (37.1%) also recommended wanting to see more community conversations and communication between different groups. At the same time, many of Bellevue's festivals were appreciated.

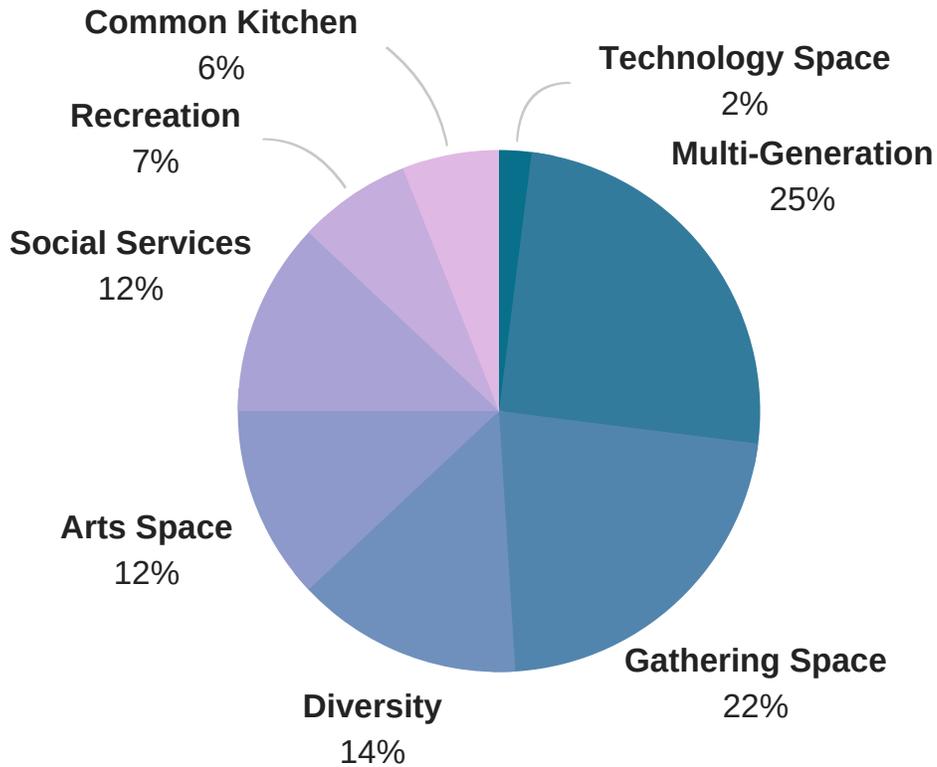
Utilized Gathering Spaces



25% of respondents indicated they or their community gather at Crossroads or more specifically Crossroads Mall. Parks are another popular gathering spot with the Downtown Bellevue park mentioned numerous times. Cultural or Community Centers, especially the North Bellevue Community Center, were specified as places to convene.

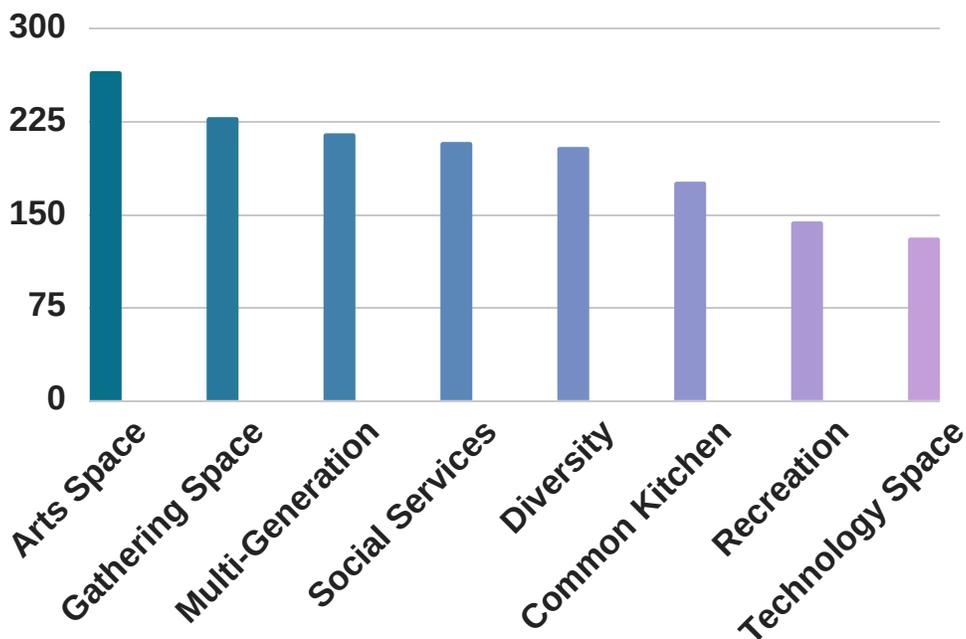
Source: 2018 Multicultural Programming Community Survey

Top Resources Desired



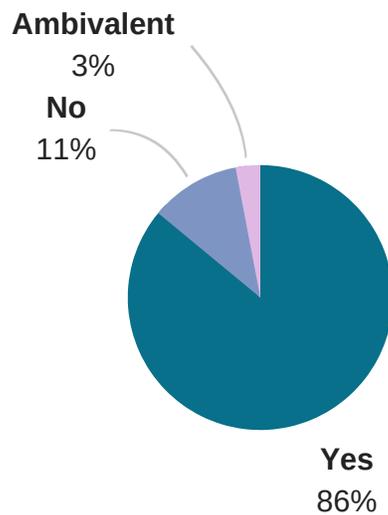
Source: 2018 Multicultural Programming Community Survey

Desired Programs and Services



Source: June 30, 2018 Community Forum Live Response Survey

Does Bellevue need a Multicultural Center?



The staff compiled list of current Bellevue diversity related programs compares existing service availability with the resources desired by survey respondents in average ranked order between what was heard from the survey and diversity forum. Family oriented multi-generational activities and convening space appear to be disproportionately lacking in program offerings.

Overwhelmingly, stakeholders feel Bellevue needs a Multicultural Center and that it should offer both social services and cross-cultural activities, programs, arts, and recreational activities. As a caveat, however, these stakeholders may not be aware that such desired programs and services may already exist. This relates back to previous concerns expressed around program awareness and access.

While forum attendees want the Center to offer both Social Services and Cross-Cultural Activities, only 12% feel Social Services should be the top resource offered. Nearly 50% feel the Center should include either Multi-Generational Activities or be a Gathering Space.

In the survey, respondents (63.35%) want a Bellevue Multicultural Center to be an Arts Performance and Practice Space with 50% of respondents wanting the Center to include Multi-Generational Activities, be a Gathering Space, including for Festivals and Celebration, and/or include Diversity and Cultural Awareness and Preservation.

Source: 2018 Multicultural Programming Community Survey

Existing Programs are Adequate & Valued by Participants

General findings from the public feedback process are that residents who currently use and access Bellevue's multicultural programs and spaces find them highly adequate and enjoy existing services and 3rd place spaces. There is also high desire to engage and participate in cross-cultural community building activities.

Many survey participants mentioned they appreciated and/or recommended cultural and community spaces such as Crossroads Community Center and North Bellevue Community Center as well as festivals. Many recommended wanting to see more community conversations and communication between different groups.

Crossroads Mall

"I like the Crossroad Mall area. It's like a multiuse and multifunctional center: everything within walking distance, and the family with children, adults and elderly can spend time flexibly."; "Tuesdays at Crossroads Community Center"; "Would like to see more school/ family interaction with events at Crossroads." and "Enjoy July 4th, Strawberry Festival, Crossroads Mall. One thing missing is a deeper interaction with people."

North Bellevue Community Center

"Story time and preschool enrichment play and learn at North Bellevue Community Center" and "India community program at North Bellevue Community Center" ning spaces of relative size and location.

Festivals

"Bellevue World Taiko Festival and Aki Matsuri are amazing event to learn Japanese culture"; "Love Crossroads and festivals." and "South Asian Film Festival at Bellevue Arts Museum, storytelling events"

Awareness of Programs and Services

Analysis of participant feedback expressed the need to increase knowledge and awareness, particularly with historically underrepresented communities, of existing cross-cultural programs, services and spaces.

When asked what resources and services that residents enjoy using in Bellevue, comments were received around non-awareness of diversity programs and services:

"Some people do not know of any diversity programs"

"Don't know Bellevue culture diversity programs"

When providing input on what culturally responsive services Bellevue needs more of, respondents shared programs and services that the City and/or nonprofits may already provide, however they were not aware of the services offerings:

"More resources for community health, walking programs, running programs to build community around health and wellness"

"More MH (mental health) services for young people, resources for both kids and parents (who might not know their kids are suffering MH issues)"

Respondents also felt there needed to be a more intentional effort at increasing access to information about programs and services - particularly for those who do not speak English well or fear participation is not safe because of immigration status:

"Would like to see more knowledge of people about what (disability) services are available. Would like to see more effort to share information."

"Parks should be introduced to the community to help the community feel included and safe because it is a public space, not private."

"Need more access to info on how things work and resources in Bellevue, in US In your native language. Even if you know the language, its intimidating when it's in English."

"Bellevue has allot of resources but they are not being utilized because our community are not aware and people are fearful of the current immigration issues. If our community does not feel safe then we don't engage. We need to feel safe and need a safe space."

Barriers to Participation

Participants expressed significant concern around the need to address social-cultural barriers to participation in existing programs and services. Nearly 50% of survey respondents felt time of day was a barrier to participating with location and cost the other top barriers. The biggest barrier elaborated on was time conflict usually do to respondents' work schedules. Wanting to spend time with family, children, and cost were all barriers as well. Nearly 10% of respondents mentioned some sort of cultural, community or language barrier, such as not enough specific community events or lack of community and fear their English was not good enough.

Time, Work and Family

"I work full time and spare time is typically spent with my family"

"We have a 1 year old that still keeps us home quite a bit. look forward to doing more as he gets older."

"Work schedule conflicts"

"Time of day could overlap with my work hours"

"Too much other stuff to do - kids, work, etc"

Cost

"My funds are limited"

Transportation

"I don't drive and my husband works all day"

"I use a Park & Ride + Public Transportation. The bus schedules do not offer many direct routes despite it being a transit to transit line. I need to consider the time it would take me to travel from my home to the city for each event. Parking in Bellevue is cost prohibitive."

Cultural/Community/Language Barriers and Safety

"My English is limited"

"Simple fear that I may not be able to effectively communicate"

" It's unclear how well-received a cultural event would be."

"I don't know of any currently that are LGBTQ themed related, there doesn't seem to be any sense of community for LGBTQ on the east side".

"The fact that I wear a hijab makes me very insecure"

"We don't feel secure in the Bellevue city. I used work at the blueberry farm, there is a big sign in four different languages, this made me feel welcome. There are allot of people who will not about this because they do not go out."

Broaden Multicultural Programs

There is high public desire to increase and expand cross-cultural programming and community partnerships that prioritize multi-generational, arts and performance, social service, civic learning and action; and gathering space resources.

Over 50% of respondents would like others to understand and/or learn more about their **Values, Customs, Norms and Practices; Food, Arts, Culture and Language; History and Heritage and Community Concerns:**

"More festivals of different countries."

"Culture Conversation, festivals of different countries"

"I would like to see communications between different group, such as performances, community potluck, Lectures about history and culture"

"Provide more opportunities at existing community centers for inter-immigrant community mingling activities."

"We are representing nonprofit organization: Russian Jewish Cultural Center, and with many obstacles, we are trying very hard to partner with local community centers to offer our cultural and educational programs to our community. I would like to ask you to help us move our programs forward, which I believe will have much benefit for our community abroad."

"More ADAV programs, special need programs in schools and everywhere."

Many attendees of the June 30th cross-cultural conversation enjoyed the event and expressed a desire to continue having recurring events:

"Need to create more of this kind of event. Want people to know there is diversity and all can participate and people know they are safe."

"Events like today to learn from each other enjoy something together."

"Have time to talk. Enjoy food together. More community gathering. Opportunity to have deeper connection."

Affordable, Centrally Located and Culturally Symbolic Gathering Space

Participants expressed the desire for affordable, accessible convening spaces of relative size and location.

When asked, participants feel Bellevue needs a Multicultural Community Center and that it should offer both social services and cross-cultural activities, programs, arts, and recreational activities:

"We need a public meeting community space to share ideas knowledge for example cooking or meeting room where we don't have to pay."

"Need larger indoor space (1000 people auditorium with meeting rooms) within the community, we have many needs to be educated or made or aware of very respectful of all communities not be caste/ class/ color conscious ourselves."

"Big hall for various cultural actives"

Affordable Space

"Low fees"

Space as Cultural Landmarking, Anchors and Placemaking

"Make a Bellevue Welcome Center"

"Bellevue say welcome the world. Need a concrete space to have programs and events."

"Want to see a physical space to anchor the community."

"Bellevue needs a cultural icon like Seattle has the space-needle"

There was also a desire to see more multicultural activity south of the I-90:

"Want to see more of that at Factoria."

"Factoria mall to be like crossroads"

"Places for seniors to gather. Used to be walking groups inside Factoria mall."

Business

"Trainings for commercial businesses in "welcoming"'"

"Multilingual signage and art all over town"

CROSS-CULTURAL PROGRAMMING

goals and recommendations

The values, concerns and aspirations heard from the public align strongly with the goals highlighted in the 2014 Diversity Advantage Plan for opportunities to grow cross-cultural programming:

- Inclusively serve Bellevue's broad definition of diversity
- Create pathways for cultural groups to build community through sharing, learning and convening.
- Establish forums that address contemporary issues through education and discussion about the diversity related topics that are both opportunities and challenges.
- Create "3rd place spaces" that enable a convergence of activity and interaction among diverse individuals and groups.
- Develop a collective of agencies and community organizations that share the mission.

Recommendations for Enhancing Access:

- 1) Conduct an assessment of access and inclusion of existing City-directed cross-cultural activities and programs with particular attention to accessibility regarding (e.g. time of day, geography, multi-generational participation, and affordability) to evaluate opportunity for improvement.
- 2) Strengthen the marketing and communications about a City of Bellevue cross-cultural programming with an internal team to centrally coordinate information, engagement, partnerships, space and explores opportunities to grow cross-cultural programs and services in Bellevue.
- 3) Explore options to form community-centered program models that will work in partnership with the City.
- 4) Implement phase two of the Council's approach that would analyze the effectiveness and adequacy of the places of cross-cultural programming and gatherings.
- 5) Strengthen the use of Bellevue community liaisons as they conduct culturally relevant outreach, education, and technical assistance to support the goal of maximizing public access and participation to Bellevue diversity programming and social/human resources.



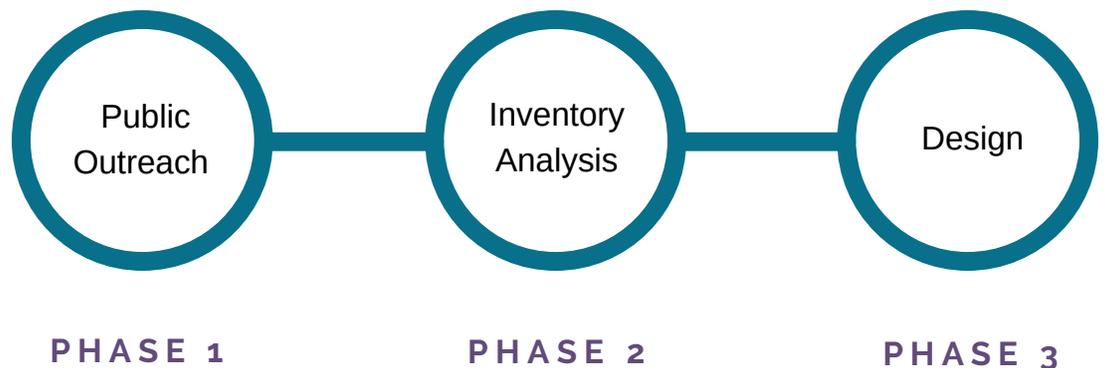
“ We need a place to interact with people from other cultures.

Multicultural Center Exploratory Process

With public outreach feedback presenting significant interest in a multicultural center space - it is opportune to engage in phase two of the exploratory process. A physical multicultural center, as a visual landmark, could demonstrate the City's commitment to fostering a welcoming and fully accessible space to all its diverse residents.

The process to explore the feasibility of chartering a Bellevue Multicultural Center was introduced as a recommendation in the City's 2014 Diversity Advantage Plan to implement Bellevue's commitment to "cultural competence in the community" through dedicated public gathering space and diversity programming.

The internal process of exploring the demand for a Bellevue Multicultural Center includes the following three phases:



Phase 1) Public outreach for coordinated programming.

Phase 2) Detailed analysis of supply and demand of facilities available for meetings.

Phase 3) Hire an architect to design a program that delivers a center that meets the demand.



Organization, planning, involvement, and engagement make the people feel "welcome".

Cross-Cultural Program Coordination

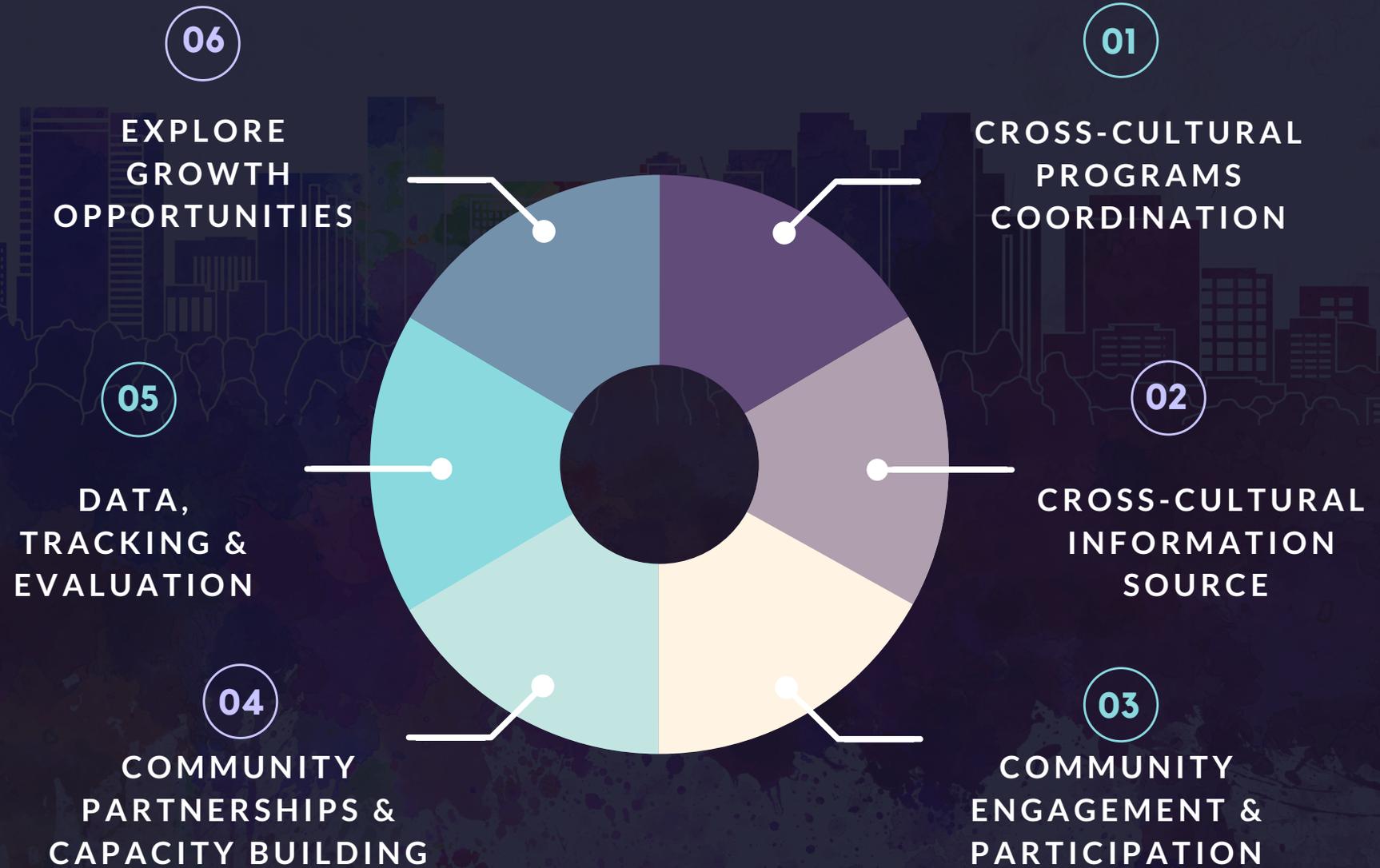
The City and residents would benefit from formalizing citywide coordination of Bellevue's cross-cultural program offerings through centralizing information and access via a central resource hub.

A City of Bellevue Cross-Cultural Program would centrally coordinate information, engagement, partnerships and explores new opportunities to expand Bellevue's cross-cultural programs and services. It may serve as a formal program under the City Manager's Diversity Affairs office that connects and engages all Bellevue residents in the City's plentiful cross-cultural program activities.

A proposed centrally coordinated Cross Cultural Program would serve 6 major functions:

- 1) **Coordinate** and/or support array of citywide cross-cultural programs activities and spaces.
- 2) Service as central **information resource** for diversity programs and services
- 3) Community outreach, **engagement** and maximizes **participation** of historically underrepresented communities.
- 4) Engages in collaborative **partnerships** and **community capacity building**.
- 5) **Data collection, tracking and evaluation.**
- 6) Explores new **ideas** and **growth opportunities**.





PROPOSED CITY OF BELLEVUE

CROSS-CULTURAL PROGRAMS COORDINATION

A vertical watercolor illustration on the left side of the page. It features a stylized city skyline with various building shapes in shades of purple, blue, and red. The background is a mix of light and dark watercolor washes, creating a textured, artistic effect.

PROGRAM AREA 01

CROSS-CULTURAL PROGRAMS COORDINATION

1

Continues to offer and coordinate signature, top quality diversity programs to the public (#2 2014)

2

Assesses opportunities for coordination, efficiency and streamlined program delivery.

3

Organizes forums, dialogues and cultural conversations on regular basis

4

Supports or coordinates community convening in response to current events.

5

Works with staff and BDAN to steward implementation of cross-cultural hub services, programs and strategies.



PROGRAM AREA 02

CROSS-CULTURAL INFORMATION SOURCE

1

Centralizes Information on diversity activities, programs and space offered by City and partners.

2

Develop online information hub and include:
Community Culture and Arts Resources Map
Community Resource Guide
Calendar of Activities
Culturally Responsive Social Services

3

Information on gathering space rentals.

4

Welcome packet with above resources for new residents. (#7 2014)

A vertical watercolor illustration on the left side of the page. It features a stylized city skyline with various colored buildings in shades of purple, blue, green, and yellow. The background is a soft, textured watercolor wash in similar colors, creating a vibrant and artistic feel.

PROGRAM AREA 03

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & PARTICIPATION

1

Coordinate outreach, engagement and maximize participation of historically underrepresented communities in cross-cultural programs.

2

Educate, advise and support City outreach staff on culturally relevant outreach and engagement.

3

Institutionalize and manage a Community Liaisons program to increase diversity resource education and participation. (#5 2014)

4

Support coordination and followup from community listening sessions when gather input on City projects.

5

Facilitates and connects to volunteerism, civic engagement and leadership development.



PROGRAM AREA 04

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP & CAPACITY BUILDING

1

Builds government and community capacity for effective outcomes and collaboration.

2

Co-hosts or sponsors and advertises cross-cultural events by partners.

3

Connects to grant, funding and CBO capacity building programs to support organizational sustainability.

4

Identifies and encourage opportunities for CBOs to collaborate and problem solve together across diversities.

5

Build network of community, business or privately owned facilities to rent space from and foster 3rd place spaces (#1 2014)



PROGRAM AREA 05

DATA, TRACKING & EVALUATION

1

Serve as a data resource on Bellevue's changing neighborhoods (#6 2014)

2

Assesses, tracks, evaluates program impact and effectiveness for improvement

3

Engages and advises in solicitation and followup on quantitative and qualitative community feedback.

4

Collect and advise on diversity data to track and measure results and participation.

A vertical watercolor illustration on the left side of the page. It features a stylized city skyline with various buildings in shades of blue, purple, and green. Below the skyline, there are colorful splatters and washes of paint in purple, pink, and blue, creating a vibrant, artistic background.

PROGRAM AREA 06

EXPLORE GROWTH & EXPANSION

1

Explores new opportunities to grow a healthy and vibrant cross-cultural Bellevue.

2

Explore and identify opportunities to expand Cross-Cultural Resource Hub programming.

3

Engages in phase two of the cross-cultural programming study to inventory existing spaces. (#3 2014)

4

Explores investments for 3rd place spaces, community anchors, cultural landmark and placemaking opportunities.

COORDINATED CROSS-CULTURAL PROGRAMMING IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATIONS

PROGRAMMING

- Assess Existing Programs and Accessibility
- Institute Community Liaisons
- Institute Community Mapping Resource

- Programs Expansion
- Centralized Resource Directory
- Expanded Community Partnerships

EXISTING

SHORT RANGE (1-2 Yrs)



MID RANGE (2-5+ Yrs)



NEW

- Begin phase two analysis of supply and demand of space available for convening and gathering.

- Network Existing City and Community Partner Spaces
- Explore new space(s) opportunities

SPACE

VISION: Consistent, accessible and diversified programming and services in accomodating spaces.

s1

Develop a Cross Cultural Program that centralizes information flow and structure that welcomes and educates residents about diversity programs and social services.



IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION 1A:

Release "Community, Culture and Arts Resources Community Map".
Finalize online site with the community map for residents and stakeholders to utilize as a resource for finding space and/or locations of community cultural groups.

IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION 1B:

Developed a centralized "Bellevue Community Resource Directory"
Engage in a "phase 2" of the community mapping project through the development of a resource directory detailing Bellevue diversity activities, programs, gatherings and social/human service resources.

IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION 1C:

Encourage regular government and nonprofit convenings with opportunities for coordination and engagement.



s2

Assessment and expansion of existing City cross-cultural activities and programs based on public outreach survey feedback regarding accessibility.

IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION 2A:

- Conduct a "Phase 1B" equity and inclusion analysis and evaluation of current cross-cultural activities and programs - particularly based on recent feedback data (eg. time of day, affordability and childcare offerings.)
- Evaluate diversity program budget to include or increase food, childcare and as relevant - partnering community room reservations.

IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION 2B:

- Expand partnership and coordination with grassroots cultural community groups (beyond nonprofit organizations) to host community conversations and convenings.
- For example. Ba'hai Center "DiversiTEA" events, Russian, Latino and other communities seeking to host or find convening space). Convenings may be quarterly or semi-annually.

IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION 2C:

- Co-host with community the Diversity Forum annually in the form of a multigenerational & multicultural conference or festival.
- Utilize partner convening spaces to serve as an opportunity for the City and community partners to engage residents on City activities around diversity, equity and inclusion.

s3

Institutionalize a Bellevue Community Liaisons program to increase diversity resource education and participation.

IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION 3A:

Institutionalize and budget for a community liaisons program to conduct culturally relevant outreach, education and technical assistance about Bellevue services, projects and diversity programming and social/human resources.

IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION 3B:

Research and explore specific, best practice structure to employ a "community liaison model" relevant to the inclusive outreach and engagement needs of the City. Determine partnership opportunity, utilization and capacity building support to similar community-based programs such as "Niso Promotores" or CISC's "Cultural Navigators".

IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION 3C:

Determine implementation systems and procedures for Community Liaisons' role in continuing to engage diverse communities in the BDI planning process in addition to supporting other City inclusive outreach and engagement efforts.





s4

Foster Existing and New Multicultural Convening Spaces

IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION 4A:

Engage in phase two of the planning process for a Cross-Cultural Center. Given high interest and demand for increased cross-cultural partnerships, programming and space - it is opportune to engage in the next phase of planning to undertake a detailed analysis of supply and demand of facilities available for meetings.

IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION 4B:

Develop formalized network of cultural community spaces for shared programming and gathering space (within the City and/or the general Eastside region). While spaces such as Crossroads, North Bellevue Community Center and Lewis Creek Park remain popular diversity gathering spaces, there is opportunity to increase community partnerships and maximize accessible facility inventory through developing a network of useable community spaces.

IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDATION 4C:

Explore commercial retail opportunities, existing or in development that the City may operate to serve as additional cross-cultural gathering space, particularly south of the I-90 as indicated by community feedback. For example, current or upcoming affordable housing and/or redevelopment projects may be a private-public partnership opportunity for the City to house multi-generational, cultural arts, education and gathering space. This adds to a geographically diverse inventory of community facilities.

Case Study 1

CITY OF MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA - MULTICULTURAL HUB

The City of Melbourne is home to one of the world's most harmonious and culturally diverse communities. Around 140 cultures are represented, from Victoria's original Indigenous inhabitants to more recent migrants from countries in Europe, Asia and Africa.

Melbourne today is a welcoming, outgoing and confident city, a reflection on the generous and inclusive spirit of its people. This spirit embraces change while respecting heritage; celebrates diversity while sharing a common sense of place and pride; and aspires to a rich, lively and peaceful future.

Services include multilingual information lines, programs for international students, and a Multicultural Hub as a place to meet, interact and collaborate.

<https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/community/hubs-bookable-spaces/multicultural-hub/Pages/multicultural-hub.aspx>



The City of Melbourne's Multicultural Hub is a place where people from Melbourne's many different cultures can meet, work, share and learn in a safe and supportive environment.

Owned by the City of Melbourne and managed by AMES Australia, our vision is for the Multicultural Hub to be an active, vibrant, inclusive and diverse space.

Located opposite the Queen Victoria Market at the corner of Therry and Elizabeth streets, the Multicultural Hub is a 10 minute walk from Melbourne's central business district – walk along Elizabeth Street towards the Queen Victoria Market. There is also metered parking on the surrounding streets and large car parks nearby, and bike parking is available at hoops in the surrounding streets.

The Hub has a range of rooms for hire that are suitable for various events and activities including general office administration. The spaces are available on a regular or casual basis.

<https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/community/hubs-bookable-spaces/multicultural-hub/facilities/Pages/facilities.aspx>

Case Study 2

MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY CENTER COALITION

The Multicultural Community Center Coalition (MCC) is a group of eight immigrant and refugee-serving community organizations in Southeast Seattle. Southeast Seattle is diverse, with over 90 languages spoken. With the introduction of light rail stations and increasing private development around those stations, communities of color that live there are being displaced at a rapid rate.

The Community Cornerstones Project's goal is to build the capacity of underrepresented communities to be active decision makers in the planning and implementation of growth. Since its founding, the Project has worked to engage community on transit-oriented development; stabilizing commercial developments; strengthening community-government relationships; and building a Multicultural Community Center that would serve as an anchor for communities to organize positive change.

<http://council.seattle.gov/2013/04/18/community-cornerstones-advancing-equitable-transit-oriented-development/>

The short-term goal of the MCC is to create a community-owned and community-driven, multicultural, co-working space that will serve as an anchor for several community-based organizations. The Center would relieve the rent burden of these organizations, allowing them to invest more resources into programmatic work.

The long-term goal of the MCC is to build power across immigrant and refugee communities so that they can shape the policies and practices that impact their lives.

MCC members have been active in shaping city plans across multiple departments. They maintain connections with the City of Seattle's Department of Neighborhoods, the Office of Housing, and the Office of Economic Development. As a coalition catalyzed by a government grant, the project itself is a fascinating look at how local government can incubate independent, community-oriented, and community-led groups to provide evidence, testimonial, and expertise in shaping policies that impact their neighborhoods.

SOUTHEAST SEATTLE MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY CENTER CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

A capital campaign to create...

...A Cultural Home

...A Vital Service Center

...A Vibrant Economic Hub

...An Ownership Stake

...A Place to Belong



A Center for Opportunity, Advancement and Inclusion in
Seattle's Rainier Valley for over 10,000 Immigrants,
Refugees and Community Members



About the Southeast Seattle Multicultural Community Center Capital Campaign

A group of community-based organizations has joined together to launch an exciting capital campaign to create a community center that will serve as a vibrant cultural home and shared service delivery site for over 10,000 immigrants and refugees and other community members in the Rainier Valley and Southeast Seattle. The driving vision for the Multicultural Community Center is this...to build a vibrant and innovative center from which historically underrepresented communities in Southeast Seattle are empowered to make decisions about the future of our community and the means to achieve our shared vision.

What's especially exciting about the Multicultural Community Center is that as a part of the Southeast Seattle Economic Opportunity Center, it will be located in proximity to affordable housing, health and wellness services, early learning programs and retail...all within walking distance to the Othello light rail station.



The power of proximity in the heart of the Othello neighborhood

SERVICES NEARBY WILL INCLUDE
HOUSING, TRANSIT, HEALTH CARE,
SCHOOLS AND MORE



A warm, welcoming space for community gatherings, meetings and celebrations

MORE THAN 10,000 PEOPLE,
MAINLY IMMIGRANTS AND
REFUGEES, WILL USE THE CENTER

Among the organizations participating in the Multicultural Community Center capital campaign are:

- Chinese Information and Service Center
- Eritrean Association of Greater Seattle
- Eritrean Community in Seattle and Vicinity
- Ethiopian Community in Seattle
- Horn of Africa Services
- Somali Community Services of Seattle
- Urban Family Center
- Vietnamese Friendship Association
- Rainier Valley Service Corps.

Together at this shared site, these organizations will provide a range of services including citizenship support, counseling, housing services, education and career pathways, information and referral, advocacy and more. Moreover, these organizations will hold an ownership stake in this shared facility, thereby building equity and long-term stability while reducing operating expenses.

The projected budget for the Multicultural Community Center is \$8 million, approximately 70% of which will come from government sources. Our timeline is to break ground in early 2018 and to gain occupancy in early 2019.

Why the Southeast Seattle Multicultural Community Center is So Vital

The vision for a Southeast Seattle Multicultural Community Center represents the culmination of a three-year community process involving over 800 neighborhood stakeholders, plus a series of listening sessions, community meetings and charrettes. This effort gave voice and urgency to the compelling needs among low-income immigrants, refugees and others who face daunting odds in gaining a foothold and in finding prosperity. Please consider the following:

- **Striving for stability in a new country:** For thousands of immigrants and refugees in Southeast Seattle the organizations which comprise the Multicultural Community Center play an especially important role as a vital lifeline, a cultural touchstone and a place to make life sustaining connections. The MCC supports the numerous cultural, social and economic assets that these communities bring to our region, while addressing system barriers and racism that prevent their success and self-sufficiency.
- **Inadequate and inaccessible facilities:** Many of the key organizations serving Southeast Seattle's immigrant and refugee community are located in old and inadequate facilities that are not easily accessible, or in proximity to other essential programs and services. As a result, people must travel to several locations in order to secure the help they so greatly need.
- **The threat of displacement:** Real estate appreciation of the Rainier Valley may cause a wholesale change of the neighborhood by displacing cultural communities through escalating rents or re-development of housing, commercial centers and ethnic-led organizations widely considered to be cultural anchors. Indeed, already vulnerable families are at great risk of being forced out, thereby creating even greater isolation and disconnection.

The Southeast Seattle Multicultural Community Center addresses these and other priorities in a way that creates a centralized, accessible space for services and cultural gatherings, as well as shared space for new synergies and collaborations among community partners. In addition, the Multicultural Community Center will help smaller organizations achieve economies of scale through co-location and shared services, thereby increasing organizational capacity, infrastructure and service quality.



The heart and soul of community

THIS IS WHERE PEOPLE CAN COME TOGETHER TO LEARN, TO CELEBRATE, TO SEEK GUIDANCE, TO LEND SUPPORT.



Shared equity, shared strength

GAINING A LONG-TERM STAKE FOR FRONTLINE ORGANIZATIONS

An Inspiring Vision Within Our Reach

The project's partner organizations have joined together to launch a collaborative capital campaign to raise a projected \$8 million to build out the roughly 20,000 square foot Southeast Seattle Multicultural Community Center. Though detailed space design will be finalized in the months ahead, we anticipate that the Multicultural Community Center will include program space for each of the partner organizations, conference rooms for small and large community meetings, cultural heritage space, community kitchen facilities, and access to a large gathering space for cultural celebrations, events and activities.

Now, and in the months ahead, we strive to engage the philanthropic community as a vital cornerstone for the Multicultural Community Center. Specifically, we are seeking to generate up to \$3 million in contributions from foundations, corporations and individual donors. These funds will help leverage over \$5 million in capital investments and tax credit financing from local, state and federal government sources.

The Multicultural Community Center is the cultural and service center hub of the Southeast Seattle Economic Opportunity Center

development, which also includes over 150 units of affordable housing, health care services, childcare and early childhood development, and retail space, all within walking distance of the nearby Othello light rail station.

About the Southeast Seattle Multicultural Community Coalition

The Multicultural Community Center Coalition is comprised of backbone organizations serving immigrants and refugees in Seattle's Rainier Valley. With the encouragement of the City of Seattle and the guidance of HomeSight, we came together in 2012 out of a shared commitment to create a cultural home and service center for the thousands of low-income residents who turn to our organizations to address basic needs and honor cultural traditions. We believe that a shared service model increased operational efficiencies while enhancing collaboration and innovative partnerships.

Please Join Us

We look forward to meeting with philanthropic leaders and community members to engage prospective funders in our vision for the Southeast Seattle Multicultural Community Center. For more information about the project, please contact Asmeret Habte (semiera@gmail.com), Paul Patu (ppatu@theurbanfamily.org), or James Hong (james.hong@vfaseattle.org).



Synergies, efficiencies and enduring partnerships

**A COMMUNITY CENTER IN WHICH THE WHOLE IS
GREATER THAN THE SUM OF ITS PARTS**

Othello Square

Othello Square, located at the southwest corner of Martin Luther King, Jr. Way S. and S. Othello St., is a uniquely integrated, culturally-competent, and welcoming gateway center. The Square is designed to represent the diverse and international nature of Southeast Seattle, a community where ALL residents and neighbors find homes, educational and business development opportunities, family-wage jobs, health care, social services support, and a variety of small enterprises at which to shop, eat and play. It is conveniently located adjacent to the Othello Light Rail Station and other public transit hubs allowing for easy access to key resources for users from Northgate to Angle Lake.

Serving as a beacon for all of SE Seattle, Othello Square's integration model will create efficiencies between education, business development, and community health resources, ensuring that all residents and neighbors have what they need to achieve and maintain health and well-being.

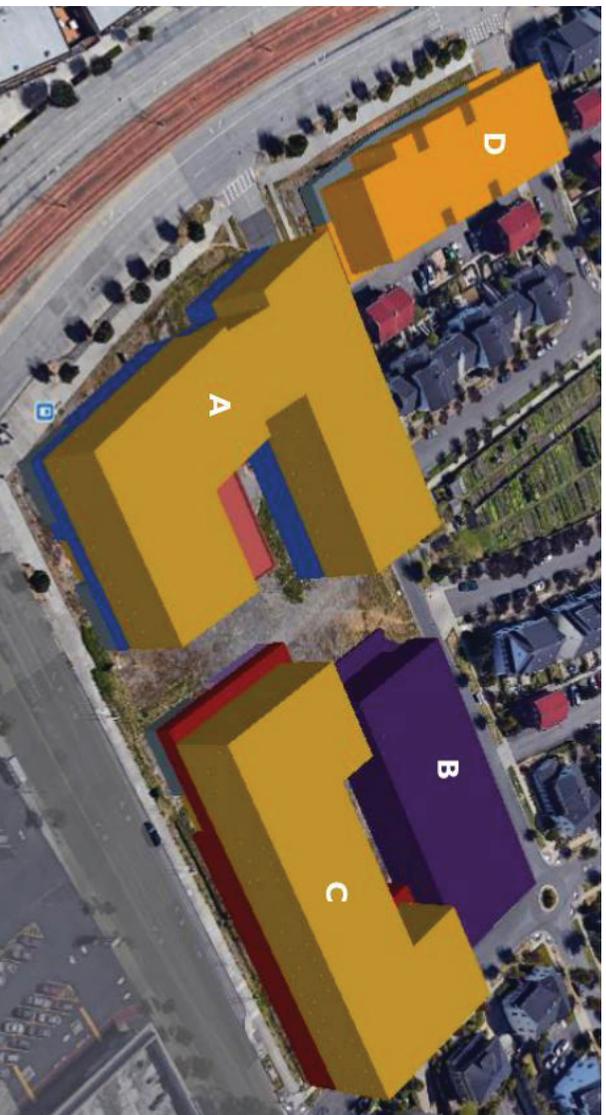
Othello Square has four main components:

Homesight Opportunity Center (HSOC): including the Multicultural Community Center, business assistance collaborative, community gathering hall, post-secondary education, and 200 units of mixed-income housing.

Rainier Valley Leadership Academy (RVLA): 450 student public charter high school

Building C: including community health clinic, 7-classroom multi-lingual early childhood education center, and 170 units of mixed-income housing.

Building D: homeownership units affordable to households at 80% area median income (AMI) and below.



GOALS

- Prevent displacement of the historic businesses and residents of Southeast Seattle
- Celebrate and embrace the heritage of the different cultures that comprise the community
- Provide tools and opportunities to guarantee the long-term health and success of the entire community
- Increase opportunities for affordable rental housing and homeownership

By pooling strengths, Othello Square partners not only ensure viability of the Square, but also promote economic growth and independence for those they serve, preventing displacement as Southeast Seattle continues to grow and develop.

The Multicultural Community Center will serve as the cultural and service center hub for the Square, allowing residents and neighbors easy access to a centralized space for cultural gatherings and services. Collaborating community-based nonprofit organizations also benefit from efficiencies and innovation created through co-location and shared services.

Dual-language early childhood education facility focused on school readiness and cultural retention.

Business development center to assist local small businesses and budding entrepreneurs.

Direct access to job training, STEM, college preparatory and post-secondary education programs.

Community healthcare clinic to provide living-wage jobs and improve overall community health outcomes.

Homesight, a community development corporation and longstanding member and representative for the Southeast Seattle community, will manage long-term control of the Square to ensure it is permanently community-controlled.

PROJECT COSTS

Othello Square
Total Project Cost: \$203 MM

<p>Homesight Opportunity Center MCC, Gathering Hall, Homesight, SPIN, RVCDF, Rainier Chamber of Commerce, Housing</p> <p>\$80 MM</p>	<p>Rainier Valley Leadership Academy High School</p> <p>\$20 MM</p>	<p>Building C Seattle Children's Odessa Brown Children's Clinic, Early Childhood Education, Housing</p> <p>\$78 MM</p>	<p>Building D Affordable Homeownership</p> <p>\$25 MM</p>
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LIKELY FINANCING SOURCES

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - State Financing - Federal, State, County, & City Government Grants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Foundations - Private Donors - Partner Organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Partner Organizations - Foundations - New Markets Tax Credits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - City & State Funds - Private Donors - Federal Government Grants - County and City Funds - Private Equity
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For more information on the Othello Square project, please contact **Tony To** (tony@homesightwa.org) or **Uche Okezie** (uche@homesightwa.org).

Case Study 3

UW ETHNIC CULTURAL CENTER & THEATER

The Kelly Ethnic Cultural Center & Theatre (ECC) opened in 1972 in response to student demands for greater diversity in educational programming. For almost 43 years, the Ethnic Cultural Center and its theatre have been at the center of the university's effort to encourage both cross-cultural exchange and learning beyond the classroom. The Kelly ECC was designed to provide a supportive, nurturing atmosphere to enhance student academic performance.

The mission of the Kelly Ethnic Cultural Center is to provide an inclusive space that fosters academic success. Our purpose is to engage diverse populations by providing opportunities for co-curricular and holistic development. Our aim is to engage with a pluralistic community to ensure student development, equity and intercultural skills for life beyond the UW.

The ECC is the largest college cultural center in the nation. Our 26,000 square foot facility provides study and meeting space for students and groups, a computer lab, cultural conference rooms, multipurpose rooms, a dance studio, a social justice library, a wellness room, our Leadership without Borders center, and a wonderful and welcoming staff of professional and student workers. The building is designed for sustainability and is LEED Gold certified.

The Ethnic Cultural Theater (ECT) allows our students and groups to explore their creative expression to an audience of 161. Its purpose is to increase awareness of all cultures through the performing arts. The (ECT) has produced its own season of performances in the past, but is currently primarily a rental venue for cultural and performance organizations. Priority is given to University of Washington student organizations and departmental cultural programming, however we always have available space for events and programs held by organizations in the greater-Seattle and national/international community.

The Theatre is approximately 5,000 sq. ft. and provides an intimate setting with a capacity of 161 seats for theatrical, arts, music, spoken word, conferences and a host of artistic, cultural and social events. The theatre has also recently been renovated with new lighting technologies which will enhance performances.

<http://depts.washington.edu/ecc/>



Case Study 4

SAN FRANCISCO - NEIGHBORHOOD CULTURAL CENTERS



The San Francisco Arts Commission is the City agency that champions the arts in San Francisco. We believe that a creative cultural environment is essential to the City's well-being. Our programs integrate the arts into all aspects of City life. The Commission was established by charter in 1932 (Charter sections 5.103 and 16.106).

The community-based Cultural Centers provide accessible arts opportunities for all San Franciscans. Four city-owned facilities operated by nonprofit arts organizations provide cultural and arts programs. The Centers are available for rent and offer free or low-cost performances, gallery exhibits, and classes.

The SFAC's capital assets include the four City-owned facilities operated by nonprofit Cultural Centers. The San Francisco community-based Cultural Centers are:

- African American Art and Culture Complex
- Bayview Opera House Ruth Williams Memorial Theater
- Mission Cultural Center for - Latino Arts
- SOMArts
- Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center
- Queer Cultural Center

Each of the Cultural Centers has an annual one-dollar lease for its facility in addition to the non-competitive general operating grant from the SFAC. A key priority of the Cultural Centers include ongoing facility improvements and securing the related funding, as well as creating a separation between facility management and grant management (as SFAC serves both a landlord and funder role).

<https://www.sfartscommission.org/experience-art/cultural-centers>

Diversity Programs/ Activities/Services/Space by City Department (2018)

	Diversity Programs/ Activities/Services/Space by City Department (2018)	Multi-Generational Activities for Children, Families and Elders	Convening, Gathering, Festival and Celebration Space	Diversity and Cultural Awareness & Preservation	Arts Performance and Practice Space	Social Services	Recreation Activities	Technology Center	Community Kitchen and Dining
ARCH	Down Payment Assistance Loan Program					x			
ARCH	Home Repair Program					x			
ARCH	Utility Rate and Tax Assistance					x			
CEVO	Startup 425 Foundations					x			
CEVO	Arts Grants Programs			x	x				
HUMAN RESOURCES	Pacific NW Diversity Career Fair					x			
NEIGHBORHOODS	Foreclosure Counseling/forclosure Fairness Program					x			
NEIGHBORHOODS	Cultural Conversations	x		x					
NEIGHBORHOODS	Cross-Cultural Communication Workshops			x					
NEIGHBORHOODS	Mini City Hall (MCH)					x			
NEIGHBORHOODS	Day of Sharing and Caring			x					
NEIGHBORHOODS	Neighbor Link Block Parties								
NEIGHBORHOODS	Bellevue Essentials		x	x					
NEIGHBORHOODS	Bellevue Neighborhoods Conference		x	x					
NEIGHBORHOODS	Neighborhood Leadership Gathering		x	x					
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Aquatic Center								
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Swim lessons for youth and adults with disabilities						x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Self-guided class for older adults (WarmSprings)								
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Deep Water exercise class for Lake Washington transitional students						x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Youth Link					x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Bellevue Youth Council & Action Teams					x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Teen Closet & Kids Care Coat Drive Project					x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Youth Link University					x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Youth Leadership Academy					x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Unity Through Diversity Event			x		x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Community Leadership Awards Event			x		x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Youth Involvement Conference			x		x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Gumbo Night Event	x							x
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Bellevue Youth Council Homeless Meal Kit Project					x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Botanical Garden								
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Work study students with developmental disabilities	x		x		x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Chinese community/BBG working to celebrate plants/people through all four seasons, connecting the Chinese community and the BBG			x					
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Yao Garden-2019 50 th Anniversary Sister City relationship. Fall 2018, 1st multi-language brochure rolled out for BBG			x		x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Human Services - NP Assistance Center (NAC)-anti-bias training			x		x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Human Services - Solid Ground-Fair housing training					x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Parks Scheduling-Events Work closely with cultural groups to ensure safe, secure and successful events								
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Flavors of India – Vedic Cultural Center	x	x	x					
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Bellevue Strawberry Festival - Eastside Heritage Center	x	x	x					
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Ukrainian Festival-Ukrainian Consulate	x	x	x					
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	CRY Holi Color festival – CRY Organization (Non-profit for children causes worldwide)	x	x	x					
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Festival of Colors – Bellevue Hindu Temple	x	x	x					
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Breakfast Rotary All in For Autism 5/10K (they also donate proceeds to Recreation Scholarship Fund and to the Kindering Center)	x	x	x					
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Wrap Around								
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Bellevue Early Learning Academy-free low-income youth development program					x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Backpack and school supplies distribution: distribute donated backpacks and school supplies to students that qualify for the Free/Reduced Price Lunch federal program					x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Thanksgiving food bags: distribute donated food bags to families that qualify for the Free/Reduced Price Lunch federal program	x				x			x

	Diversity Programs/ Activities/Services/Space by City Department (2018)	Multi-Generational Activities for Children, Families and Elders	Convening, Gathering, Festival and Celebration Space	Diversity and Cultural Awareness & Preservation	Arts Performance and Practice Space	Social Services	Recreation Activities	Technology Center	Community Kitchen and Dining
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Lunch program sign-ups: coordinate computers and staff to help families apply for the Free/Reduced Price Lunch federal program	x				x		x	
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Big Brother Big Sisters: coordinate in collaboration with this program to match students with mentors	x				x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	TRACKS - Tuesday Trails 50+ Hiking						x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	TRACKS - Outdoor programming with added support to reduce barriers (transportation, instruction and equipment)						x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Youth Sports - Soccer programs (UK and Tetra Brasil) are taught by locals in those countries to infuse those cultures into the curriculum						x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Youth Sports - Kendo teaches traditional Japanese swordsmanship infused in the Japanese culture			x	x		x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Crossroads Community Center								
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	ELLA partnership-free English taught-over 20 different countries represented			x		x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Cultural Conversations host		x	x					
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	TaeKwonDo			x	x		x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	KC Library-story time in 5 languages. KCL also provided free special workshops (music and dance)		x	x	x				
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Ladies Musical Club-free space				x				
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Passport Around the World camp offered by contractor to teach culinary dishes from different countries								x
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Rentals offering Church services in Korean		x	x					
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Kindering Center-free developmental screenings to our preschool & pre-K programs					x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Adaptive Science Day Camp						x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Holiday Dinner/Coat drive and youth party to support families in need during the holidays.			x			x		x
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Highland Community Center								
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Parent talk group to learn English			x					
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Rental that teaches Indian children their traditional dances, language and music	x			x		x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Catch Ball-Jewish women are taught the game in Hebrew			x			x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Welcoming Week event		x						
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	North Bellevue Community Center		x						
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	<u>Chinese: Partnership with Chinese Information Services for these aging adult activities</u>								
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	ESL			x		x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Tai Chi			x	x		x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Chorus			x	x				
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Newspaper Current Events			x					
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Line Dancing				x		x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Health Fair					x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	<u>Latino: Partnership with SEAMAR for these aging adult activities</u>								
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	ESL classes			x		x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Exercise Class						x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Counseling					x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Support Groups		x			x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	<u>India: Partnership with India Association of Western Washington for these programs that are intended for aging adults, youth and young parents</u>								
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Breathing Yoga						x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	ESL			x		x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Meditation			x			x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Bollywood Dance			x	x		x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Legal Clinic					x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Youth Activity Day	x				x			

	Diversity Programs/ Activities/Services/Space by City Department (2018)	Multi-Generational Activities for Children, Families and Elders	Convening, Gathering, Festival and Celebration Space	Diversity and Cultural Awareness & Preservation	Arts Performance and Practice Space	Social Services	Recreation Activities	Technology Center	Community Kitchen and Dining
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Community Outreach		x	x					
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Russian/Jewish: Partnership with Russian/Jewish Heritage Center for these programs intended for youth/ teens and adults.			x					
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Youth/teen Choir				x				
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Pantomime class			x			x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Business idea share					x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	South Bellevue Community Center								
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	ESL for Chinese Seniors			x		x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Yang Style Tai Chi			x	x		x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	The SBCC fitness center is accessible to people with mobility issues and equipment is wheelchair accessible.						x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	The SBCC art wall features many different artists throughout the year. The artists are from many different cultures, socio-economic backgrounds, and neighborhoods in Bellevue.			x	x				
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	The BGCB at SBCC runs afterschool, sports, and drop-in programs for several hundred Bellevue youth. They serve youth from many different cultures, socio-economic backgrounds, and neighborhoods in Bellevue.					x			
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Natural Resources - Mandarin-Language Ranger Hike			x			x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Bellevue Youth Theatre: The programs at BYT are inclusive and accept everyone who auditions, and some stories represented are non-western or European culture. These include 11 productions per year. Interpreters are provided upon request		x		x				
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Day Camps are inclusive and include stories from non-western or European culture. This program is 8 weeks of day camps per year						x		
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Theatre of Possibilities Program is an adaptive program for persons living with disabilities			x	x				
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	BYT is part of CAYA program and is open to all cultures			x	x				
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Gary Strutos provided Indian Flute Performance and Education			x	x				
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES	Rentals include Ukraine, Hebrew, India, Latin and other Southeast Asian groups		x	x					
PLANNING	Funding support for affordable housing					x			
PLANNING	Surplus Land Donation					x			
PLANNING	Multifamily Housing Property Tax Exemption					x			
POLICE	Safe Place								
POLICE	Annual Muslim Community & Immigrant Safety Forum		x	x					
POLICE	Advisory Councils: African American, Muslim, Latino/a, API, Interfaith		x						
TRANSPORTATION	Transportation Impact Fee Exemption					x			
UTILITIES	Utility Rate Relief (URR): purpose is to make essential utility services affordable to low income households that are most vulnerable and not able to pay for their basic living expense. New Emergency Assistance Program (EAP): provide short-term temporary rate relief to low-income residents who are not eligible for URR program.					x			



CITY OF BELLEVUE

CROSS-CULTURAL PUBLIC OUTREACH & PROGRAM STUDY DATA ANALYSIS

Analysis of Bellevue Community Survey Shaping our Inclusive Future & Bellevue
Diversity Forum

Author: Devon Alisa Abdallah, Ph.D.
Contributor: Carla E.J. Andrade, MPA

Contents

List of Figures	3
Sample	4
Survey.....	4
Diversity Forum.....	4
Analysis.....	4
Demographics	5
Age	5
Gender Identity.....	7
Sexual Orientation	8
Race/Ethnicity.....	9
Race	9
Ethnicity.....	10
Language	12
Disabilities.....	16
Understand & Learn about my Identity & Culture	17
Differences between Groups	17
Barriers to Participation in Diversity & Multicultural Activities	18
More Details	19
Quotes	19
Differences between Groups	20
Appreciated & Recommended Programs	21
Quotes	21
Services	23
Social Services Accessed.....	23
Differences between Groups	24
Social Services Needed	25
More Details	26
Differences between Groups	27
Gathering Spaces	28
Multicultural Community Center	30
Desired Programs & Services.....	31
Differences between Groups	32
Quotes	34
The Yeses	34
The Nos.....	34
The Ambivalent.....	34
Other Survey Comments	35

Inclusivity/Diversity	35
Welcoming.....	35
Specific Community/Community Center	35
Other	35

List of Figures

Figure 1 Age	5
Figure 2 Age with Details.....	6
Figure 3 Gender Identity	7
Figure 4 Sexual Orientation	8
Figure 5 Race	9
Figure 6 Ethnicity	10
Figure 7 Top 90% of Ethnicities	11
Figure 8 Languages Spoken other than English	12
Figure 9 All Languages Spoken	13
Figure 10 Number of Languages Spoken other than English.....	14
Figure 11 Number of Languages Spoken.....	15
Figure 12 Disabilities	16
Figure 13 Understand & Learn about Identity & Culture.....	17
Figure 14 Barriers to Participating in Activities	18
Figure 15 Barriers to Participation	19
Figure 16 Recommended &/Or Appreciated Programs.....	21
Figure 17 Services Accessed.....	23
Figure 18 Number of Services Accessed.....	24
Figure 19 Social Services Needed	25
Figure 20 Social Services Needed	26
Figure 21 Utilized Gathering Space	28
Figure 22 Vote on Multicultural Community Center.....	30
Figure 23 Desired Programs & Services	31
Figure 24 Prefer a Center which Provides	32
Figure 25 Top Resources	33

Sample

Survey

443 individuals participated in the 2018 Bellevue Community Survey: Shaping our Inclusive Future. People had the option of completing either a paper survey or an online survey with both surveys offered in multiple languages, namely English, Russian, Hindi, both traditional and simplified Chinese, and Spanish. The majority of respondents completed the online English version.

Diversity Forum

Information was also collected from the June 30, 2018 Diversity Forum where people engaged in table discussions and an audio response system.

Analysis

The majority of the data supplied in this documented is from the online surveys and is supplemented with the rich information from the Diversity Forum.

Analysis was also done on several questions to determine if there were significant differences between groups. Very few differences on any one question were found. Differences are outlined in each individual section.

Comparisons were done between the following groups:

- **Race:** People of Color versus White
- **Sexual orientation:** LGBTQ+ versus Heterosexual
- **Disability:** People with disabilities versus no disability
- **Survey Language:** Individuals who completed a survey in a language other English versus those that completed it in English
- **Gender:** Male versus Female & Male versus Female versus 'Other", e.g. genderfluid, non-binary
- **Age:** Under 29 years of age versus 30 to 39 years old versus 40 to 49 versus 50 to 64 years old versus 65 and older

Demographics

A diverse group of individuals both attended the Diversity Forum and completed the survey. Below are a few descriptors of the respondents.

Age

The age of respondents ranged from 11 years old to 88 years old with the mean age 48.23 and median 47 years old.

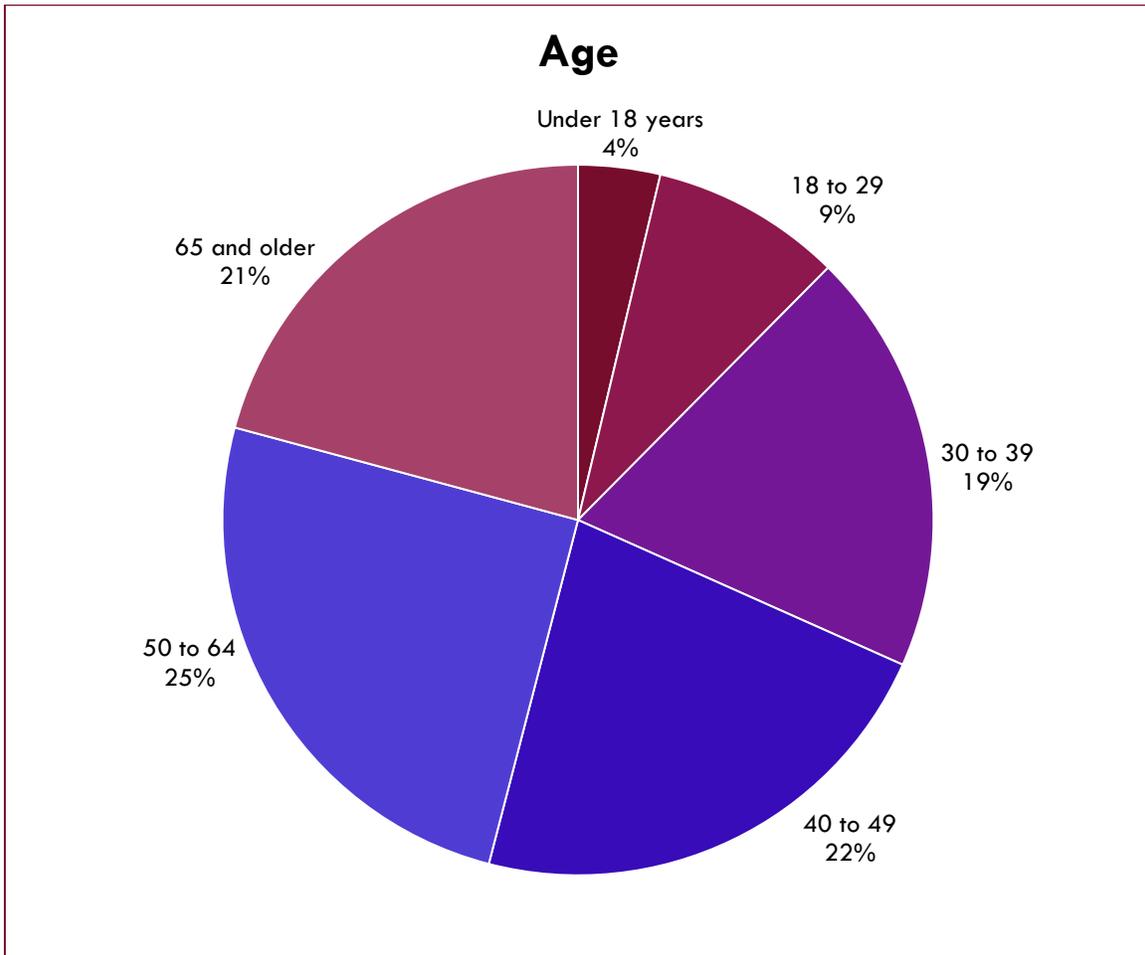


Figure 1 Age

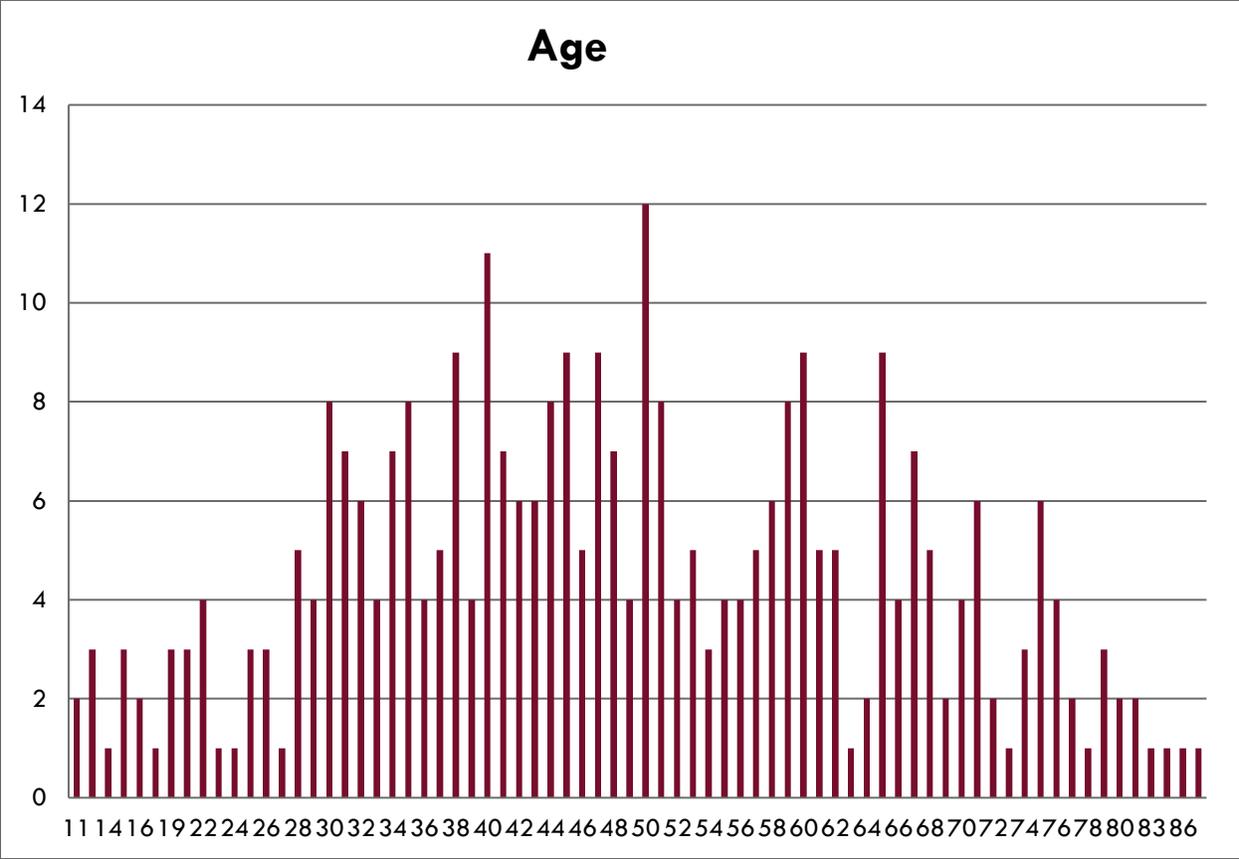


Figure 2 Age with Details

Gender Identity

The majority of respondents identified as female with a large number identify as male. A small number of individuals identified as non-binary, genderfluid or transgender.

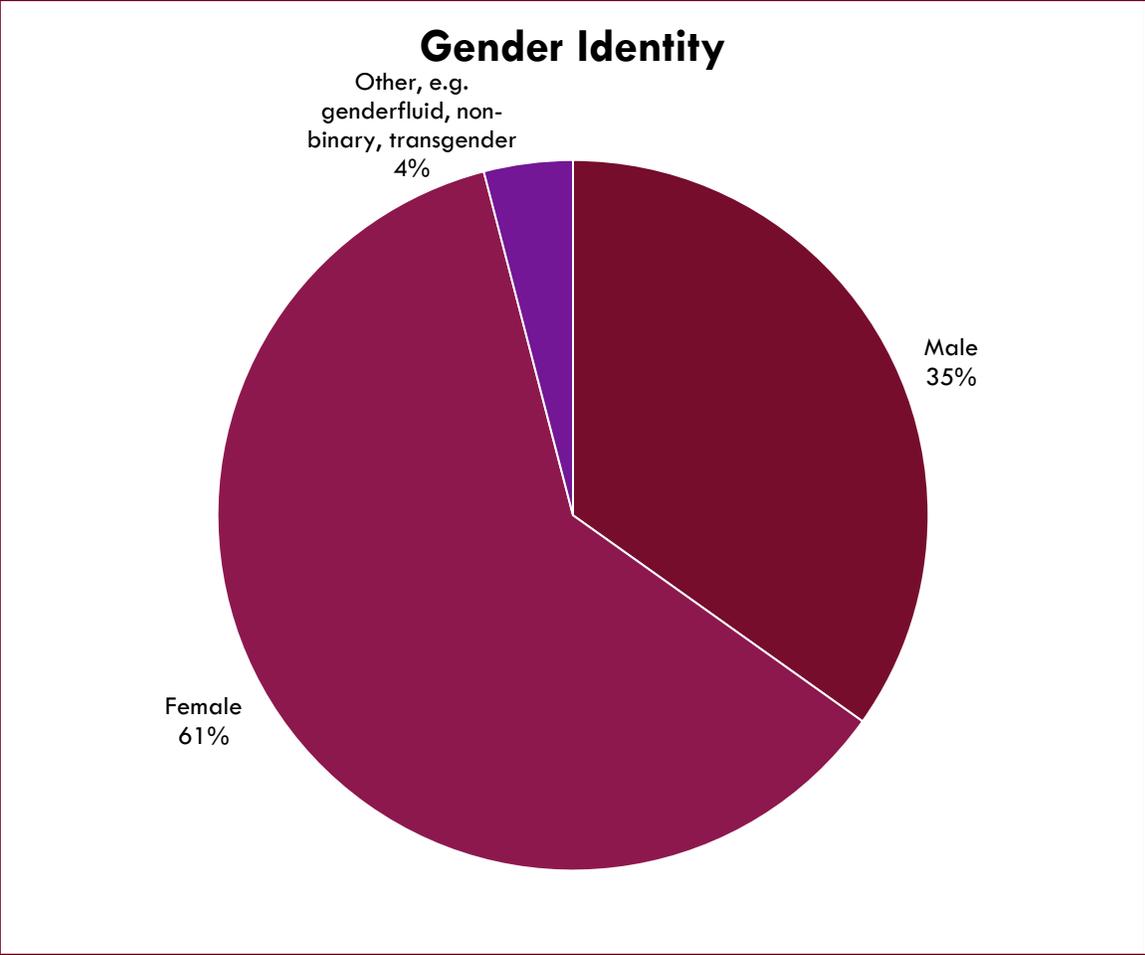


Figure 3 Gender Identity

Sexual Orientation

The vast majority of respondents identified as straight or heterosexual with the next largest category homosexual, gay or lesbian. A number of individuals identified as bisexual, queer with some as asexual, demisexual or pansexual.

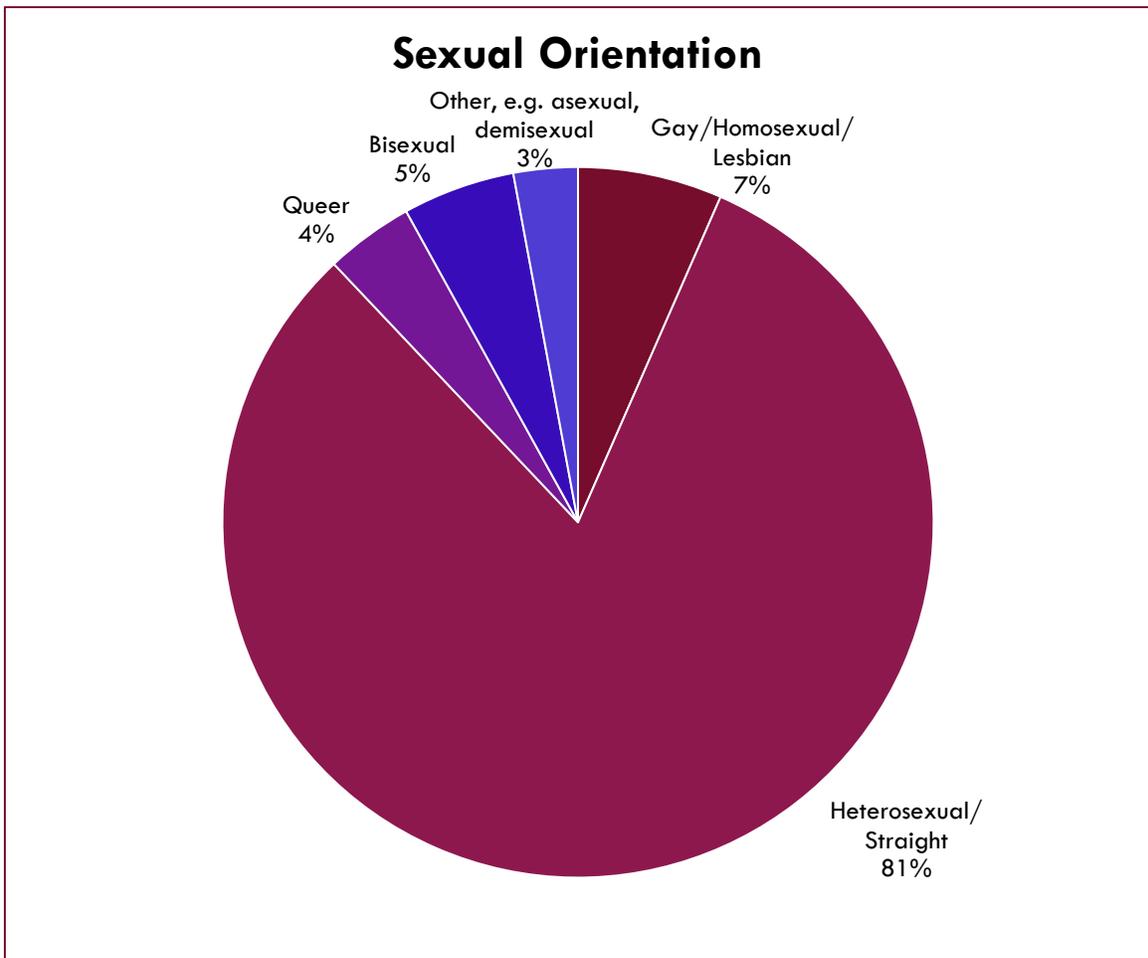


Figure 4 Sexual Orientation

Race/Ethnicity

Respondents were diverse both racially and ethnically. Participants could choose from a list of racial categories, e.g. White, Black/African American, Latino/Hispanic, and also write in their ethnic identity.

Race

Over 50% of respondents identified as Asian American/Pacific Islander, with White as the second most chosen category, then Latino/Hispanic.

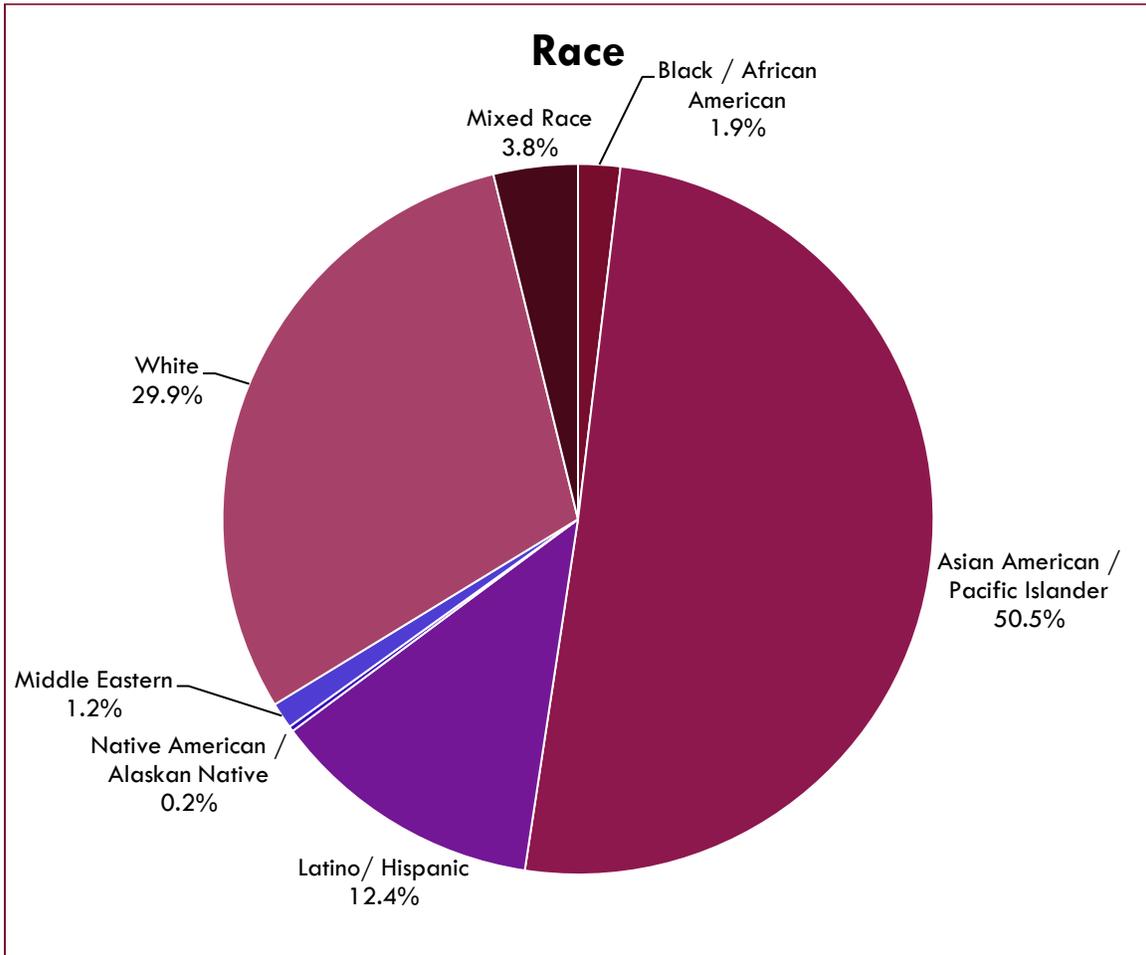


Figure 5 Race

Ethnicity

The top three ethnic identities were South Asian, Chinese and Latino/Hispanic with Russian consisting of another 10%.

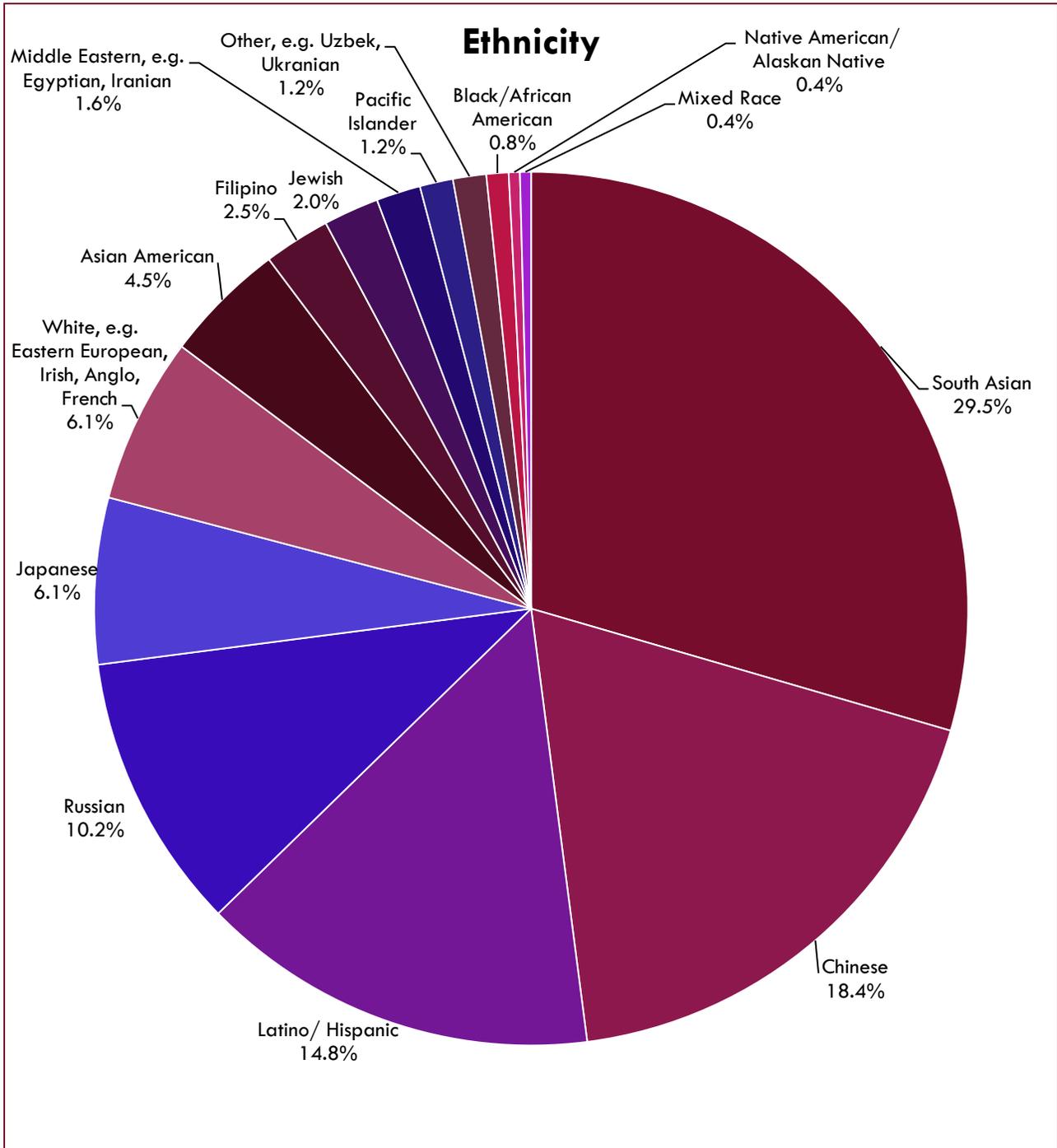


Figure 6 Ethnicity

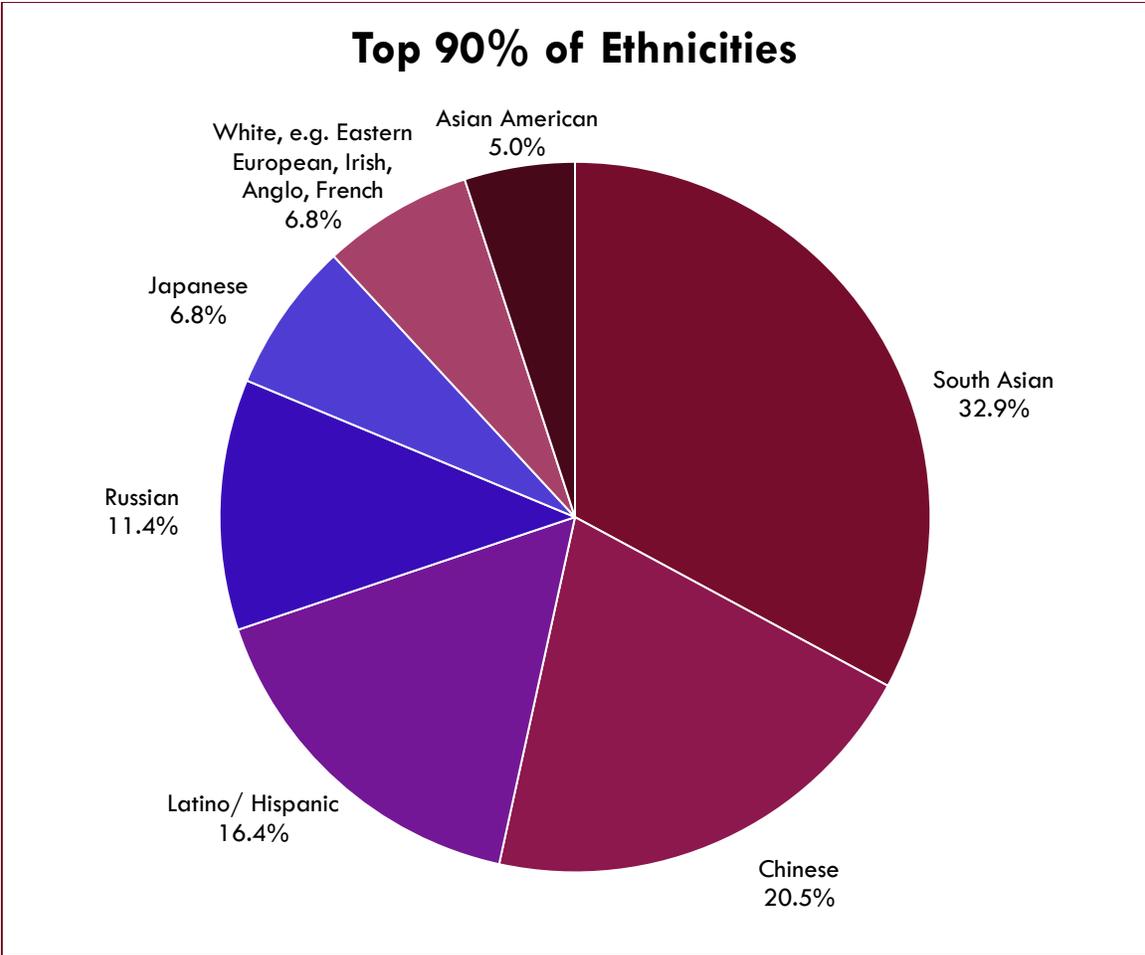


Figure 7 Top 90% of Ethnicities

Language

The majority (71%) of respondents indicated they spoke English with nearly 300 respondents indicating they spoke a language other than English. The most reported language besides English was Hindi (18% of respondents) with Spanish (15%) the second most listed language. Most (62%) reported speaking one language but a quarter of respondents spoke two languages with 13% speaking three or more languages.

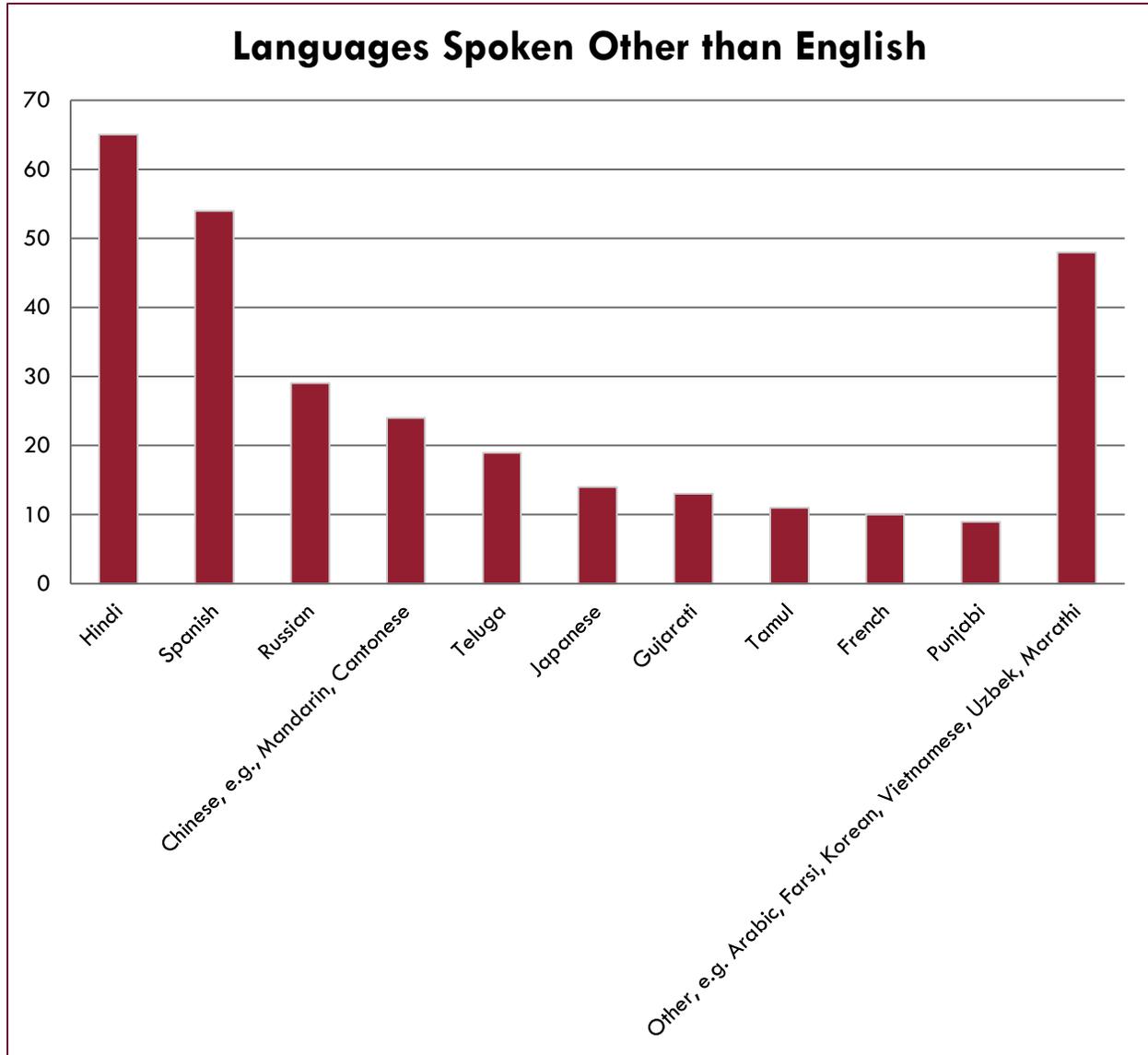


Figure 8 Languages Spoken other than English

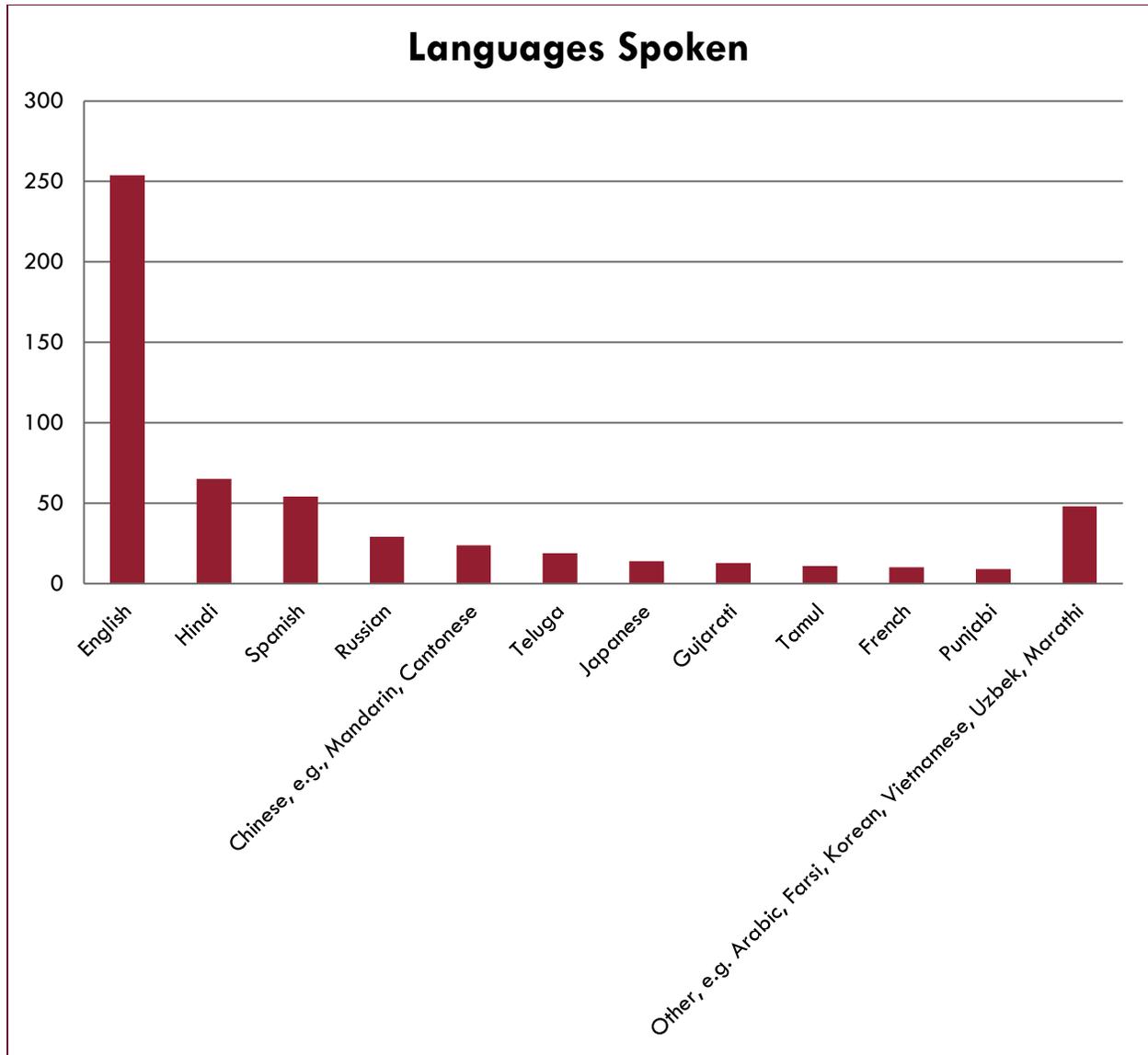


Figure 9 All Languages Spoken

Number of Languages Other than English

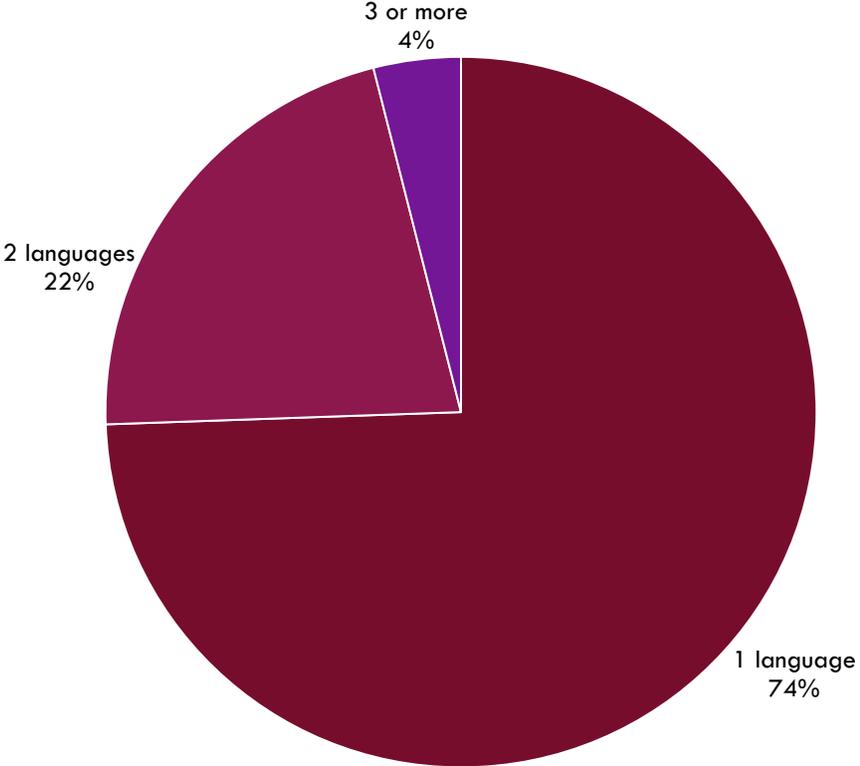


Figure 10 Number of Languages Spoken other than English

Number of Languages Spoken

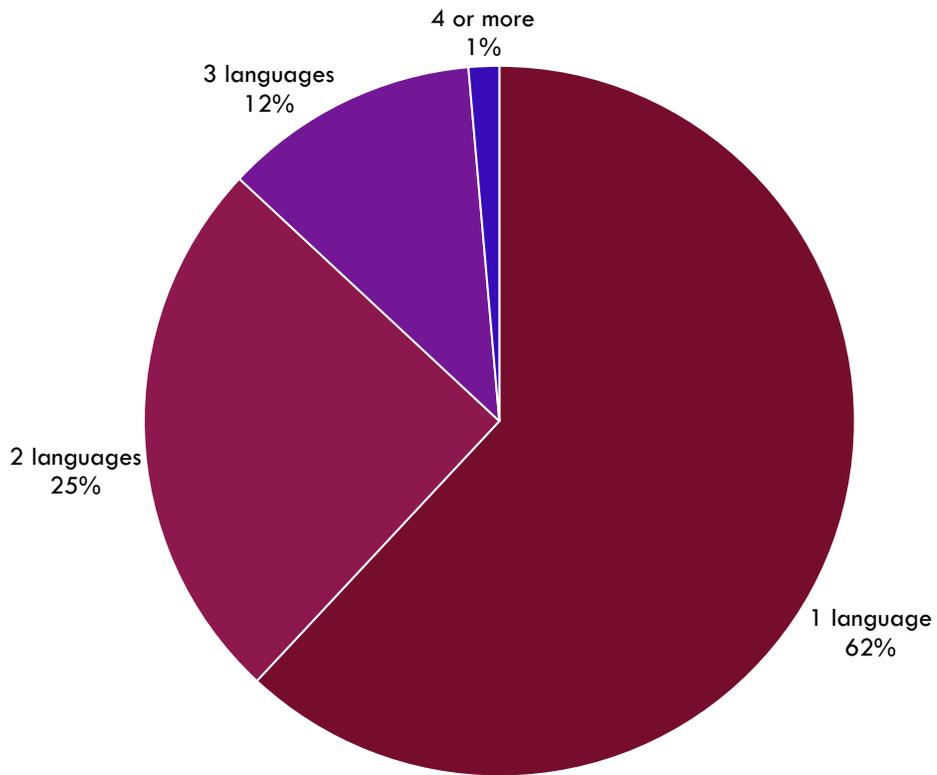


Figure 11 Number of Languages Spoken

Disabilities

Of the respondents who replied, 84% stated they had no disabilities. Of those who listed a disability, physical disabilities were the most common. Those with multiple disabilities typically included both physical disabilities and mental illness.

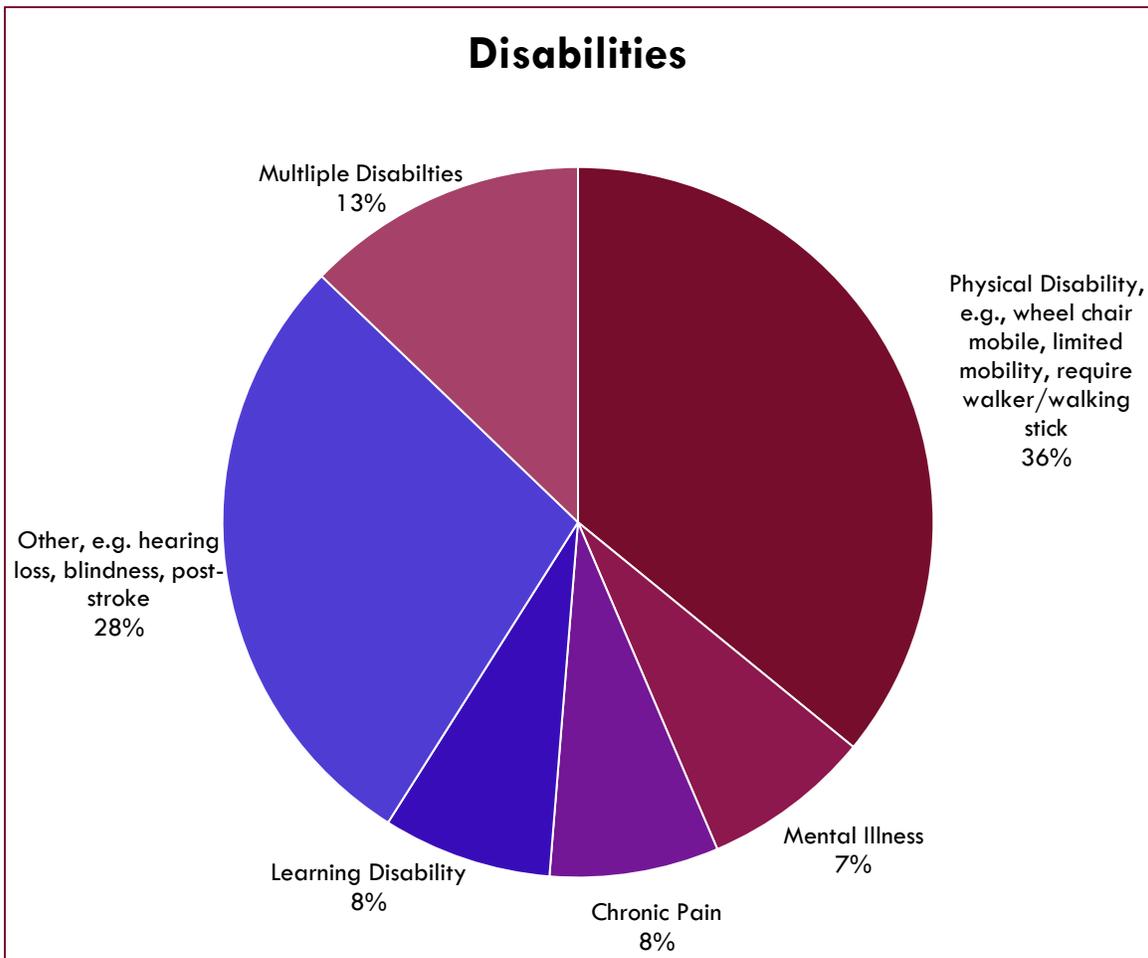


Figure 12 Disabilities

Understand & Learn about my Identity & Culture

What would I like others to understand and learn about my identity and culture?

Over 50% of respondents would like others to understand and/or learn more about their 1) Values, Customs, Norms and Practices, 2) Food, Arts, Culture and Language, 3) History and Heritage and 4) Community Concerns.

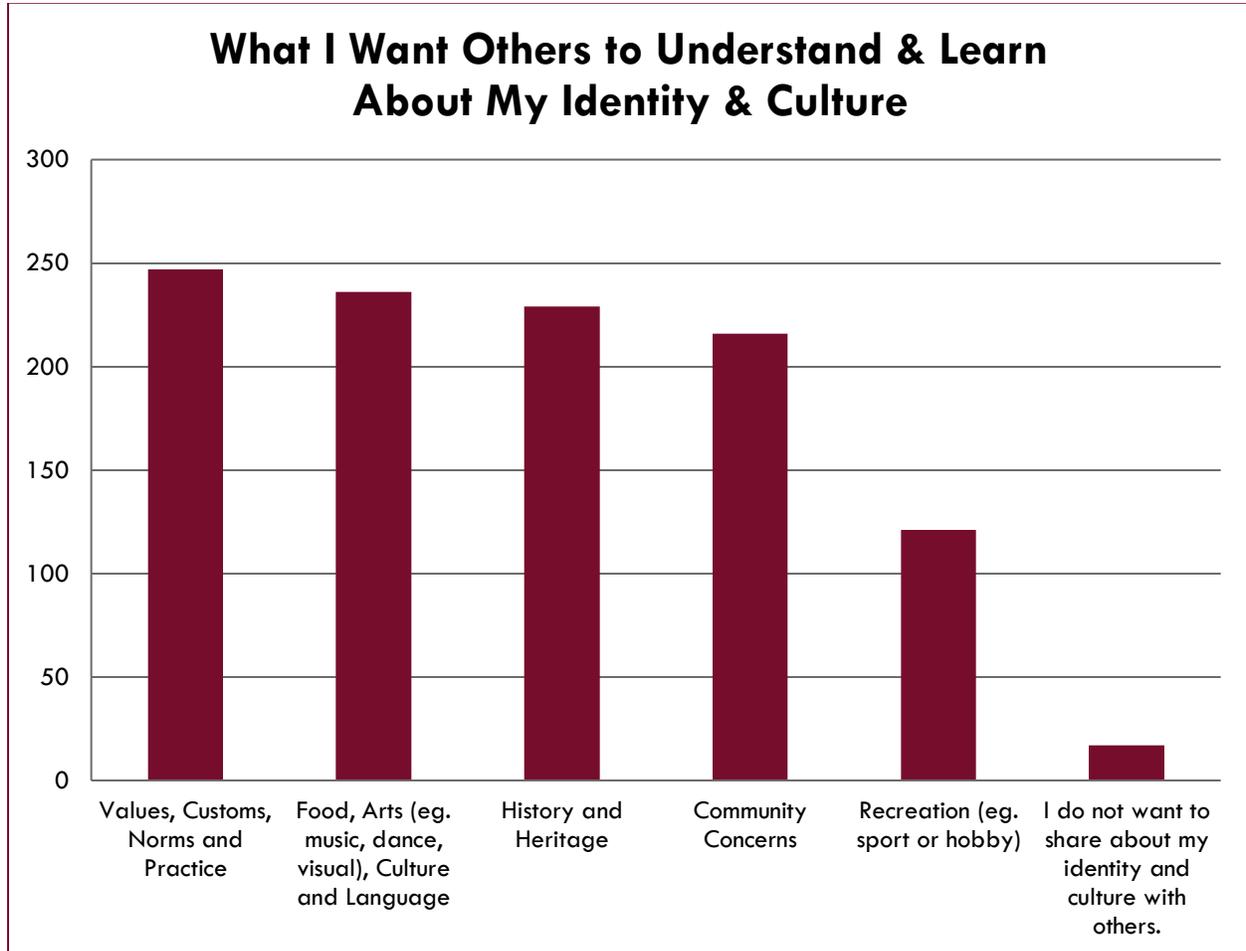


Figure 13 Understand & Learn about Identity & Culture

Differences between Groups

Regarding what understanding and learning about one's identity and culture, there were only one significant difference when comparing groups of individuals based on demographics.

- Individuals without a disability were significantly more likely than individuals with disabilities to want others to understand their Values, Customs, Norms and Practice.

Barriers to Participation in Diversity & Multicultural Activities

What can prevent me from participating in diversity and multicultural activities?

Nearly 50% of respondents felt Time of Day was a barrier to participating with Location and Cost the other top barriers.

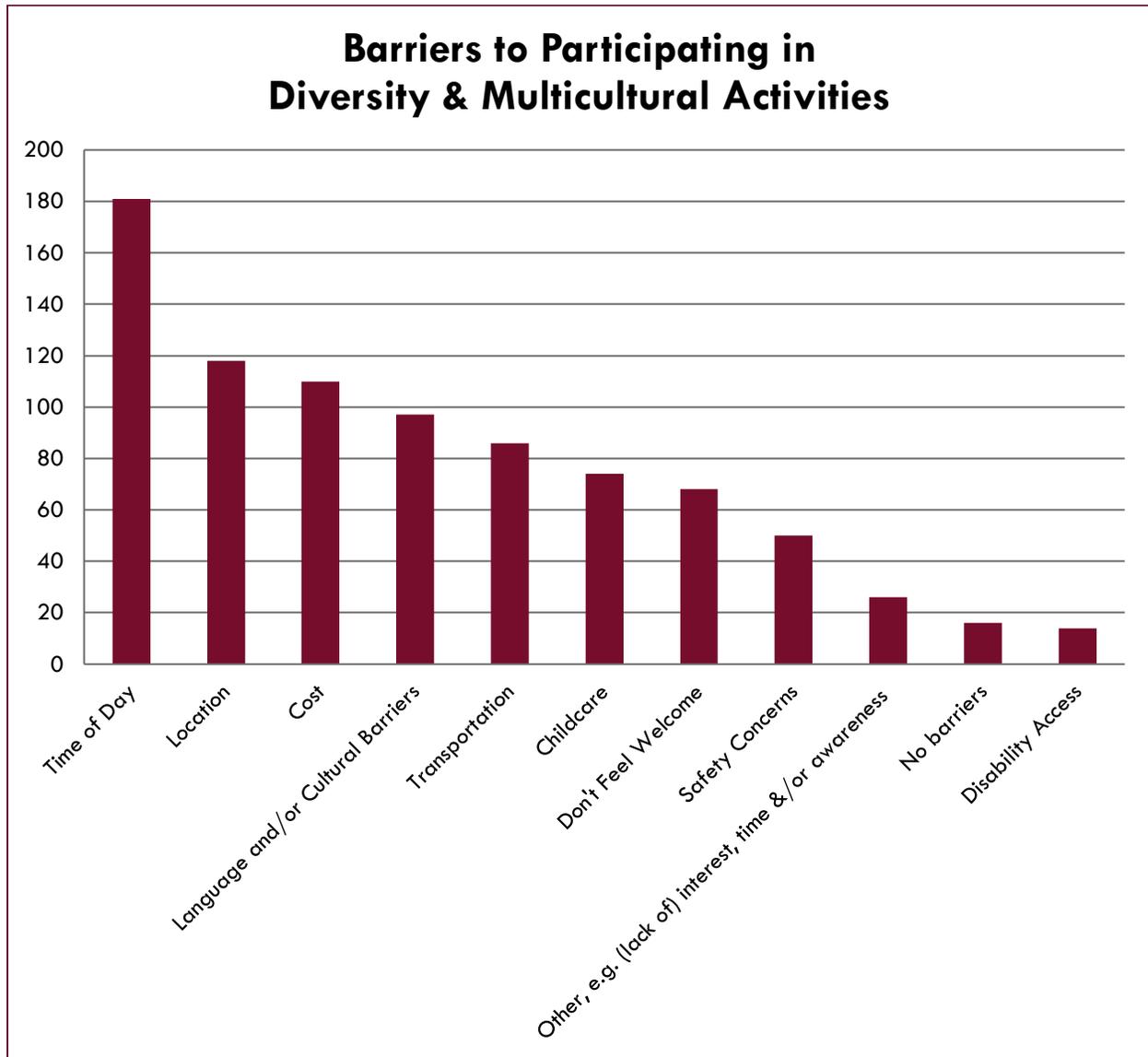


Figure 14 Barriers to Participating in Activities

More Details

The biggest barrier elaborated on was time conflict usually do to respondents' work schedules. Wanting to spend time with family, children, and cost were all barriers as well. Nearly 10% of respondents mentioned some sort of cultural, community or language barrier, such as not enough specific community events or lack of community and fear their English was not good enough.

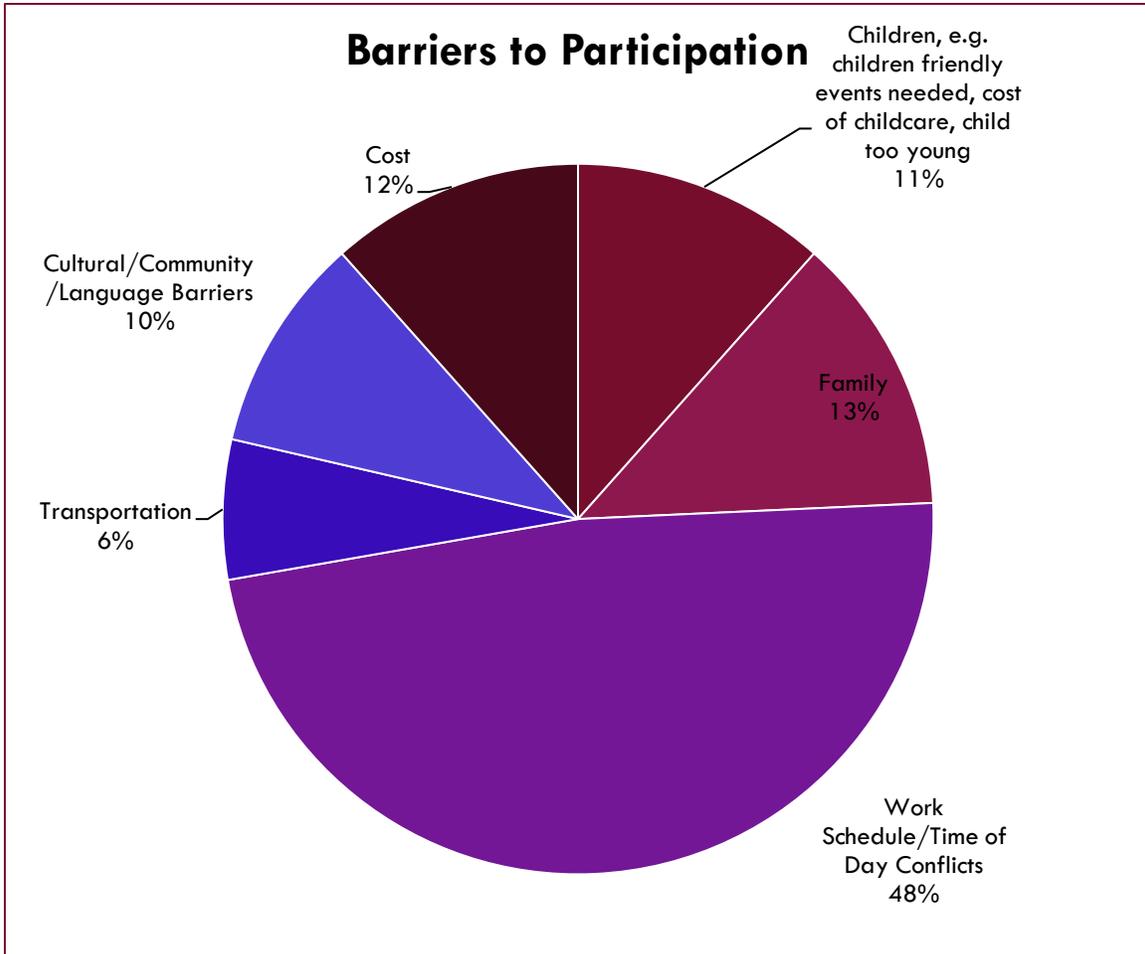


Figure 15 Barriers to Participation

Quotes

Cost

- “My funds are limited”

Transportation

- “I don’t drive and my husband works all day”
- “I use a Park & Ride + Public Transportation. The bus schedules do not offer many direct routes despite it being a transit to transit line. I need to consider the time it would take me to travel from my home to the city for each event. Parking in Bellevue is cost prohibitive. “

Family

- “I work full time and spare time is typically spent with my family”

Cultural/Community/Language Barriers–

- “My English is limited”

- “Simple fear that I may not be able to effectively communicate”
- This Latino culture doesn't seem like it's necessarily been celebrated in Bellevue. I think there would be a tremendous amount to share with the community, but it's unclear how well-received a cultural event would be.”
- “I don't know of any currently that are LGBTQ themed related, there doesn't seem to be any sense of community for LGBTQ on the east side”

Children

- “We have a 1 year old that still keeps us home quite a bit. look forward to doing more as he gets older.”

Work Schedule/Time of Day Conflicts

- “Work schedule conflicts”
- “Time of day could overlap with my work hours”
- “too much other stuff to do - kids, work, etc”

Safety

- “The fact that I wear a hijab makes me very insecure”

Differences between Groups

There were a few differences when comparing groups of individuals based on demographic categories regarding barriers in participating in activities.

- Compared to white respondents, people of color were significantly more likely to view Language and/or Cultural Barriers, Transportation, and Safety Concerns as barriers to participating in events.
- Similarly, people with disabilities were significantly more likely to view Language and/or Cultural Barriers, Transportation, and Disability Access as barriers with people without disabilities viewing Childcare as one.
- Significantly more individuals between the ages of 30 to 39 compared to other age groups indicated Don't Feel Welcome as a barrier.
- Compared to the LGBTQ+ community, more heterosexual people indicated Language and/or Cultural Barriers, Transportation, and Disability Access as barriers.
- Comparing males to females, more males indicated Language and/or Cultural Barriers as a barrier.
- Comparing 'other', males and females, more 'other' indicated Location as a barrier.
- Individuals who completed the surveys in English were more likely to specify Time of Day as a barrier.

Appreciated & Recommended Programs

What cultural, social and diversity programs in Bellevue do I appreciate and/or recommend? (List activities, events, recreation in Bellevue or new ideas.)

Respondents overwhelming (48.8% of respondents) mentioned they appreciated and/or recommended Centers, be it Cultural Centers or Community Centers. Crossroads Community Center and North Bellevue Community Center were both mentioned multiple times. Many people (37.1%) also recommended wanting to see more community conversations and communication between different groups. At the same time, many of Bellevue’s festivals were appreciated.

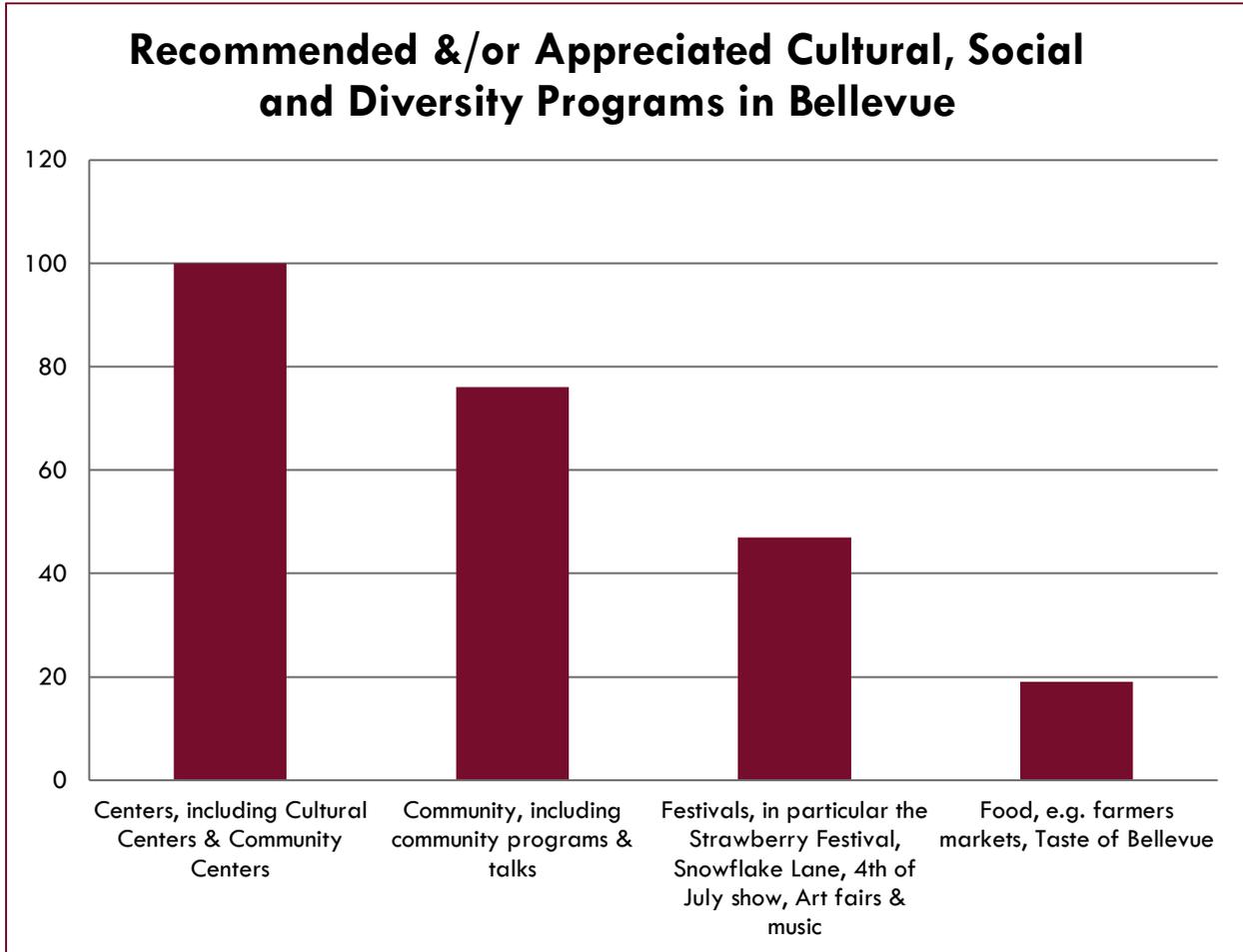


Figure 16 Recommended &/Or Appreciated Programs

Quotes

Centers

- “Tuesdays at Crossroads Community Center”
- “Story time and preschool enrichment play and learn at North Bellevue Community Center “
- “We are representing nonprofit organization: Russian Jewish Cultural Center, and with many obstacles, we are trying very hard to partner with local community centers to offer our cultural and educational programs to our community. I would like to ask you to help us move our programs forward, which I believe will have much benefit for our community abroad.”
- “I like the Crossroad Mall area. It’s like a multiuse and multifunctional center: everything within walking distance, and the family with children, adults and elderly can spend time flexibly. “
- “Senior center Library”

Community

- “India community program at North Bellevue Community Center
- “I would like to see communications between different group, such as performances, community potluck, Lectures about history and culture”
- “community conversations”
- “Culture Conversation, festivals of different countries”
- “The cultural conversations events sound very interesting they just conflict with my schedule.”
- “cultural exchange through performing arts”

Festivals

- “Bellevue World Taiko Festival and Aki Matsuri are amazing event to learn Japanese culture.”
- “South Asian Film Festival at Bellevue Arts Museum, storytelling events”
- “Multi-cultural festivals, gatherings, meetings to encourage connections across groups - esp families. meetings to share & highlight different cultures.”
- “More festivals of different countries”

Services

Social Services Accessed

I have used these social services in Bellevue and the Eastside

Roughly 50% of respondents (n=189) have not accessed services in Bellevue. Of those that have accessed services over 50% have used Health services, with Transportation the second most frequent service utilized. Most (58%) use only one or two services with less than 10% using five or more services.

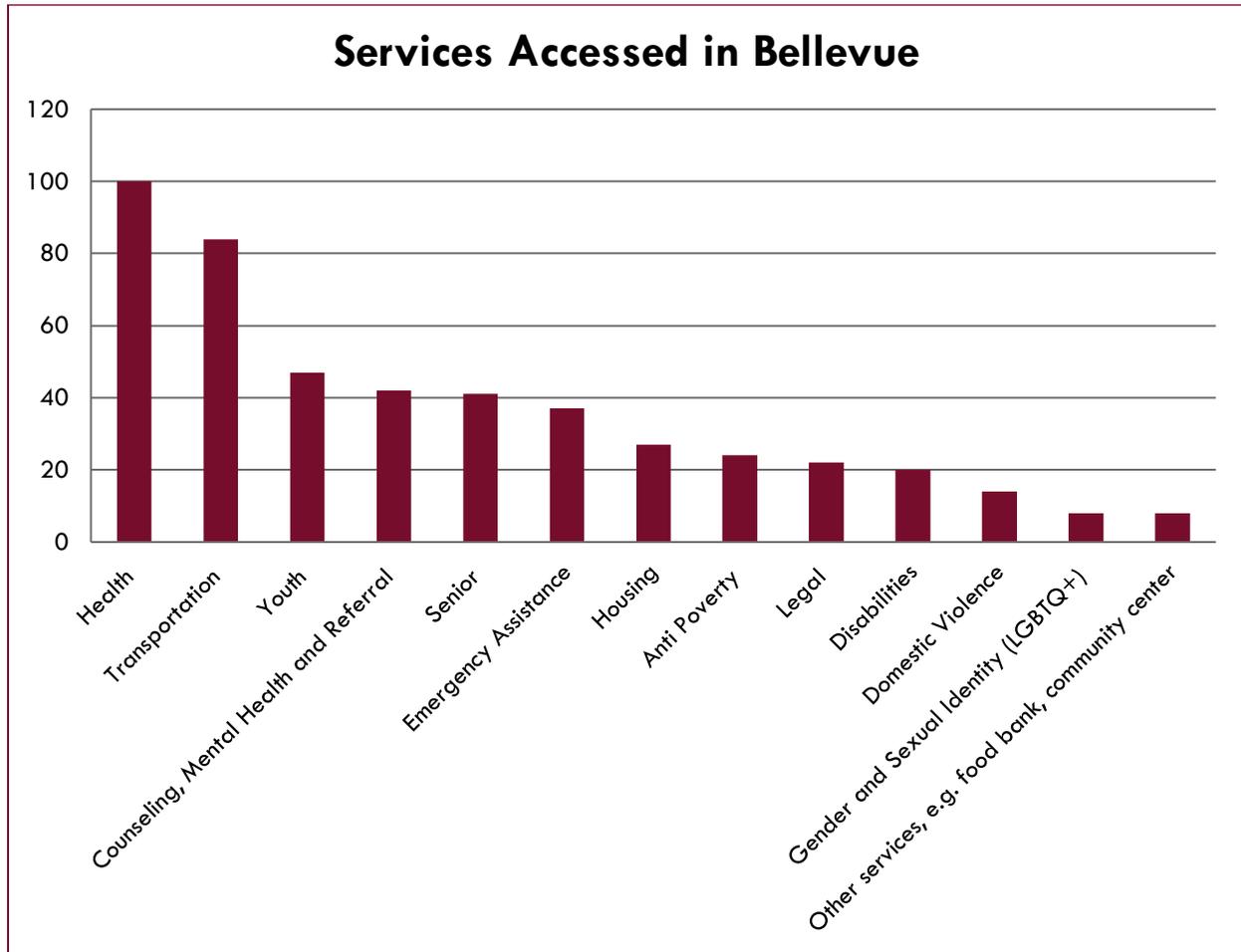


Figure 17 Services Accessed

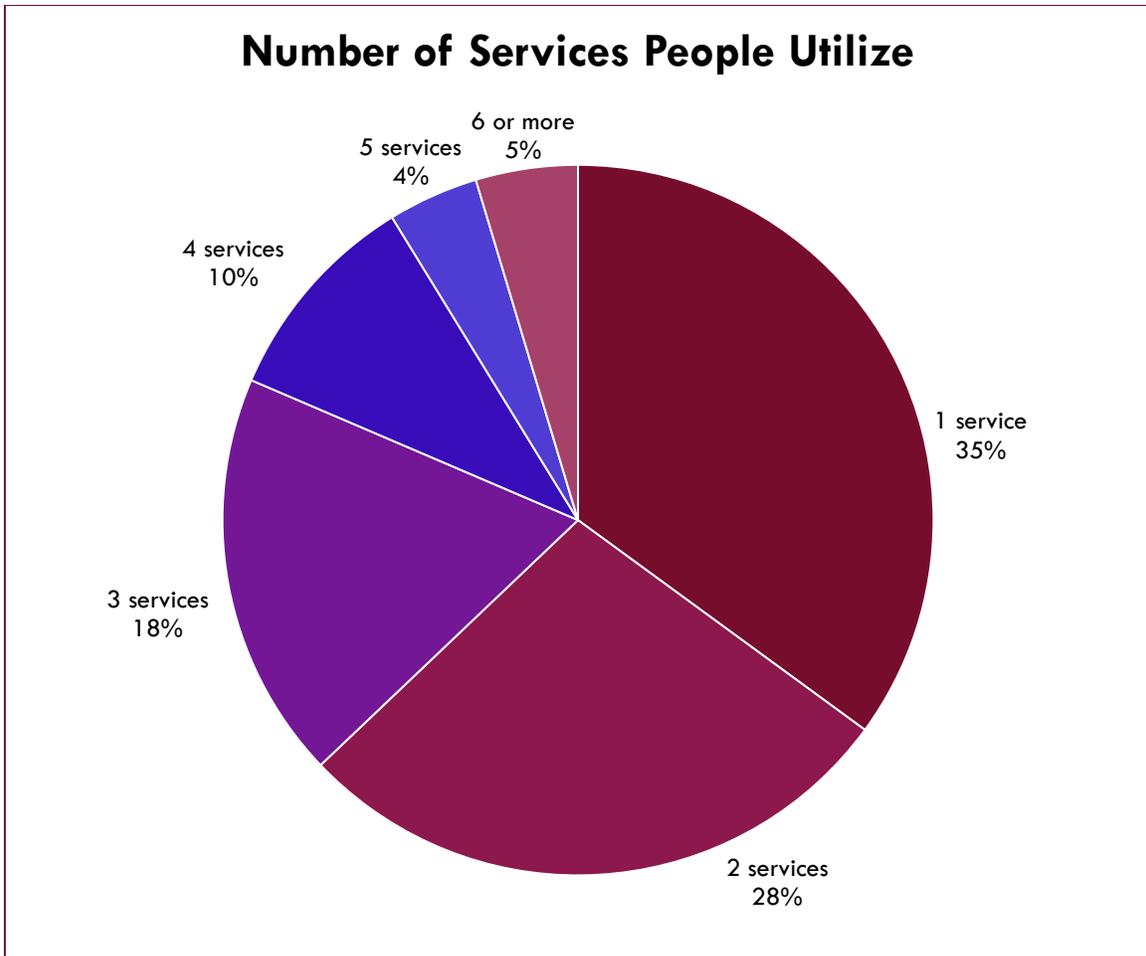


Figure 18 Number of Services Accessed

Differences between Groups

There are several significant differences between groups in who accesses or does not access services.

- People of color were more likely to utilize Gender and Sexual Identity services.
- LGBTQ+ individuals were more likely to have not used any services in Bellevue.
- Heterosexual persons were likely to have accessed Health and Anti-Poverty services.
- Individuals with disabilities were not only significantly more likely to have used a larger number of services but also Senior, Anti-Poverty, and Disabilities services.
- People without disabilities were more likely to have not used any services in Bellevue.
- Comparing males to females, males were more likely to have accessed Senior services and females to not have accessed any services.
- Comparing all gender identities, "other" were more likely to not have accessed services in Bellevue. Males were more likely to have used Emergency Assistance.
- There were no significant differences regarding accessing services based on age or survey language.

Social Services Needed

Culturally responsive social services we need more of in Bellevue are:

Over 50% respondents felt more culturally responsive Health services were needed in Bellevue with Housing and Mental Health services the other most required. When asked for more details, over 25% of respondents mentioned affordable housing as being a major issue with another 11% commenting that services addressing homelessness was required. Services for both youth and seniors were suggested as well, as was transportation and mental health.

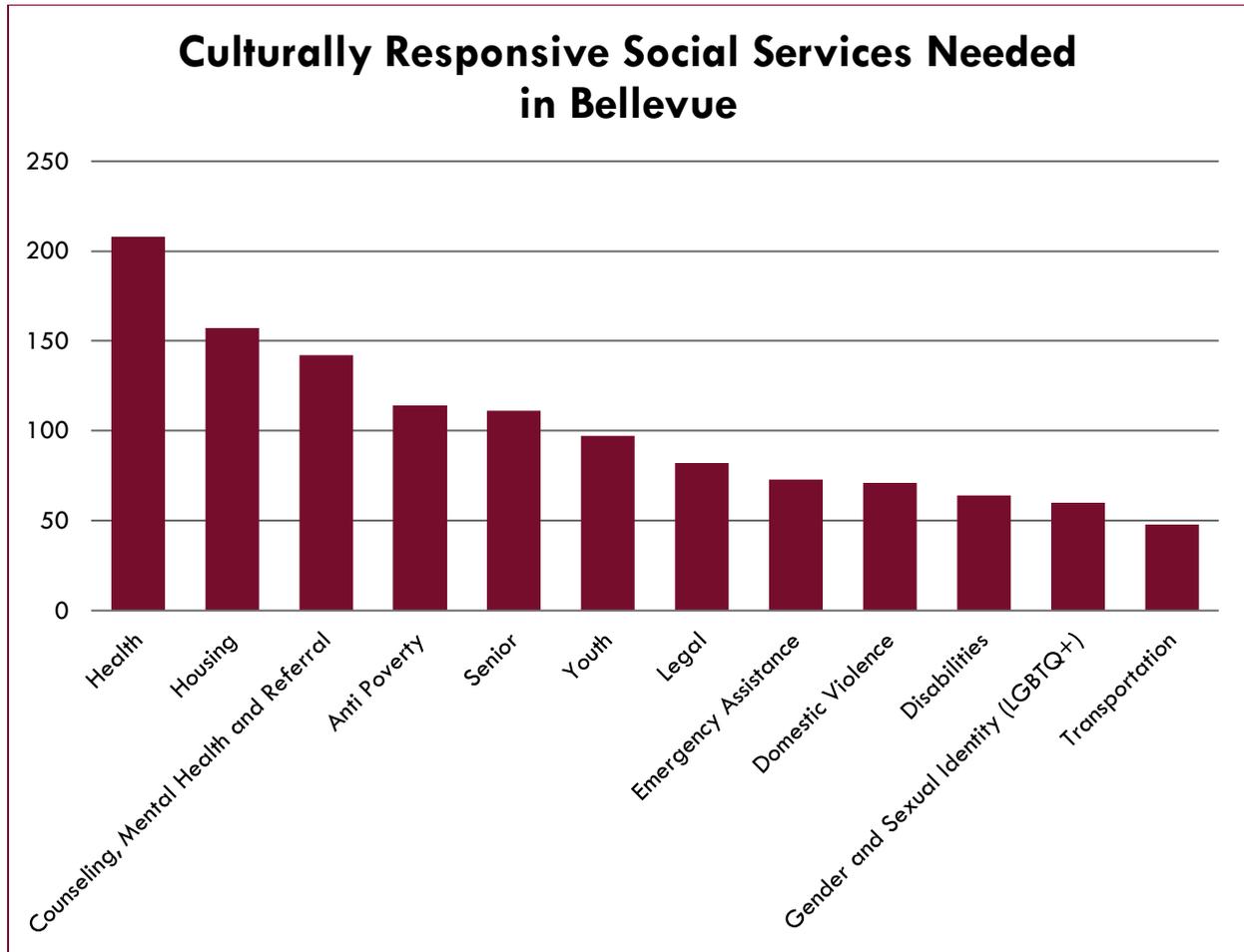


Figure 19 Social Services Needed

More Details

Affordable housing was the most recommended social service elaborated upon.

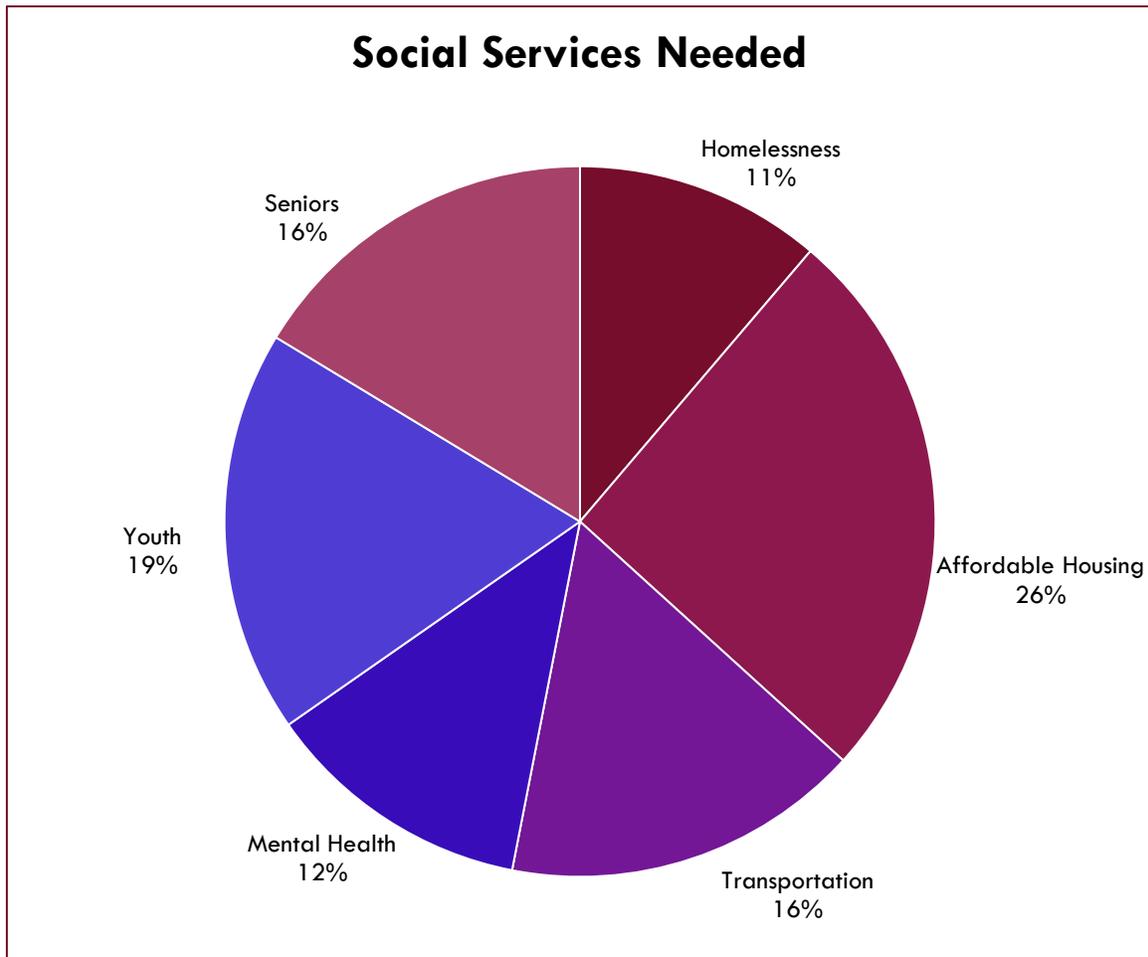


Figure 20 Social Services Needed

Quotes

Housing

- “Housing is the biggest gap because of the huge cost. The City should be reducing the cost of affordable housing through legalizing ADUs and DADUs and making permitting for them affordable, and removing barriers, like off-street parking.”
- “Bellevue is rapidly becoming urbanized in a bad way. New housing is right to the street (note corner of 156th Ave and 20th Street, note 120th and Bel-Red road. City council has not met a developer they didn't like. We need setbacks, improved pedestrian access pocket parks, green spaces.”
- “Affordable housing is #1”
- “Sufficient affordable housing is key”

Homelessness

- “Homeless must be tracked to receive food, shelter and re dive mental health screening and follow up therapy and meds if necessary.”
- “Bellevue needs to recognize its growing problems with poverty and homelessness - instead of fighting the inclusion of shelters, we need to make this a part of all conversations. Stop allowing new construction to buy out low income housing requirements; build a community that embraces diversity that may not be as photo- or PR-ready.”

Mental Health

- “Culturally appropriate and readily accessible mental health services for kids and adults”
- “Mental Health problem is a big stigma and shame for Asian people which population rapidly increases in Bellevue. Especially for students who are stuck between their parents value and value in American school system. How to spread out information to parents and community is big challenge, because of language and culture (stigma).”
- “Especially in Asian community, there is a type of stigma surrounding seeking mental health services/ bringing up family issues. More effort needs to be done to change this.”

Transportation

- “The resistance to the light rail is pretty frustrating- so transportation outreach would help a ton.”
- “Would be nice to have assisted transportation for special needs youth and families”
- “Transportation between Kirkland/Bellevue/Redmond. Getting from Totem Lake area in Kirkland to the youth drop-in center in Redmond or the Healthpoint takes at least 2 busses and an hour and a half.”

Youth

- “The youth need to be made aware of ongoing social & economical situations & challenges so they can better prepare themselves to become contributors to the society”
- “More fun events for youth and families”
- “if there is no specially-organized events for youth, there is limited communication between Russian-speaking youth”

Seniors

- “Usually seniors falls through the crack with housing because some have lived here a long time before the extreme rising of home prices.”
- “If culturally responsive means "social services tailored to immigrants", seniors might be the target as they have more difficulties to adapt to the new scenario.”

Differences between Groups

Regarding social services needed, there were few significant differences between groups.

- Older respondents (65 years of age or older) compared to other age groups indicated more Transportation services were needed.
- Individuals who completed the surveys in English felt more Anti-Poverty, Disabilities, and Domestic Violence services were desirable.
- Individuals who completed the surveys in a language other than English indicated more Legal services were wanted.
- There were no significant differences regarding services needed based on race, sexual orientation, disability status, or gender identity.

Gathering Spaces

My family, friends and community often gather, convene, celebrate at _____ in Bellevue:

Over 25% of respondents indicated they or their community gather at Crossroads or more specifically Crossroads Mall. Parks are another popular gathering spot with the Downtown Bellevue park mentioned numerous times. Cultural or Community Centers, especially the North Bellevue Community Center, were specified as places to convene.

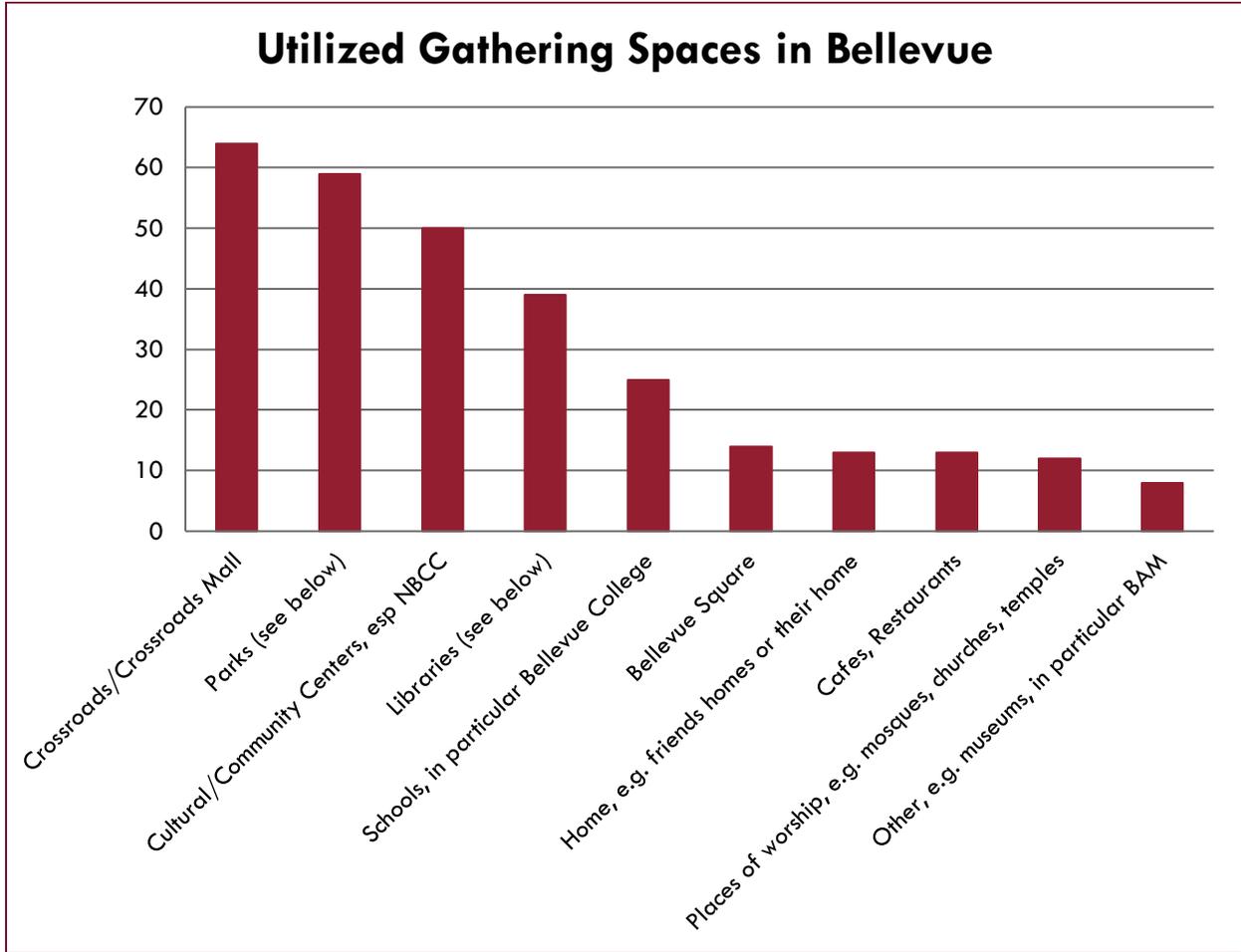


Figure 21 Utilized Gathering Spaces

Parks:

- Bellevue Downtown
- Chisholm Beach
- Meydenbauer Beach
- Lake Sammamish
- Kelsey Creek
- Enatai Beach

Libraries:

- Bellevue Downtown
- Crossroads

Other Comments:

- Several people mentioned Bellevue needs more affordable meeting spaces for events and/or there was no intergenerational space for gathering, "there is no intergenerational free space for sitting, gathering, playing, people watching, music, art..."
- Several people stated they go to Seattle for gathering spaces.

Multicultural Community Center

Does Bellevue need a Multicultural Community Center?

Overwhelming people feel Bellevue needs a Multicultural Community Center and that it should offer both social services and cross-cultural activities, programs, arts, and recreational activities.

While people who attended the forum want the Center to offer both Social Services and Cross-Cultural Activities, only 12% feel Social Services should be the top resource offered. Nearly 50% feel the Center should include either Multi-Generational Activities or be a Gathering Space. In the survey, respondents (63.35%) want a Bellevue Multicultural Center to be an Arts Performance and Practice Space with 50% of respondents wanting the Center to include Multi-Generational Activities, be a Gathering Space, including for festivals and celebration, and/or include Diversity and Cultural Awareness and Preservation.

There were no significant differences regarding demographics (age, race, gender, sexual orientation, disability/able bodied) between individuals who feel Bellevue needs a Multicultural Community Center and those that do not. Basically, the people who feel Bellevue needs a Center and those that do not do not differ in regards to age, race, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.

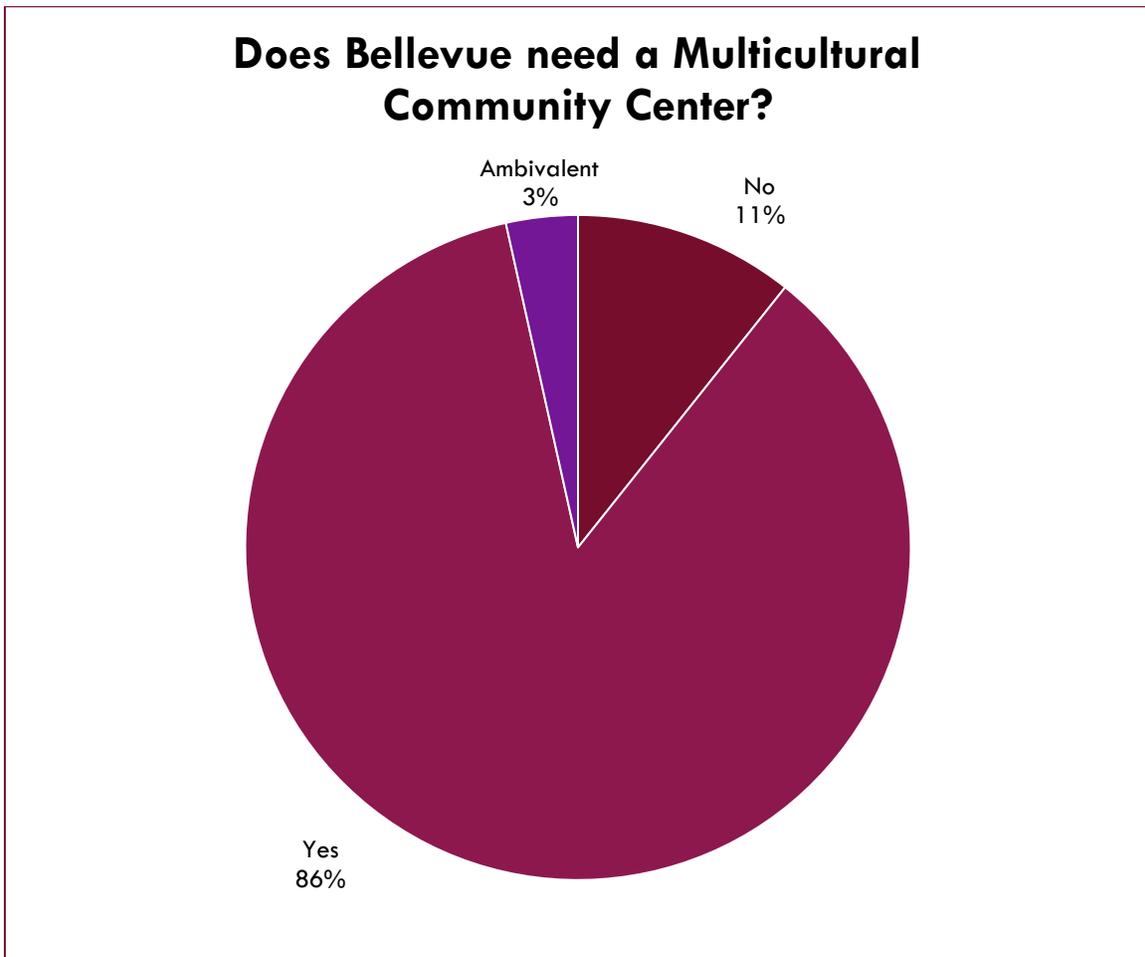


Figure 22 Vote on Multicultural Community Center

Desired Programs & Services

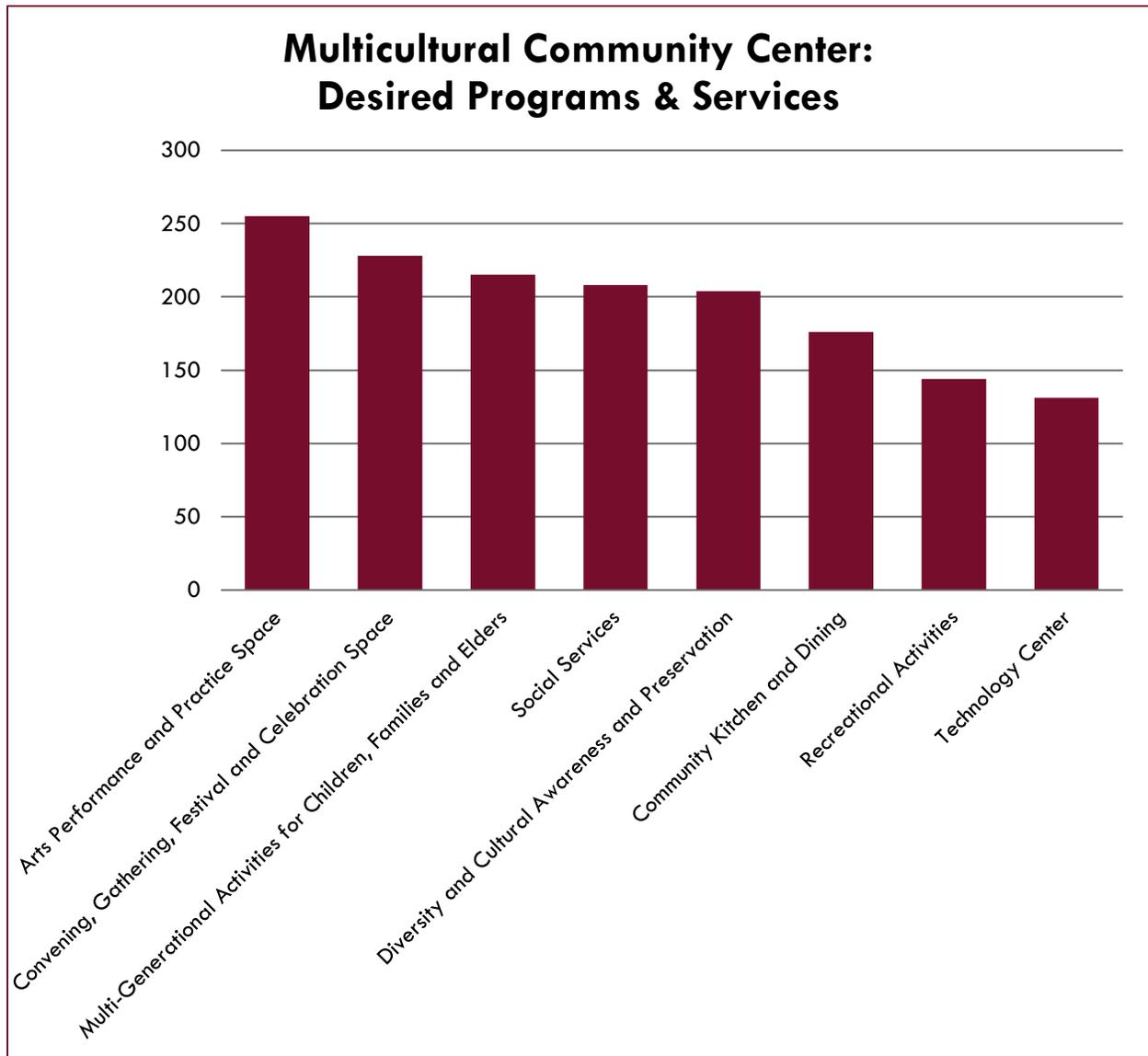


Figure 23 Desired Programs & Services

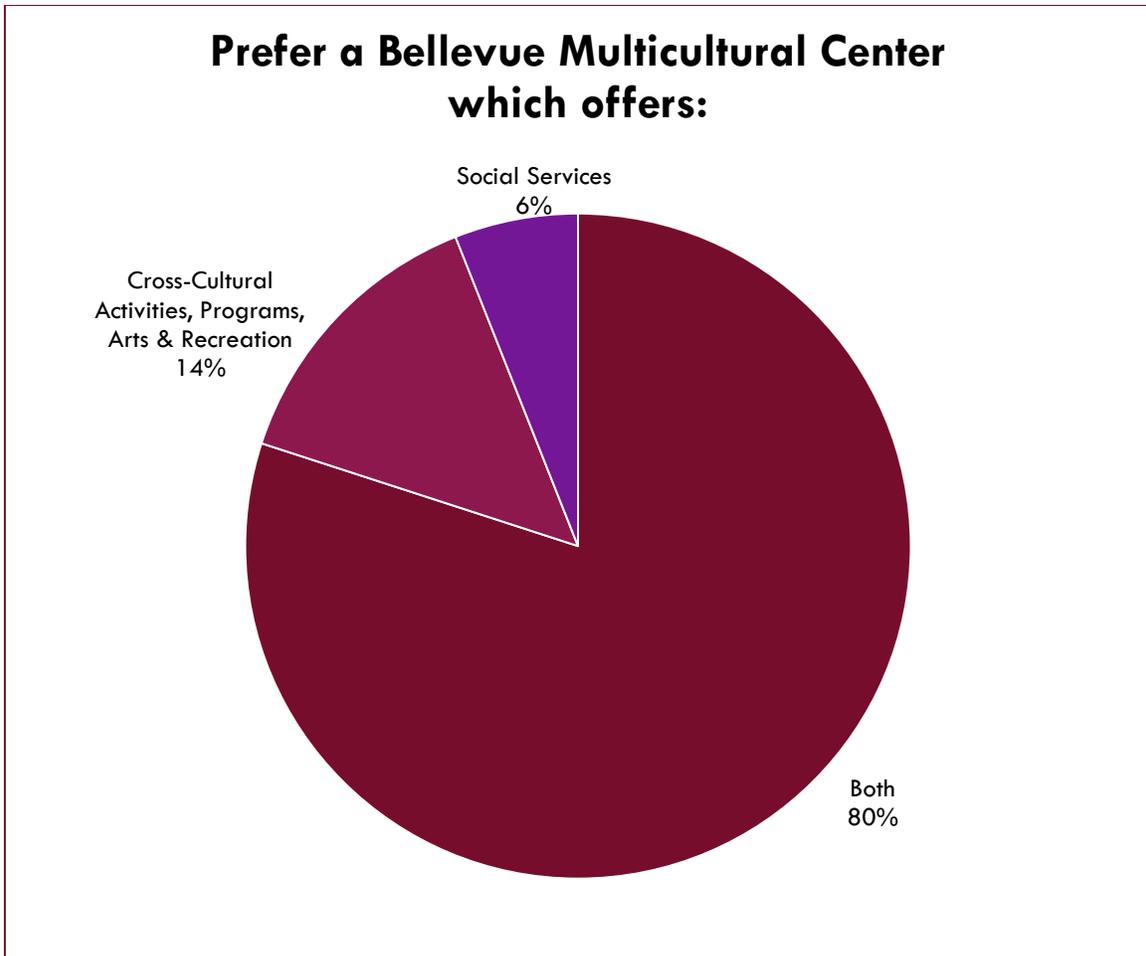


Figure 24 Prefer a Center which Provides

Differences between Groups

As mentioned above, there were no significant differences between groups in regards to wanting a Multicultural Community Center or not. Regarding services offered at a Multicultural Community Center, there were very few significant differences between groups.

- People of color were significant more likely to want an Arts Performance and Practice Space than white respondents.
- Comparing across gender identity, individuals who identify as “other”, were more likely to want a Convening, Gathering, Festival and Celebration Space.
- There were no significant differences based on sexual orientation, age, disability or language of survey.

Top Resource People Want Offered

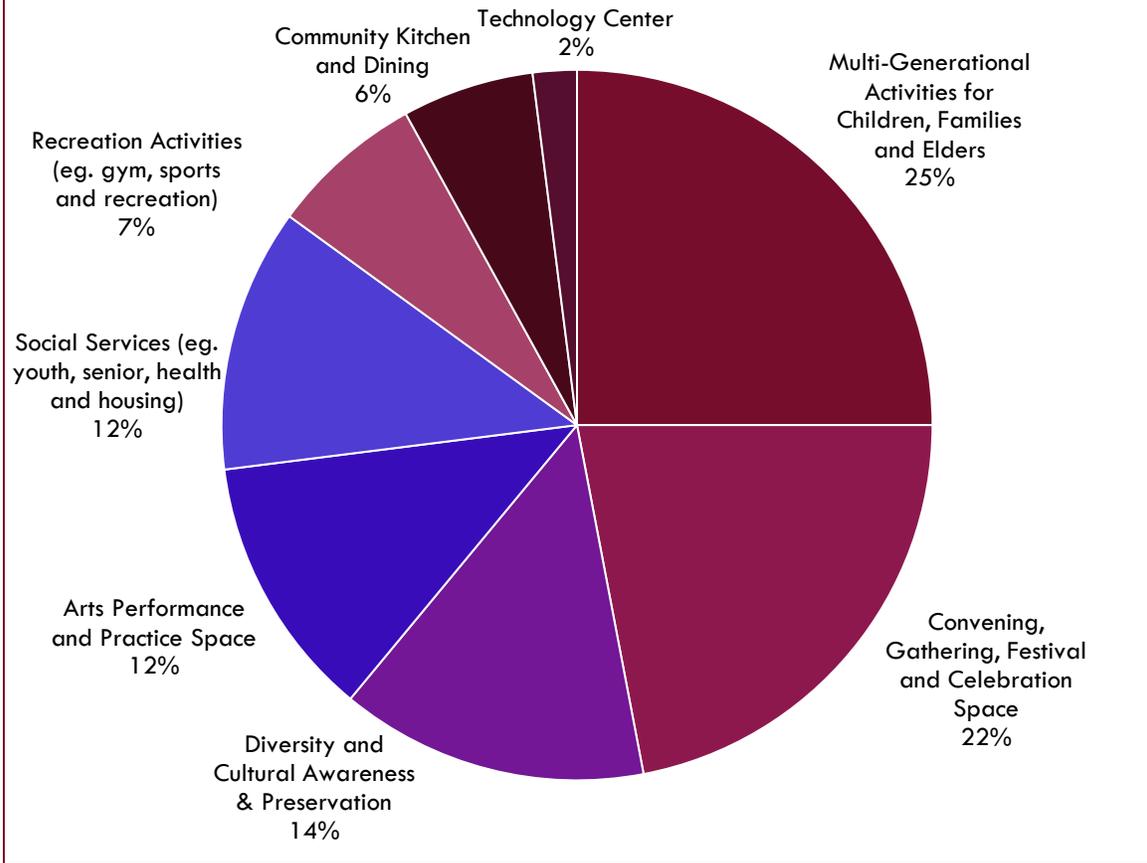


Figure 25 Top Resources

Quotes

The Yeses

There are no significant differences regarding demographic characteristics between respondents who would like a Multicultural Community Center and those that do not. Below are a few quotes from those that indicated “yes”.

- “Make it as a fun place to visit, gathering, to know other cultures.”
- “When Bellevue have the cultural space, Bellevue become in a Real city.”
- “To create an Eastside Welcome Center and partner with Kirkland and Kenmore”
- “We need more places that are more receptive to minorities and make them feel safe.”
- “We need a place to interact with people from other cultures”
- “An aquatic multicultural center that welcomes people of all age & race”

The Nos

There are no significant differences regarding demographic characteristics between respondents who would like a Multicultural Community Center and those that do not. Below are a few quotes from those that indicated “no”.

- “None, this is unnecessary”
- “No center is needed since we have access to schools, libraries, parks, and gyms.”
- “I feel like all this already happens at Crossroads Mall and Crossroads Park - lets build on that!”
- “Quit spending our tax dollars on this colossal waste of peoples money”
- “What’s the problem in need of a solution?”
- “There is no need to spend any money to build any center. The library has a lot of meeting rooms. Most of the time is empty. There are enough places, mainly to organize activities in an effective and unified manner.”

The Ambivalent

There are no significant differences regarding demographic characteristics between respondents who would like a Multicultural Community Center and those that are ambivalent. Below are a few quotes from those that are unsure.

- “It depends on what it offers”
- “I’m not sure. The closest thing we have now is the Crossroads Mall.”
- “I don’t know. I would have to have a better understanding of how existing spaces are being used and if they could be extended to meet additional needs. I’d also need better understanding of the cost of building and access to a new center would be. If it costs a lot to use it, then I think it defeats the purpose.”

Other Survey Comments

Inclusivity/Diversity

- “Bellevue has a lot of work to do on it “Whiteness Only” attitude. If Bellevue was serious about diversity, then your work force would be 50/50. 50 percent people of color and 50 percent whites.”
- “Bellevue is made up of a large, diverse population - encouraging communication between individuals and providing activities for populations (youth, seniors) as well as services to those in the community only spreads the multi-generational impact.”
- “Be more inclusive - create opportunities for educating everyone on multicultural Bellevue”
- “I think everything from the building design to the events held should be lead and inspired by a diverse team. White people leading diversity efforts can sometimes miss the mark.”
- “You need to get community leaders onboard to help promote and market whatever you decide to do in terms of diversity.”

Welcoming

- “We need to make feel welcome for who just came to Bellevue.”
- “Organization, planning, involvement, engagement and make the people feel “welcome” :)”
- “Please make city hall, and all city parks currently have meeting rooms available free for public to use, first come first serve. More places to socialize and engaged is key to a healthy community. “

Specific Community/Community Center

- “Better police approach to the Hispanic community”
- “Please consider to have a center for Hispanic community like Casa Latina, Centro de la Raza in Seattle”
- “We need a Russian-cultural center here in Bellevue”
- “Please create a South Bellevue Community Center such as the North Bellevue Community center. Youth, seniors need space to socialize, need lots of parking spaces. More public libraries will be great too.”
- “Why isn’t there a community center in or near downtown? The community centers are all so far away towards Redmond or across I90?”

Other

- “Make all street parking spaces 4 hr not 2 hr limits.”
- “City Council should have term limits. There are too may “political hacks” on the council who have made it their profession.”
- “I would love to see a public acknowledgement and commemoration of the history of Japanese Internment in Bellevue.”



BELLEVUE COMMUNITY SURVEY: Shaping our Inclusive Future

The City of Bellevue is gathering input for exploring citywide resources and spaces to educate, celebrate and inspire Bellevue to be a welcoming and inclusive community. Please complete the short survey below through July 15, 2018. Survey feedback will remain anonymous and each question is optional. Translations in Chinese (Simplified and Traditional), Hindi, Russian and Spanish are forthcoming. Thank you for sharing your ideas and experiences!

All are invited to discuss survey input to-date at a gathering on Sat, June 30 from 9:30am-12noon at Bellevue College! Please contact ajchoy@gmail.com for questions and to RSVP.

COMMUNITY SURVEY: Shaping our Inclusive Future

Age:

Race:

Check all that apply.

- Black / African American
- Asian American / Pacific Islander
- Latino / Hispanic
- Native American / Alaskan Native
- Middle Eastern
- White
- Mixed-Race
- Other:

If mixed-race, please list racial identities:

Ethnicity (eg. Filipino):

Language(s) Spoken:

Gender Identity (eg. Female, Male, Genderfluid, Gender-Nonconforming, Non-Binary, Agender, etc.):

Sexual Orientation (eg. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Heterosexual, etc.):

Type of Disability (If applicable):

DIVERSITY AND MULTICULTURAL PROGRAMS

Please share your ideas or best practices for diversity and multicultural programs in Bellevue.

1. What would I like others to understand and learn about my identity and culture?

Check all that apply.

- Community Concerns
- Food, Arts (eg. music, dance, visual), Culture and Language
- History and Heritage
- Recreation (eg. sport or hobby)
- Values, Customs, Norms and Practice
- I do not want to share about my identity and culture with others.
- Other:

2a. What can prevent me from participating in diversity and multicultural activities?

Check all that apply.

- Childcare
- Cost
- Disability Access
- Don't Feel Welcome
- Language and/or Cultural Barriers
- Location
- Safety Concerns
- Time of Day
- Transportation
- Other:

2b. Please explain.

3. What cultural, social and diversity programs in Bellevue do I appreciate and/or recommend? (List activities, events, recreation in Bellevue or new ideas.)

SOCIAL SERVICES

4. I have used these social services in Bellevue and the Eastside:

Check all that apply.

- Anti-Poverty
- Counseling, Mental Health and Referral
- Disabilities
- Domestic Violence
- Emergency Assistance
- Gender and Sexual Identity (LGBTQ+)
- Health
- Housing
- Legal
- Senior
- Transportation
- Youth
- I have not accessed social services in Bellevue and the Eastside.
- Other:

5a. Culturally responsive social services we need more of in Bellevue are:

Check all that apply.

- Anti-Poverty
- Counseling, Mental Health and Referral
- Disabilities
- Domestic Violence
- Emergency Assistance
- Gender and Sexual Identity (LGBTQ+)
- Health
- Housing
- Legal
- Senior
- Transportation
- Youth
- Other:

5b. Please explain.

GATHERING SPACE

6. My family, friends and community often gather, convene, celebrate at _____ in Bellevue: (List specific community or cultural centers, libraries, businesses, places of worship, schools and spaces.)

7. If Bellevue had a Multicultural Community Center, what programs and services would I hope to find?

Check all that apply.

- Arts Performance and Practice Space
- Convening, Gathering, Festival and Celebration Space
- Community Kitchen and Dining
- Diversity and Cultural Awareness & Preservation
- Multi-Generational Activities for Children, Families and Elders
- Recreation Activities (eg. gym, sports and recreation)
- Social Services (eg. youth, senior, health and housing)
- Technology Center
- Other:

8. Does Bellevue need a Multicultural Community Center?

Check all that apply.

- Yes
- No
- Other:

9. My additional thoughts and recommendations on diverse, multicultural gathering spaces in Bellevue are:

Thank you again for your ideas and recommendations!

If you would like to learn the results and view the final report, please visit this link:
<https://bellevuewa.gov/city-government/departments/city-managers-office/diversity/progress-update/>