



MAP MY MARYVALE

COMMUNITY YOUTH MAPPING

Community Profile:

Region: Maryvale Village, West Phoenix Suburbs

Population:

- 218,242
- 76.4% Hispanic
- 40% under the age of 19
- 66.5% live 200% below Federal Poverty Level
- 9.6% unemployed

"I was looking for a summer job, but found a family and the want to help the community"

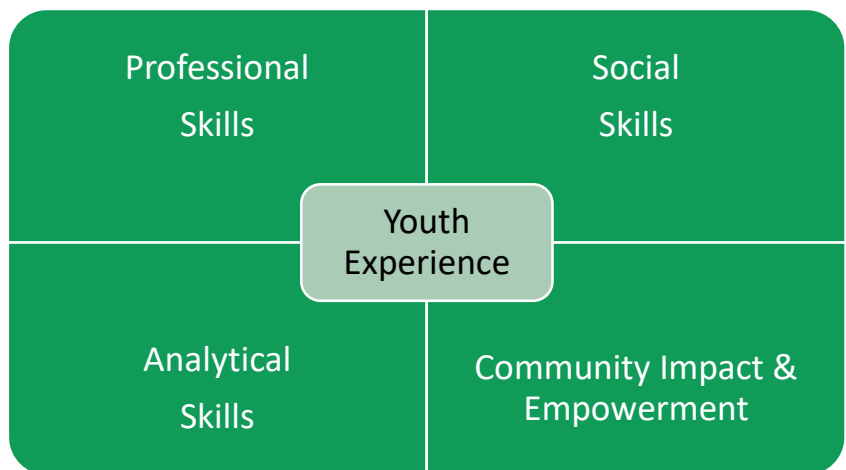
-Youth Mapper, age 15

Better health for youth in Maryvale

The Arizona Department of Health Service through its Title V Block Grant to support positive adolescent development and transition to adulthood funded Maricopa County Public Health's partnership with 27 Maryvale students to identify opportunities for better health and a better future for Maryvale Youth.

Maryvale youth, ages 14-17 were selected as Youth Mappers to survey community businesses, organizations and people for 6 weeks during the summer of 2018 in order to identify opportunities for youth and families and gaps in services.

The Opportunity for Youth Mappers



Enrichment Days

- Resume writing
- Interview skills
- Internet safety
- Financial literacy
- Library resources
- Political involvement
- Health Equity
- Know your rights
- Teen dating violence
- Teen driving safety
- Teen pregnancy prevention
- Tobacco and E-Cig prevention
- Elements of a Healthy Community
- Yoga and mindfulness
- Stress management
- Suicide prevention
- Coping with grief and loss

"Joining this program was something I would never do until I tried it, it made me a better person."

-Youth Mapper, age 17

Survey Results

(721 Sites visited)

✓ **524**

community members surveyed

✓ **321**

locations surveyed

Youth Development (what happened?)

Compared to pre and post assessments, the youth mappers felt

- Increased sense of *hopefulness*
- More *connected* to their community
- Increased sense of *positivity* about their *future*
- And, almost all youth mappers *would recommend this project experience to a friend*

Along with the valuable practice gained by the youth mappers experience, the data collected provided insight to different gaps in the community resources being offered to the Maryvale youth and their families. The following areas are a few of the largest gaps and areas of concern identified:

Reproductive health

Information on programs and activities

Dental care

Drugs and violence

A Bright Future (what's next?)

Ten of the youth mappers were empowered to form a **Youth Steering Committee** and are continuing to invest in the Maryvale area. Focusing their efforts on a solutions based project to improve safety and community cohesion, the **Make Maryvale Brighter** project supports resources addressing nonworking streetlights.

Survey data collected by the youth mappers is contributing to develop a **community app** that will share community youth mapping information with young people, their families, and their community supporters. The app hopes to offer insight on community resources, events, enrichment activities that can offer new opportunities to Maryvale residents.



"The impact we are having on our community is really big because, we are all working together to show what Maryvale has to offer by doing the surveys."

-Youth Mapper, 16