

Our impact on youth is consistently positive, transformative and far-reaching. Specific outcomes reported by youth, parents, and counsellors include:

- Decreased school dropout rates
- Decreased cigarette, alcohol and drug use
- Improved relationships with parents and peers
- Increased civic/community involvement, including youth starting environmental clubs, multicultural clubs, and mentoring programs
- Increased involvement with the arts
- Increased pursuit of higher education

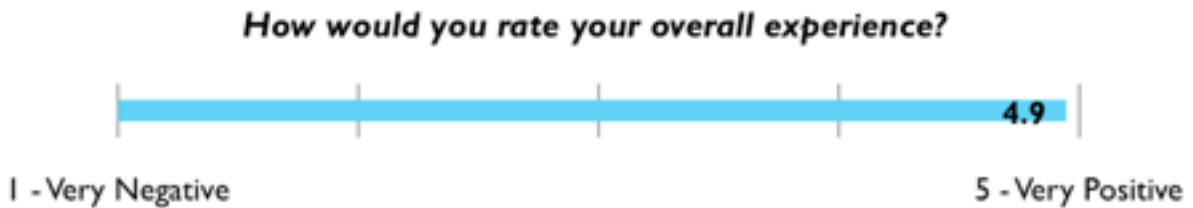
This report summarizes a subset of data focusing on Power of Hope collected for a comprehensive evaluation by Anne Basham, MFA and Mary Murray, MA of MEMconsultants, a Seattle-based consultancy specializing in program evaluation for youth-serving organizations.

The full report of this evaluation, *Supporting youth-serving organizations to awaken purpose, power, and possibility in young people around the world: An evaluation of PYE Global's programming*, is available upon request from [PYE Global](#).

### Participant Satisfaction

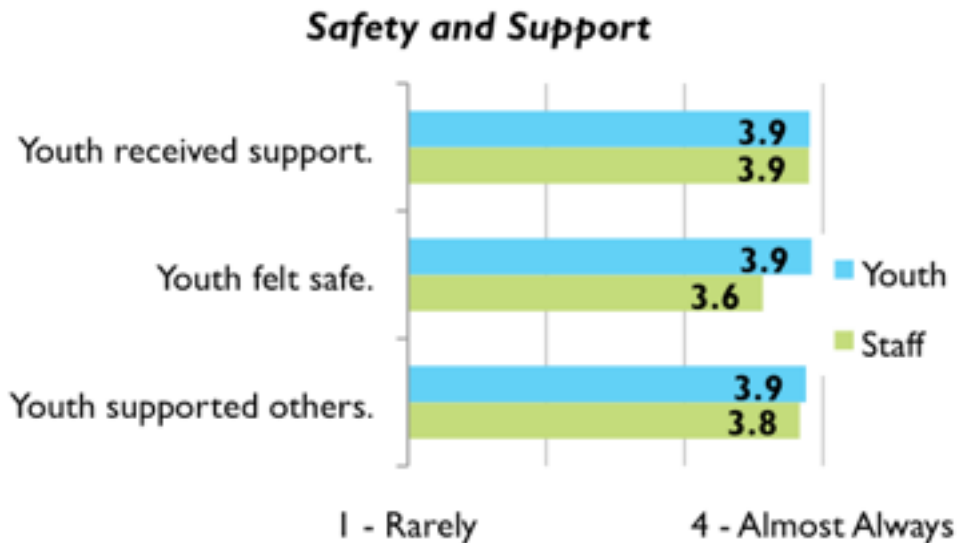
Youth camp participants were asked to complete a survey after participation in a week-long overnight camp. The figures below detail the average response when youth were asked to rate their overall experience.

When asked what they liked best about their camp experience, youth mentioned the creative atmosphere and artistic activities, community of people and opportunities for personal growth. Camp facilitators report high participation and retention rates, which supports evidence that the camp experience is an enjoyable one for youth.



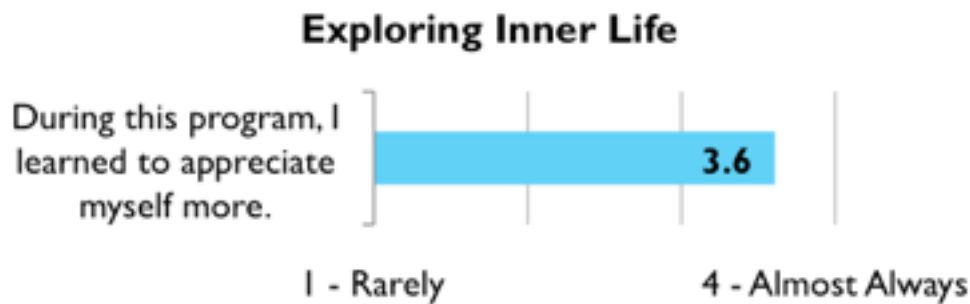
### Safe and Supportive Environment

Participant feedback indicates that our camps, based on the Creative Community Model, excel at delivering a safe and supportive environment. When asked what they liked best about the camp, youth and staff alike cite safety and support as key elements. “There is so much support for each young person's individual experience and needs,” said one staff member. One youth specifically gave credit to the staff for creating a safe space. “[The best thing about the camp is] how much the [staff] care and how I can just be myself around everyone 24/7.”



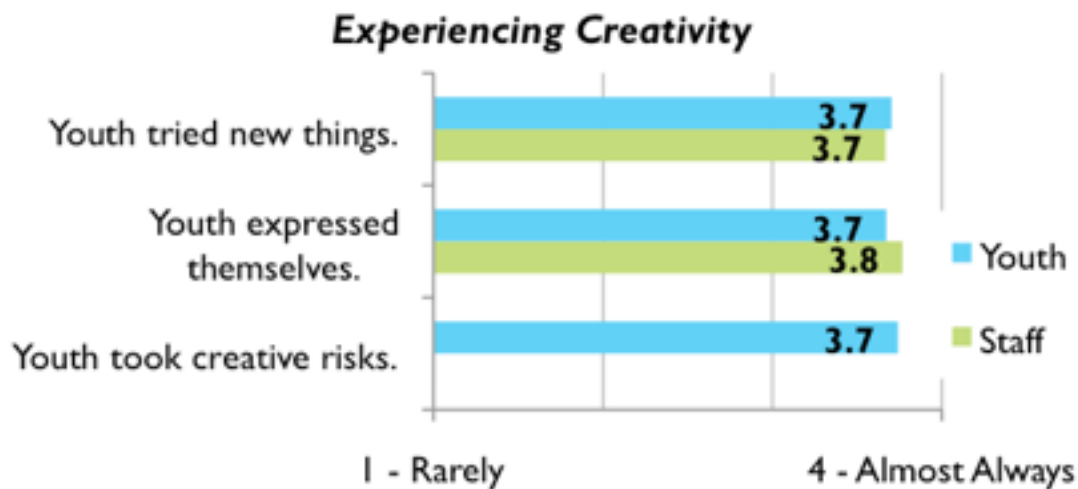
### Exploring Inner Life

Camp participants were asked if the camp helped them to learn to appreciate themselves. In response, youth and camp staff gave examples of how the camps helped them to develop a more positive sense of self. “I have found a better sense of self worth within myself and feel a huge self-esteem boost,” says one youth, while another claims, “I absolutely loved this program because I could totally be who I am without any work and feel safe. And I really learned about myself.” A camp staff member also observed how the camp facilitates identity development. “[This camp] is an amazing alchemical context: a great opportunity for youth to find their cornerstone of personal character... built upon love, inspiration and creative empowerment.”



### Experiencing Creativity

Youth participants and adult facilitators of PYE’s youth camps report that the Creative Community Model encourages creative risk taking and expression. One camper describes how the camp encouraged creativity. “I will be more open and will sing and dance more often.” Another describes how this will lead to increased ability for self-expression, “[Because of camp] I think I will be able to express myself more genuinely, instead of just conforming to societal norms. I think I’ll have more strength to follow my dreams.”

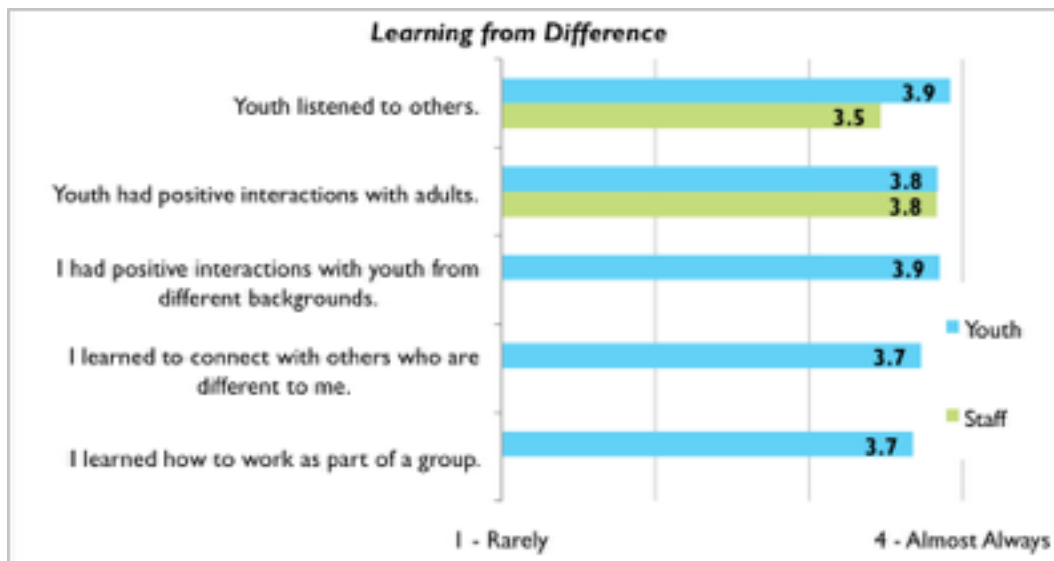


### Learning from Difference

Youth camp participants and adult facilitators report that the camp environment encouraged learning from difference and developed teamwork and collaboration skills. The figure illustrates their responses.

*“It is life changing here, I’m going to be much more aware of how I treat others and how others are treated/treating others” - Youth Participant*

*“It was a valuable experience that made me appreciate how PoH creates, sustains and instills community-building abilities in youth.” – Camp Staff*



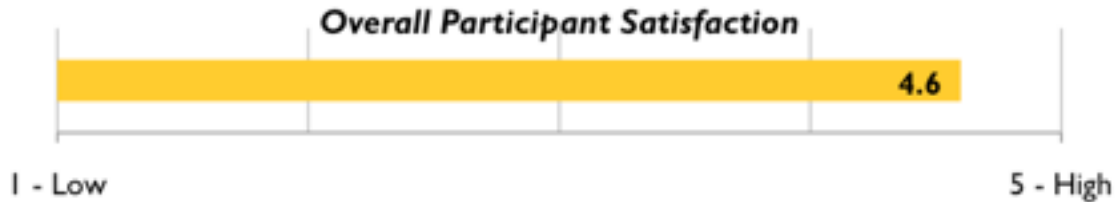
### Discovering Ways to Take Action

Youth camp participants and staff facilitators reported that the camp fostered a learning environment that helped them discover ways to take action on issues they care about. One youth participant talked about how the program equipped him to do this. “It was all really awesome. And this camp has really given me the tools I need to make the change I want to see in my life.” A staff member predicts that the camp will lead to global change: “The community is truly inspiring and will change the world.”



### Impact on Camp Staff

Camp staff members were asked to complete a survey after facilitating a week-long youth camp. These survey results show that overall participant satisfaction is high, as illustrated in the figure below. These ratings are important, as trainings that are well-received by adult participants are more likely to result in meaningful development of facilitation skills and increased quality of learning for youth.



Survey comments illustrate participant’s overall satisfaction:

*“I love the program and it flows very well.”* – Camp Staff

*“[I liked] being in a supportive, creative community in a natural setting (by the lake and farm!)”*  
– Camp Staff

*“I love that programs like this one exist because it’s necessary for society. Experiences like this ignites change in individuals and the world.”* – Camp Staff

### Personal Development

Surveys were used to assess camp staff changes in knowledge, skills attitudes and values. Their responses are illustrated in the figure below.



Some staff highlighted how they will replicate the camp environment and methods in other professional settings, their communities, and their personal lives.

*“This is the safest and most supportive environment I know. The way we facilitate is a model I learn from and try to use back in my own community.”*

*“Seeing the youth examine/tell about their lives made me examine my own life and will take action accordingly.”*

Other staff gave examples of how the camp built their confidence working with youth and will benefit them in the future when facilitating groups. “I learned a lot about myself and about ways in which I can improve my facilitation skills and push my limits in such a context and in work with youth.”

A new staff member describes a list of ways that the camp will change their future work with youth. “I learned to be more patient as a new staff member, to drop my preoccupations when holding conversations, to become a better listener, to check in with youth and give space when necessary.”

### **About the Data Sources**

This data was collected from Power of Hope Canada by Anne Basham, MFA and Mary Murray, MA of MEMconsultants, a Seattle-based consultancy specializing in program evaluation for youth-serving organizations. 74 surveys were collected from youth and 30 surveys were collected from staff who attended a week-long youth camp based on the Creative Community Model.

Quotes in this report are used in verbatim, whenever possible, to preserve the integrity and the meaning of the original response.

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