

# Anchorage Youth Development Coalition

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## Coalition Capacity Survey Results 2024

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Prepared for:



Anchorage Youth Development Coalition  
Emmanuel Portillo, Leadership Team  
4241 B St #100, Anchorage, AK 99503  
Phone: 907.929.3939  
Email: [eportillo@safealaskans.org](mailto:eportillo@safealaskans.org)  
Web: [www.aydc.org](http://www.aydc.org)

Prepared by:



Jennifer Danielson, Evaluation Consultant  
Mary Adeogun, Evaluation Assistant  
PO Box 83418  
Fairbanks Alaska 99708  
[www.goldstreamgroup.com](http://www.goldstreamgroup.com)

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## Executive Summary

The Anchorage Youth Development Coalition (AYDC) Leadership Team completed a Coalition Capacity Survey in April 2024, following up on a similar survey conducted in 2022. This report analyzes the responses from 10 coalition members and compares them to the 2022 results. Key findings include:

### **Strengths:**

- The coalition demonstrated strong performance in eight out of fifteen capacity scales, with particularly high scores in meetings and internal communication, leadership, and effectiveness of planning and implementation.
- Positive shifts were observed in cultural responsiveness, members' sense of ownership and participation, and outreach and communication since 2022.

### **Areas for Improvement:**

- Slight negative shifts were noted in the coalition's ability to collect, analyze, and use data, as well as in understanding and commitment to environmental strategies.
- Member growth and responsibility, and engagement in the grant showed minor declines.

### **Key Observations:**

- 80% of respondents reported that an existing coalition has taken on responsibility for the grant.
- 60% of respondents have been part of the coalition for more than five years, indicating strong continuity.
- 90% reported monthly meetings, with 60% attending all or most meetings.

### **Recommendations:**

- Enhance diversity by including youth voices, African Americans, K-12 teachers, law enforcement, and representatives from higher education, arts, and religious communities.
- Provide training on the Strategic Prevention Framework and improve data collection and analysis capabilities.
- Focus on maintaining strengths while addressing areas that showed slight declines since 2022.

Overall, the AYDC demonstrates resilience and effectiveness in its mission, with opportunities for growth in specific areas to further enhance its impact on youth development in Anchorage.

# Introduction

The Anchorage Youth Development Coalition (AYDC) is housed at Center for Safe Alaskans and supports youth-serving organizations to advance positive youth development through advocacy, resources, networking, and training so all Anchorage youth thrive.<sup>1</sup> The Coalition Capacity Survey, required by AYDC’s Comprehensive Behavioral Health Prevention and Early Intervention (CBHPEI) grant from the State of Alaska, was administered to members of AYDC’s Leadership Team. The survey includes 71 questions in 15 different constructs or areas of coalition capacity, several open-ended questions about coalition strengths and needs, and an additional set of questions with background information about respondents and the coalition. AYDC conducted the state survey in 2022 and repeated it this year, 2024. This report focuses on those responses and compares them between the years.

The latest survey was distributed on April 15, 2024 and was completed by all 10 AYDC Leadership Team members by April 30, 2024. The survey was distributed by email through a SurveyMonkey link. Only the program evaluators could see individual responses.

# Findings

## Background Information

The first section of the survey asks six multiple choice questions about coalition membership and attendance. Most members (80.0%) reported that an existing coalition has taken on responsibility for the grant (Table 1).

*Table 1. AYDC Leadership Survey respondents’ perceptions about AYDC’s grant responsibility*

What response best describes the coalition of which you are a member?	Count	Percent of Response (n=10)
An existing coalition has taken on responsibility of the grant	8	80.0%
A brand-new coalition has been established to take on responsibility of the grant	0	0%
I am unsure or have not heard of the grant	2	20.0%

None of the Leadership Survey respondents reported being the leader/director of the coalition (Table 2).

*Table 2. AYDC Leadership Survey respondents’ reported role in the coalition*

Are you the leader/director of this coalition or workgroup?	Count	Percent of Response (n=10)
Yes	0	0%
No	10	100.0%

<sup>1</sup> Center for Safe Alaskans (2018). *Anchorage Youth Development Coalition*. <https://safealaskans.org/our-work/programs-initiatives/aydc/>

More than half of the AYDC Leadership Team (60%) reported being part of the coalition for more than five years (Table 3).

*Table 3. AYDC Leadership Survey respondents' reported duration of AYDC membership*

How many years have you been a member of the coalition?	Count	Percent of Response (n=10)
<1	2	20.0%
1-3	1	10.0%
3-5	1	10.0%
>5	6	60.0%

Most (90.0%) of the survey respondents reported that the AYDC meetings occur monthly (Table 4).

*Table 4. AYDC Leadership Survey respondents' reported frequency of AYDC meetings*

How frequently does this coalition meet?	Count	Percent of Response (n=10)
Bi-weekly	1	10.0%
Monthly	9	90.0%

More than half of members (60%) reported attending all or most of the coalition meetings (Table 5).

*Table 5. AYDC Leadership Survey respondents reported AYDC meeting attendance*

How many coalition meetings have you attended since you became a member?	Count	Percent of Response (n=10)
All or most	6	60.0%
About half	2	20.0%
A few	2	20.0%

None of the survey respondents reported receiving a stipend for their attendance (Table 6).

*Table 6. AYDC Leadership Survey respondents reported receipt of attendance stipends*

Are you given a stipend for your attendance at coalition meetings?	Count	Percent of Response (n=10)
Yes	0	0%
No	10	100.0%

### Coalition Capacity Scales

The next section of the survey asks participants to rate their agreement with 71 statements about their experience with the coalition. Responses are assigned values as follows: “strongly agree” equals 1, “agree” equals 2, “don’t know” equals 3, “disagree” equals 4 and “strongly disagree” equals 5. A smaller number indicates a stronger agreement.

The statements are grouped into 15 themes, each assessing a different element of the coalition capacity. The ratings of the items in each theme have been averaged to create a scale score, which can be used to assess the strengths of the coalition. A lower scale score is correlated to a more positive response to a theme (Table 7). For more detail, Tables 8 through 22 present the responses to individual items in each theme.

The Anchorage Youth Development Coalition respondents demonstrated the strength of its coalition by scoring less than 2 on eight of the fifteen scales (the best score is 1.0). On three scales, the coalition was especially strong with scores of 1.75 or less.

- Meetings and internal communication
- Leadership
- Effectiveness of planning and implementation

*Table 7. Scale Scores. The table reports scale scores from 2022 (n=9) and 2024 (n=10). Scale scores range from 1 (strongest agreement) to 5 (strongest disagreement), so smaller numbers are positive indicators. Change is reported as the difference between the 2022 score and the 2024 score. A positive change from 2022 to 2024 is a positive result. The best possible score is 1.*

Theme	Number of Items	2022 Scale Score	2024 Scale Score	Change
Coalition vision, mission, and goals	6	1.75	1.88	-0.13
Structure and membership	6	2.48	2.50	-0.02
Engagement in the grant	7	2.13	2.19	-0.06
Leadership	7	1.71	1.57	0.14
Outreach and communication	3	2.72	2.38	0.34
Meetings and internal communication	6	1.58	1.51	0.07
Member growth and responsibility	4	2.09	2.18	-0.09
Effectiveness of planning and implementation	5	1.95	1.74	0.21
Local government and community leaders	4	2.58	2.45	0.13
Partnerships with other organizations	4	1.78	1.90	-0.12
Members' sense of ownership and participation	4	2.00	1.83	0.17
Ability to collect, analyze, and use data	5	1.60	2.06	-0.46
Understanding of and commitment to environmental strategies	3	1.83	2.10	-0.27
Cultural responsiveness	3	2.71	1.83	0.88
Funding and sustainability	4	1.97	1.95	0.02

The following section reports the details of each scale in order from the strongest to the weakest. The first five scales are meetings and internal communication, leadership, effectiveness of your coalition's planning and implementation, members' sense of ownership

and participation, and cultural responsiveness. The 2024 scale scores for these constructs for these all showed a positive shift since 2022 (Figure 1).

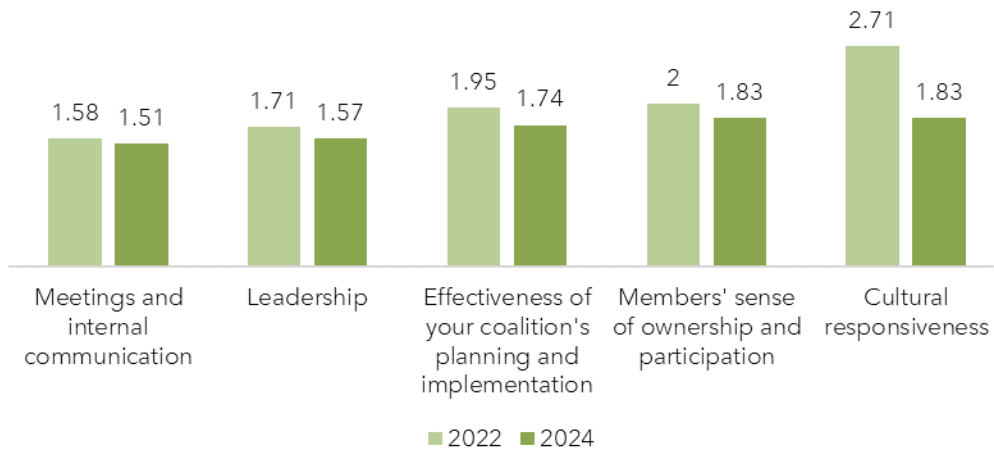


Figure 1. Scale scores for “Meetings and Internal Communication,” “Leadership,” “Effectiveness of Planning and Implementation,” “Members' Sense of Ownership and Participation,” and “Cultural Responsiveness” in 2022 and 2024. Scores closer to 1 are positive.

### Meetings and Internal Communication

The scale score for *Meeting and Internal Communications* made a slight positive shift between 2022 and 2024. Individual items did not trend consistently. The largest negative change was for the item, “We have a regular meeting cycle that members can count on.” This was balanced by positive changes in the items, “Conflicts are resolved in a respectful manner,” “Meeting minutes are recorded,” and “We have an effective way of communicating with one another.”

Table 8. Coalition Meetings and Internal Communication. Change is the difference between the 2022 score and the 2024 score. A positive change from 2022 to 2024 is a positive result. The best possible score is 1.

Meetings and Internal Communication	2022 Average	2024 Average	Change
We have a regular meeting cycle that members can count on	1.00	1.60	-0.60
We accomplish meeting agendas	1.25	1.30	-0.05
Meetings are convenient and accessible for all members	1.75	1.70	0.05
Conflicts are resolved in a respectful manner	1.86	1.44	0.42
Meeting minutes are recorded	1.88	1.40	0.48
We have an effective way of communicating with one another	1.75	1.60	0.15

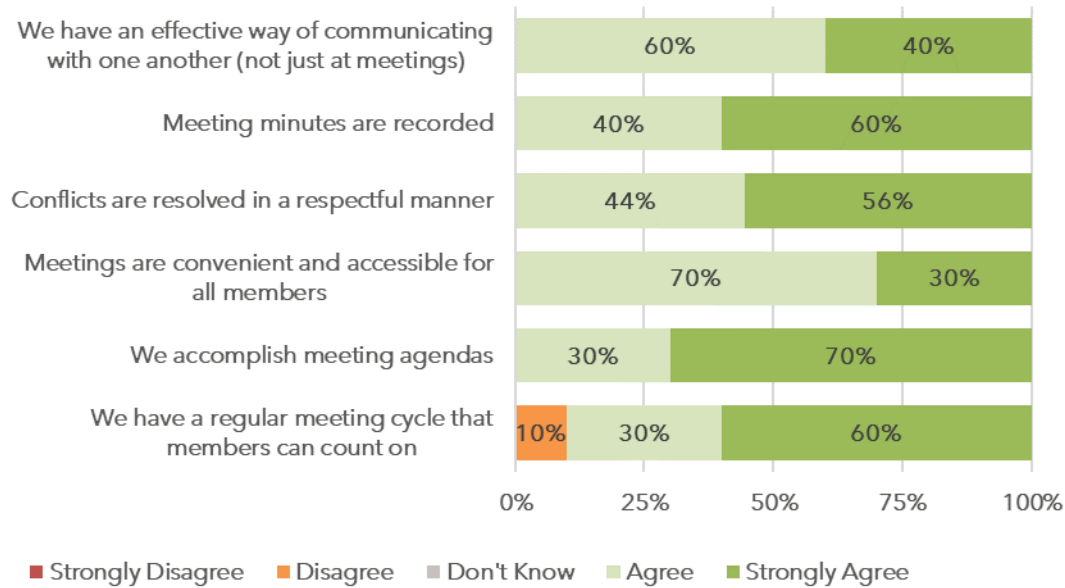


Figure 2. 2024 summary of all responses to questions about AYDC’s Meetings and Internal Communication

### Leadership

The *Leadership* scale shifted positively overall. All the items had scores less than 2.0 in 2024. The two strongest items (1.40) in this group are, “Leadership encourages open dialogue and expression of views among members,” and “Leadership is skillful at building positive relationships with community partners.”

Table 9. Coalition Leadership. Change is the difference between the 2022 score and the 2024 score. A positive change from 2022 to 2024 is a positive result. The best possible score is 1.

Leadership	2022 Average	2024 Average	Change
Leadership effectively promotes our mission and goals related to behavioral health	1.63	1.80	-0.17
Leadership encourages open dialogue and expression of views among members	1.25	1.40	-0.15
Leadership utilizes the skills and experience of members	2.00	1.50	0.50
Leadership distributes responsibilities and tasks effectively	2.13	1.90	0.23
Leadership is skillful at building positive relationships with community partners	1.63	1.40	0.23
Leadership keeps us focused on, and progressing towards our goals	1.88	1.50	0.38
Leadership supports behavioral health prevention as a focus of our efforts in the community	1.50	1.50	0

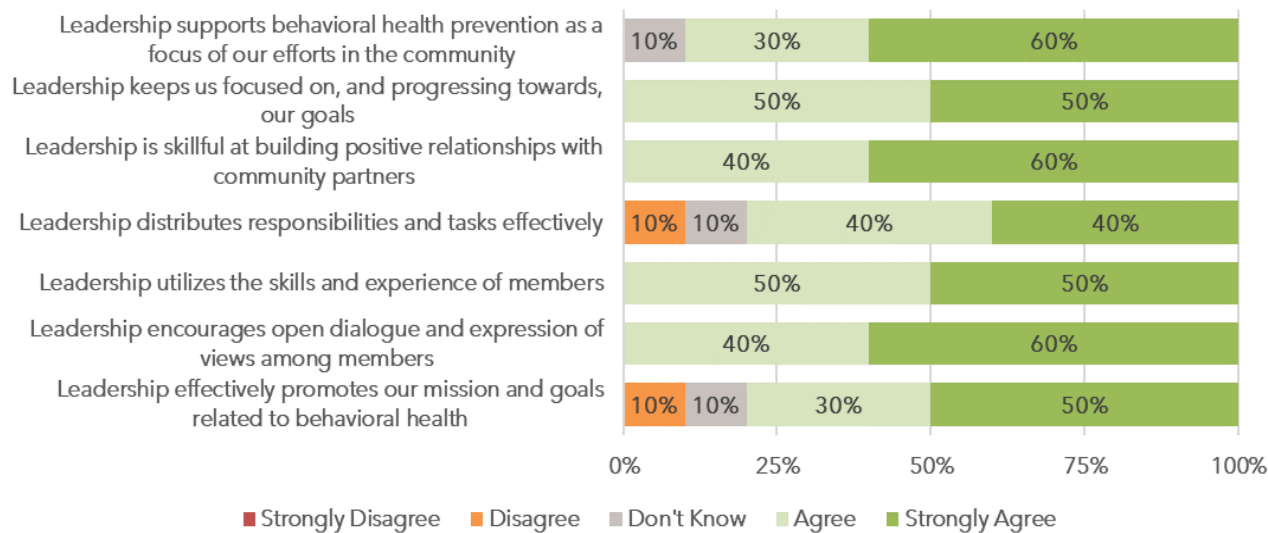


Figure 3. 2024 summary of all responses to questions about AYDC’s Leadership

### Effectiveness of Planning and Implementation

The *Effectiveness of Planning and Implementation* is one of the coalition’s top three strengths and also a scale that showed strong improvement since 2022. All items have improved, especially, “Members are assigned specific responsibilities in completing activities” with a shift of 0.88.

Table 10. Coalition Effectiveness of Planning and Implementation. Change is the difference between the 2022 score and the 2024 score. A positive change from 2022 to 2024 is a positive result. The best possible score is 1.

Effectiveness of Planning and Implementation	2022 Average	2024 Average	Change
We have a work plan that lists goals and activities (e.g., assessment preparation, capacity building initiatives)	1.63	1.60	0.03
Work plans are based upon review and input from members	1.75	1.70	0.05
Timelines are developed for goals and activities	1.63	1.60	0.03
Members are assigned specific responsibilities in completing activities	2.88	2.00	0.88
Our activities and progress in completing goals are monitored and reported to members	1.88	1.80	0.08

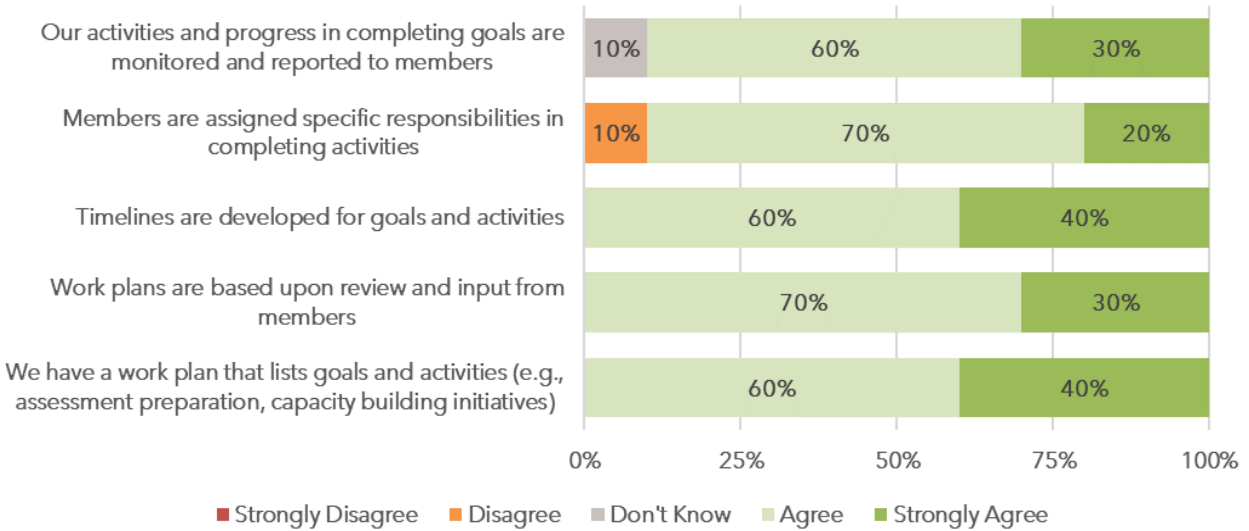


Figure 4. 2024 summary of all responses to questions about AYDC's Effectiveness of Planning and Implementation

### Members' Sense of Ownership and Participation

The Members' Sense of Ownership and Participation scale shifted in a positive direction. Only, "Member contributions are recognized," shifted negatively (-0.02).

Table 11. Coalition Members' Sense of Ownership and Participation. Change is the difference between the 2022 score and the 2024 score. A positive change from 2022 to 2024 is a positive result. The best possible score is 1.

Members' Sense of Ownership and Participation	2022 Average	2024 Average	Change
Member contributions are recognized	1.88	1.9	-0.02
Successes are celebrated	1.88	1.7	0.18
Members actively participate in making decisions	2.38	1.9	0.48
Members feel free to speak their views without being criticized	1.88	1.8	0.08

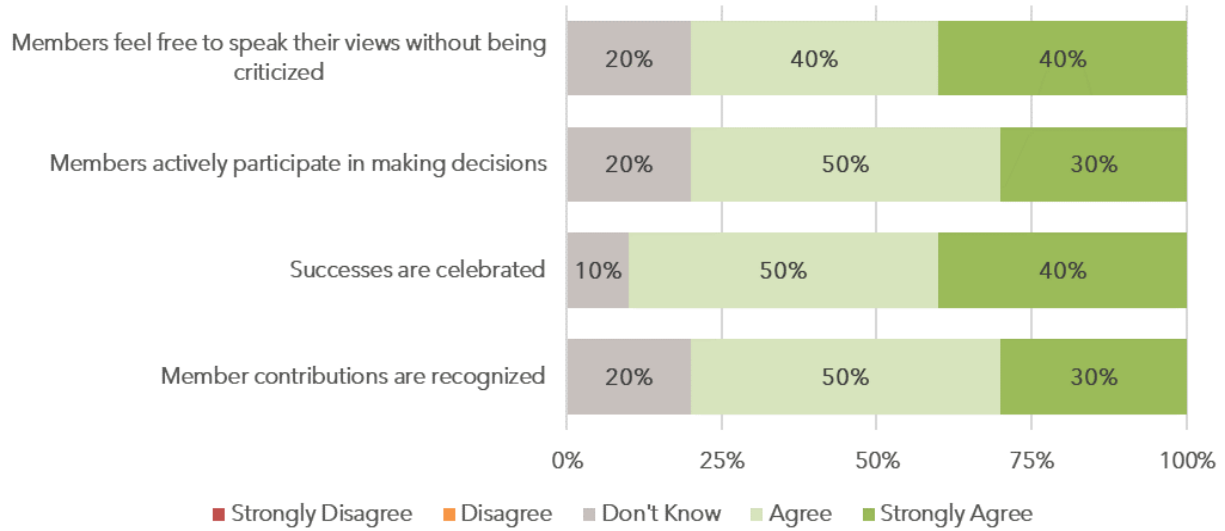


Figure 5. 2024 summary of all responses to questions about AYDC Members' Sense of Ownership and Participation

### Cultural Responsiveness

Cultural Responsiveness improved in every item from 2022, but there is still room for growth. One respondent did disagree that “Our membership reflects the cultural and demographic makeup of the community” and “We have a diverse membership to review our planned activities and products to ensure they are culturally appropriate for the intended recipients.”

Table 12. Coalition Cultural Responsiveness. Change is the difference between the 2022 score and the 2024 score. A positive change from 2022 to 2024 is a positive result. The best possible score is 1.

Cultural Responsiveness	2022 Average	2024 Average	Change
Our mission statement recognizes the importance of respecting cultural diversity	2.25	1.60	0.65
Our membership reflects the cultural and demographic makeup of the community	2.88	1.90	0.98
We have a diverse membership to review our planned activities and products to ensure they are culturally appropriate for the intended recipients	3.00	2.00	1.00

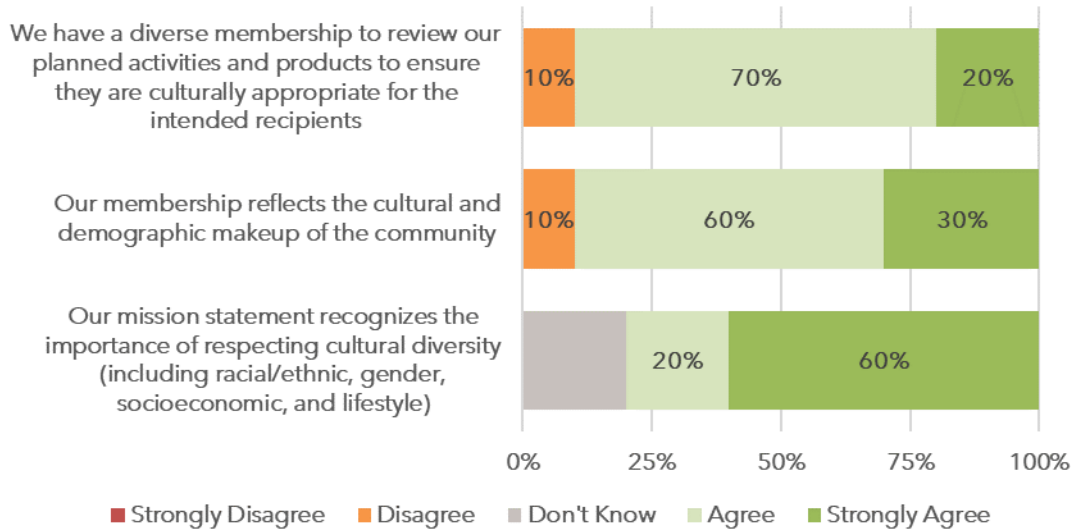


Figure 6. 2024 summary of all responses to questions about AYDC’s Cultural Responsiveness

The next five sections of the survey are about Coalition vision, mission and goals, Partnerships with other organizations, Funding and sustainability, Ability to collect, analyze, and use data, and Understanding of and commitment to environmental strategies. Four of these scores made negative shifts since the last survey (Figure 7).

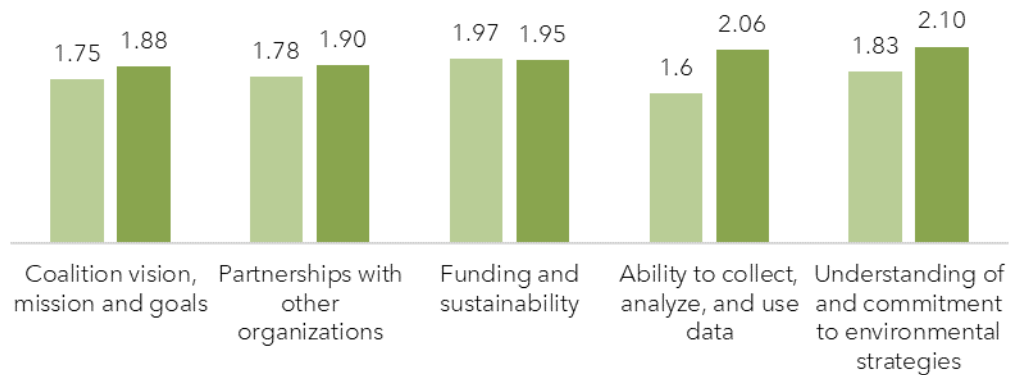


Figure 7. Scale scores for “Coalition Vision, Mission and Goals,” “Partnerships with Other Organizations,” “Funding and Sustainability,” “Ability to Collect, Analyze, and Use Data,” and “Understanding of and Commitment to Environmental Strategies.” in 2022 and 2024

**Coalition Vision, Mission and Goals**

The *Vision, Mission and Goals* scale did not shift in a positive direction since the last survey. However, the single item, “Community residents are aware of our vision, mission, and goals,” shifted by nearly half a point in a positive direction. All other items shifted negatively.

Table 13. Coalition Vision, Mission, and Goals. Change is the difference between the 2022 score and the 2024 score. A positive change from 2022 to 2024 is a positive result. The best possible score is 1.

Vision, mission, and goals	2022 Average	2024 Average	Change
Our vision, mission, and goals are well-documented	1.50	1.50	0
Community residents are aware of our vision, mission, and goals	3.38	2.90	0.48
We periodically reassess and update our mission and goals	1.38	1.70	-0.32
We evaluate our activities in light of our mission and goals	1.13	1.70	-0.57
Members agree with the vision, mission, and goals	1.63	1.80	-0.17
Behavioral Health prevention is an important part of our vision, mission, and goals	1.50	1.70	-0.20

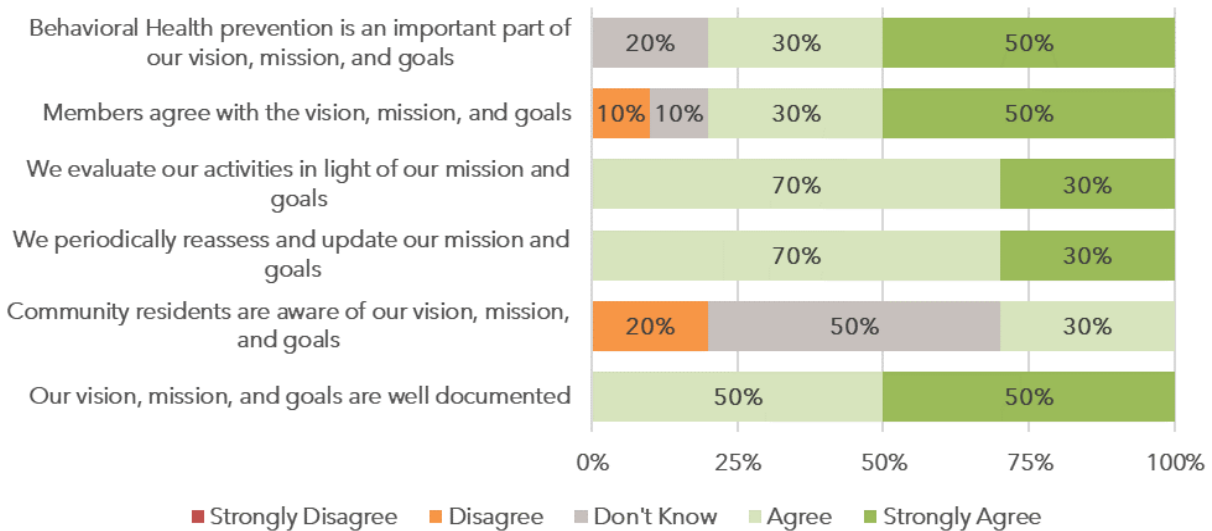


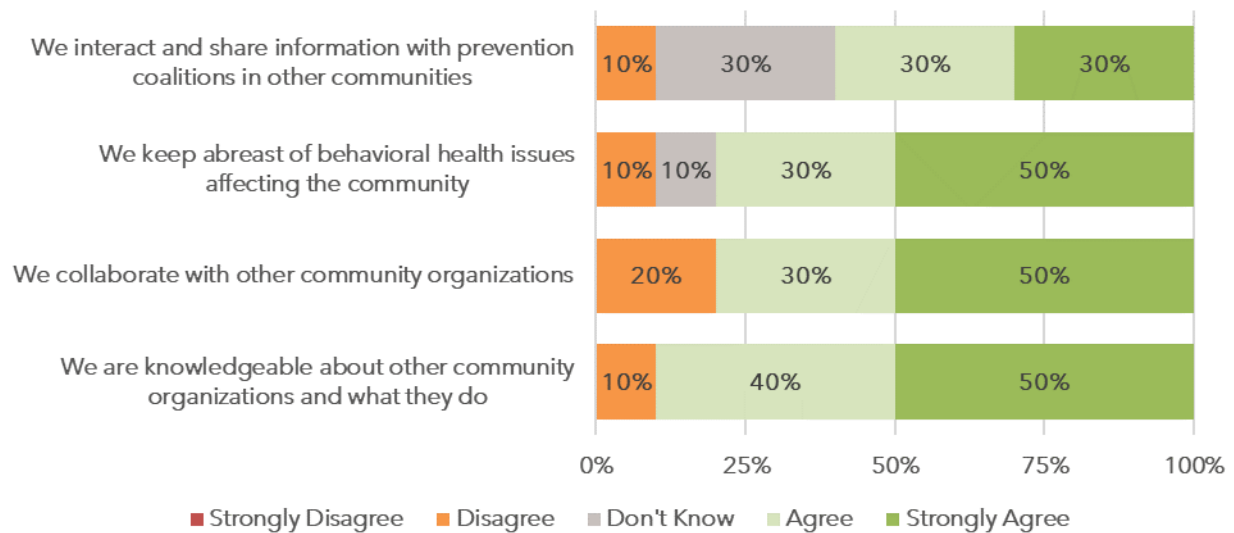
Figure 8. 2024 summary of All Responses to Questions about Coalition's Vision, Mission, and Goals

## Partnerships with Other Organizations

The *Partnerships with Other Organizations* scale shifted slightly negatively since 2022. The largest change was in the item, “We collaborate with other community organizations,” which negatively shifted by more than half a point.

*Table 14. Partnerships with Other Organizations. Change is the difference between the 2022 score and the 2024 score. A positive change from 2022 to 2024 is a positive result. The best possible score is 1.*

Partnerships with Other Organizations	2022 Average	2024 Average	Change
We are knowledgeable about other community organizations and what they do	1.88	1.70	0.18
We collaborate with other community organizations	1.38	1.90	-0.52
We keep abreast of behavioral health issues affecting the community	1.63	1.80	-0.17
We interact and share information with prevention coalitions in other communities	2.25	2.20	0.05



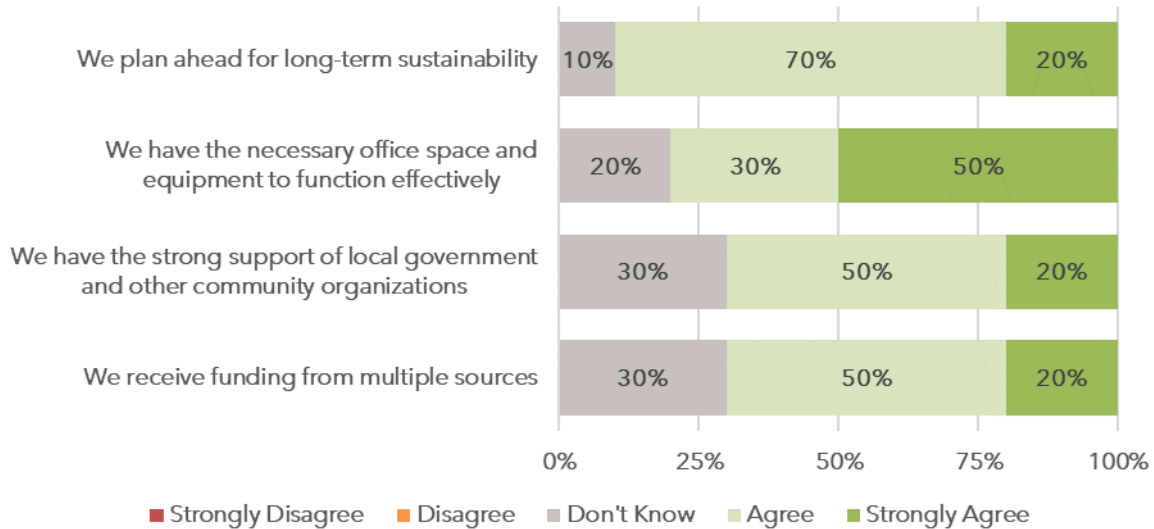
*Figure 9. 2024 summary of All Responses to Questions about Coalition's Partnerships with Other Organizations*

### Funding and Sustainability

The *Funding and Sustainability* scale score very slightly improved since 2022. The only item to shift negatively was, “We receive funding from multiple sources.”

*Table 15. Coalition Funding and Sustainability. Change is the difference between the 2022 score and the 2024 score. A positive change from 2022 to 2024 is a positive result. The best possible score is 1.*

Funding and Sustainability	2022 Average	2024 Average	Change
We receive funding from multiple sources	1.88	2.10	-0.22
We have the strong support of local government and other community organizations	2.13	2.10	0.03
We have the necessary office space and equipment to function effectively	1.88	1.70	0.18
We plan ahead for long-term sustainability	2.00	1.90	0.10



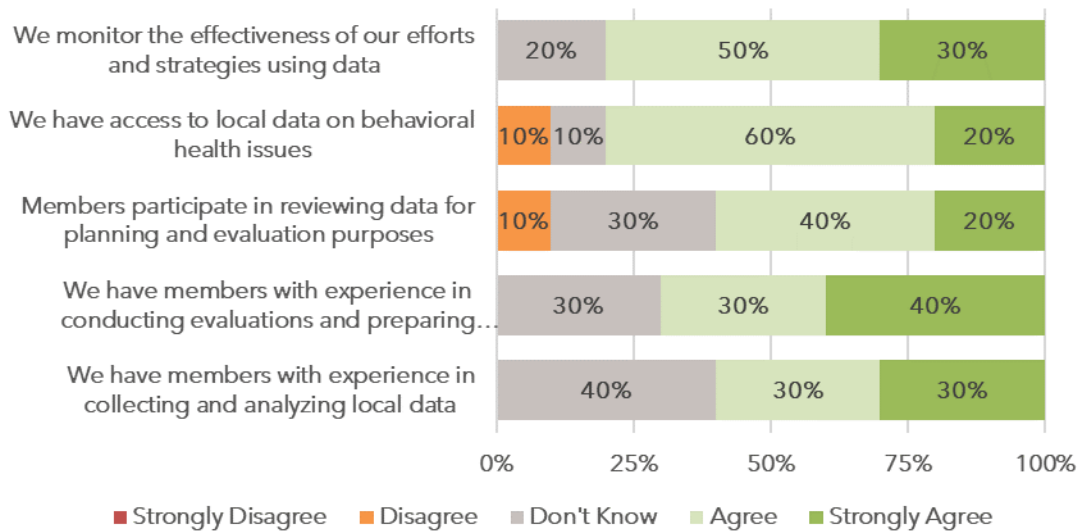
*Figure 10. 2024 summary of All Responses to Questions about Coalition's Funding and Sustainability*

### Ability to Collect, Analyze, and Use Data

There was a negative shift in the scale for *Ability to Collect, Analyze, and Use Data*. All five items shifted negatively, but the largest shift (0.72) was for the items, “We have members with experience in collecting and analyzing local data,” and, “We have access to local data on behavioral health issues.”

*Table 16. Ability to Collect, Analyze, and Use Data. Change is the difference between the 2022 score and the 2024 score. A positive change from 2022 to 2024 is a positive result. The best possible score is 1.*

Ability to Collect, Analyze, and Use Data	2022 Average	2024 Average	Change
We have members with experience in collecting and analyzing local data	1.38	2.10	-0.72
We have members with experience in conducting evaluations and preparing evaluation reports	1.63	1.90	-0.27
Members participate in reviewing data for planning and evaluation purposes	2.00	2.30	-0.30
We have access to local data on behavioral health issues	1.38	2.10	-0.72
We monitor the effectiveness of our efforts and strategies using data	1.63	1.90	-0.27



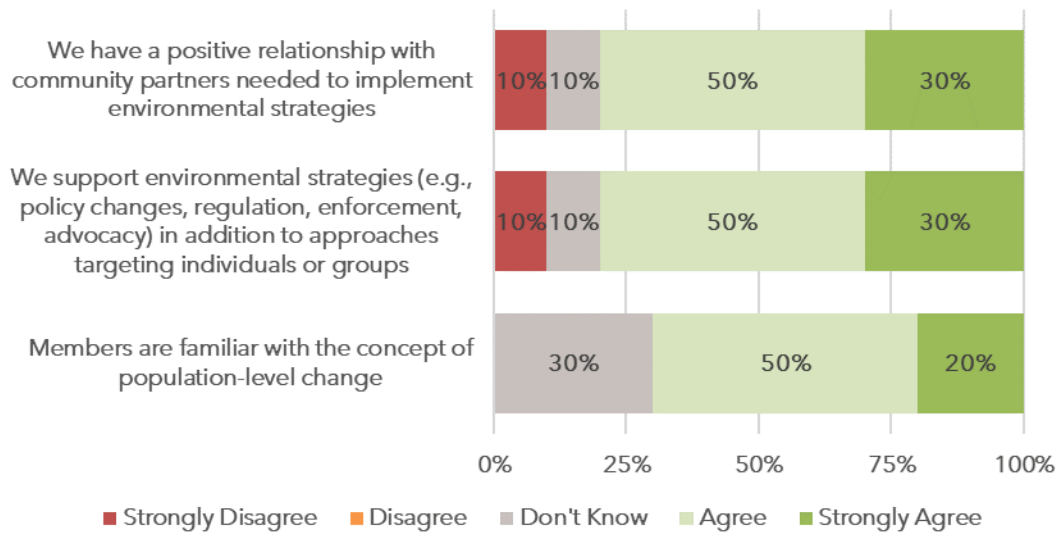
*Figure 11. 2024 summary of All Responses to Questions about Coalition’s Ability to Collect, Analyze, and Use Data*

## Understanding and Commitment to Environmental Strategies

The *Understanding and Commitment to Environmental Strategies* scale has shifted negatively since 2022. The only positive shift was the item “Members are familiar with the concept of population-level change.”

*Table 17. Coalition’s Understanding and Commitment to Environmental Strategies. Change is the difference between the 2022 score and the 2024 score. A positive change from 2022 to 2024 is a positive result. The best possible score is 1.*

Understanding and Commitment to Environmental Strategies	2022 Average	2024 Average	Change
Members are familiar with the concept of population-level change	2.25	2.10	0.15
We support environmental strategies in addition to approaches targeting individuals or groups	1.50	2.10	-0.60
We have a positive relationship with community partners needed to implement environmental strategies	1.75	2.10	-0.35



*Figure 12. 2024 summary of All Responses to Questions about Coalition’s Understanding and Commitment to Environmental Strategies*

The last five sections of the survey are about Member Growth and Responsibility, Engagement in the Grant, Local Government and Community Leaders, Outreach and Communication, and Structure and Membership. Two of the five, Outreach and Government, had positive shifts (Figure 13).

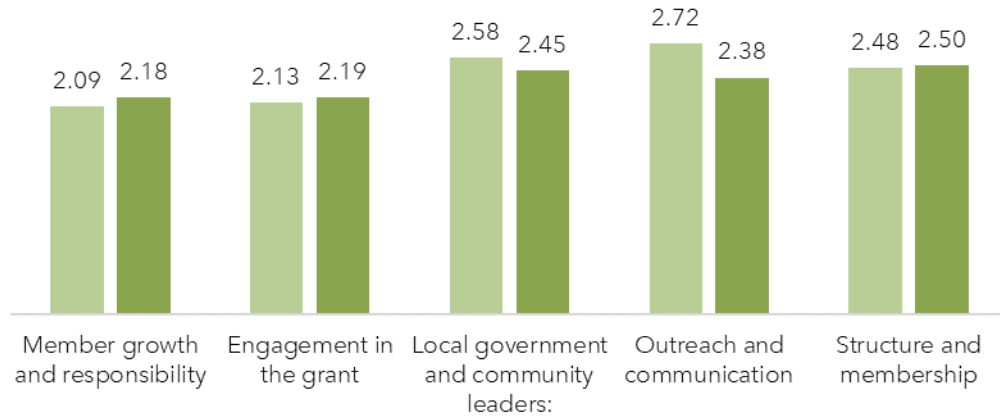


Figure 13. Scale scores for "Member Growth and Responsibility," "Engagement in the Grant," "Local Government and Community Leaders," "Outreach and Communication," and "Structure and Membership" in 2022 and 2024

### Member Growth and Responsibility

Only one *Member Growth and Responsibility* item improved since the last survey. "Training is provided to members on relevant topics related to behavioral health prevention," improved by 0.6 points. The other three items in the scale shifted in the negative direction.

Table 18. Member Growth and Responsibility. Change is the difference between the 2022 score and the 2024 score. A positive change from 2022 to 2024 is a positive result. The best possible score is 1.

Member Growth and Responsibility	2022 Average	2024 Average	Change
New members receive an orientation and copies of relevant background materials	1.88	2.3	-0.42
We make a conscious effort to develop new leaders	2.13	2.2	-0.07
Training is provided to members on relevant topics related to behavioral health prevention	2.5	1.9	0.6
Meetings are held as scheduled even if the coordinator cannot attend	1.86	2.3	-0.44

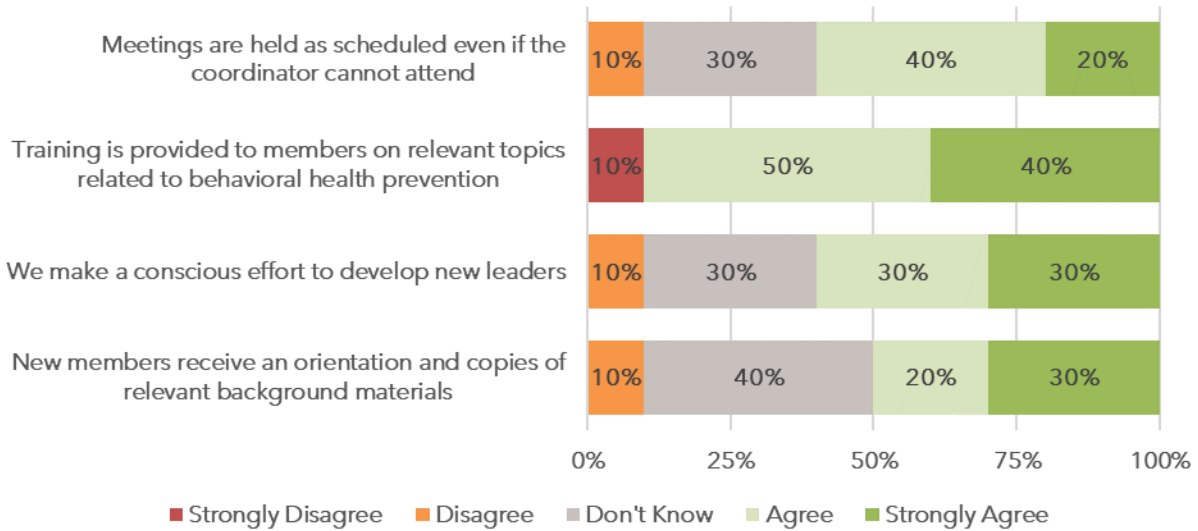


Figure 14. 2024 summary of all responses to questions about Coalition’s Member Growth and Responsibility

### Engagement in the Grant

In 2024, the scale score for Engagement in the Grant shifted slightly in a negative direction. The largest shift is in the item, “The Comprehensive Behavioral Health Prevention and Early Intervention (CBHPEI) grant is a natural fit within the mission of our coalition,” which shifted in the negative direction (-0.27).

Table 19. Engagement in the Grant. Change is the difference between the 2022 score and the 2024 score. A positive change from 2022 to 2024 is a positive result. The best possible score is 1.

Engagement in the Grant	2022 Average	2024 Average	Change
Members understand the 5 steps of the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF)	2.50	2.60	-0.10
Members are committed to each step of the SPF process	2.38	2.30	0.08
The Comprehensive Behavioral Health Prevention and Early Intervention (CBHPEI) grant is a natural fit within the mission of our coalition	1.63	1.90	-0.27
Members understand their role within the CBHPEI grant	2.63	2.50	0.13
Members make key decisions for the CBHPEI grant	2.63	2.60	0.03
Members agree that reducing behavioral health conditions is important for the community	1.38	1.50	-0.12
Members will continue to attend meetings after funding has ended	1.75	1.90	-0.15

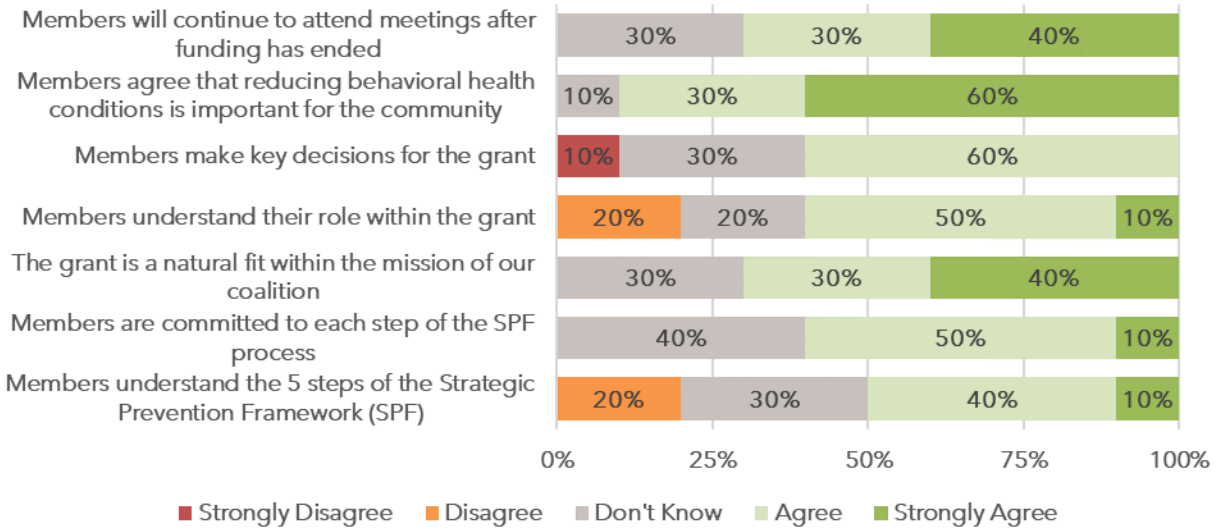


Figure 15. 2024 summary of all responses to questions about Engagement in the Grant

### Local Government and Community Leaders

The *Local Government and Community Leaders* scale improved since 2022. The only item that shifted negatively was, “Leadership understands the power structure and decision-making process in local government.”

Table 20. *Local Government and Community Leaders*. Change is the difference between the 2022 score and the 2024 score. A positive change from 2022 to 2024 is a positive result. The best possible score is 1.

Local Government and Community Leaders	2022 Average	2024 Average	Change
Members meet with local officials and community leaders	3.13	2.70	0.43
Members attend important community meetings	2.63	2.60	0.03
Leadership understands the power structure and decision-making process in local government	2.00	2.20	-0.20
We participate in community-wide events	2.57	2.30	0.27

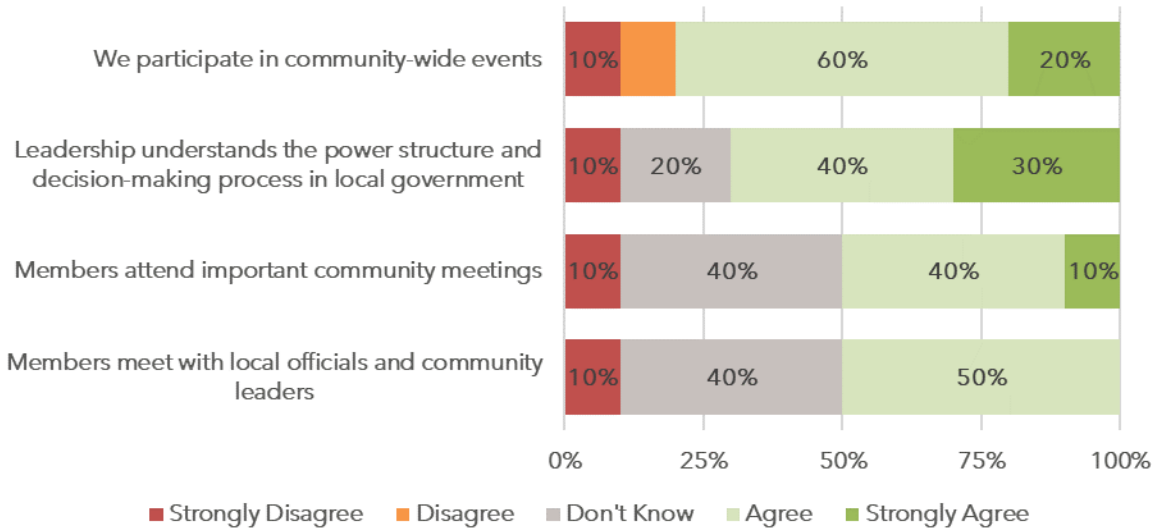


Figure 16. 2024 summary of all responses to questions about Local Government and Community Leaders

### Outreach and Communication

The *Outreach and Communication* scale showed an overall improvement. The most improvement was in, “We engage youth to help inform our planning efforts.”

Table 21. Coalition’s Outreach and Communication. Change is the difference between the 2022 score and the 2024 score. A positive change from 2022 to 2024 is a positive result. The best possible score is 1.

Outreach and Communication	2022 Average	2024 Average	Change
We keep the community updated on our activities (e.g., newsletters, website, etc.)	1.88	1.90	-0.02
We go to "where the residents are" to do outreach and to enhance our understanding of behavioral health issues in the community	3.29	2.80	0.49
We engage youth to help inform our planning efforts	3.00	2.44	0.56

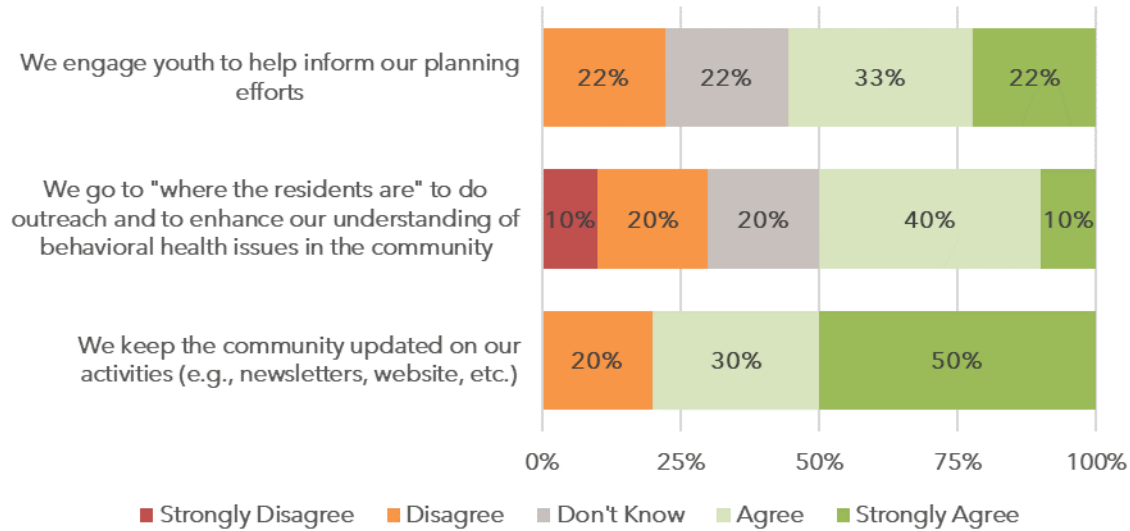


Figure 17. 2024 summary of All Responses to Questions about Coalition’s Outreach and Communication

### Structure and Membership

The *Structure and Membership* scale changed by only 0.02 points from the last survey and is a positive 2.50. The items, “All necessary sectors of the community are represented,” “We have written policies and protocols in place that effectively guide our procedures,” and “We assess membership gaps and recruit new members on a regular basis through a formal recruitment process,” each improved.

Table 22. *Structure and Membership*. Change is the difference between the 2022 score and the 2024 score. A positive change from 2022 to 2024 is a positive result. The best possible score is 1.

Structure and Membership	2022 Average	2024 Average	Change
All necessary sectors of the community are represented	3.00	2.80	0.20
We have about the right number of active members	2.38	2.80	-0.42
Member roles and responsibilities are well-defined	2.63	2.80	-0.17
We have written policies and protocols in place that effectively guide our procedures	2.25	2.00	0.25
The people who need to attend meetings are usually there	2.00	2.30	-0.30
We assess membership gaps and recruit new members on a regular basis through a formal recruitment process	2.63	2.30	0.33

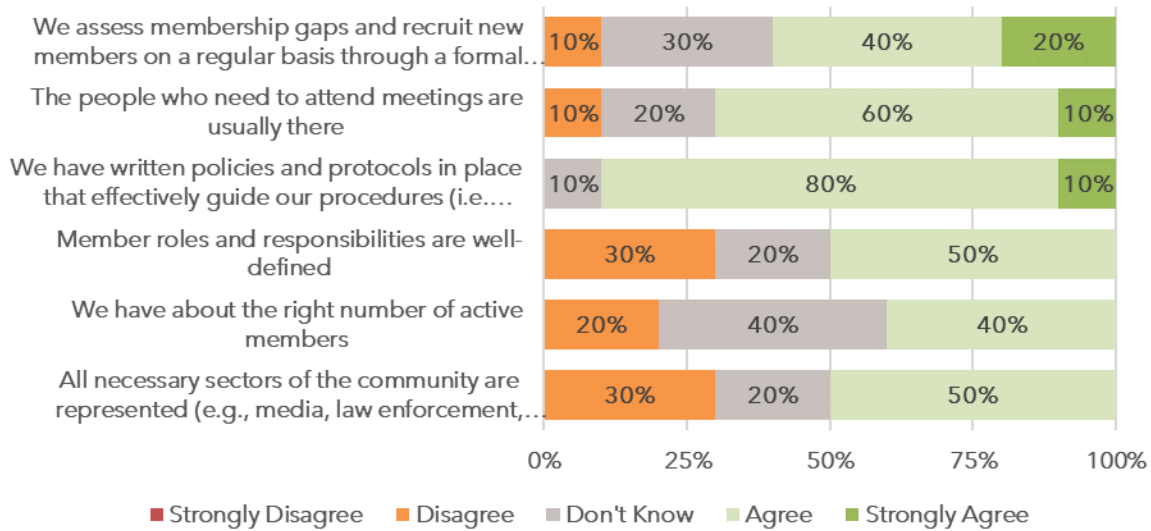


Figure 18. 2024 summary of All Responses to Questions about Coalition’s Structure and Membership

### Open Responses

The survey asks the coalition members to answer four open response questions and a chance for open comments. The summaries and all responses are included below.

#### Question 1: What is the most valuable strength of your coalition in your efforts to impact the behavioral health of your community?

Respondents suggested that the coalition's strength lies in its well-developed structure, and the teamwork of their diverse and experienced members working towards a common goal.

- We have a well-developed structure on which to communicate, function and grow with.
- longevity and credibility
- Many of the AYDC LT have experience and knowledge in the behavioral health and prevention field. Also, members live in the community and are familiar with the challenges that the AYDC LT is trying to address.
- My understanding of the coalition reflects that the dedication to improving behavioral health is the greatest strength so far.
- The coalition does an excellent job of addressing issues at a systemic level and looking at the big picture to work towards a larger goal.
- The most valuable strength of the coalition members lies in their input and variety of ideas, experiences, and thoughtful ways to include all areas of Anchorage youth and youth servicing organizations.
- We effectively work as a team and collaborate on a common mission to work towards Youth thriving in our community.

**Question 2: What is one area where your coalition could benefit from training or information in using the Strategic Prevention Framework to best address the behavioral health conditions in your community?**

Respondents suggested training or information in policy input, evaluation & data, recruiting community sectors, and utilizing youth voice in mental health change efforts as well as a refresher in the Strategic Prevention Framework.

- Possibly a refresher course for coalition members, and to look for feasible upstream prevention ideas for policies and provide input to promote policies, midstream prevention and activities, and downstream harm reduction. We also need to involve youth input in some way for idea generation and implementation.
- Considering that I don't know what the framework is or how we are implementing it, that would certainly be helpful in addressing conditions in our community.
- Data and evaluation
- Currently AYDC LT is in the process of evaluation, and I feel that as that process continues, we will know more as a coalition. At this time though, I have not been with the coalition long enough to determine which area of the SPF would be supportive at this time.
- recruiting all sectors of the community
- Utilizing youth voice in our efforts to affect change in mental health conditions.
- I am not sure at this time.

**Question 3: How has the coalition evolved and changed since you received this Comprehensive Behavioral Health Prevention and Early Intervention (CBHPEI) grant?**

Since receiving the CBHPEI grant, the coalition has evolved by supporting youth through programs, increased capacity, equity work, collaborative community efforts, centering lived experiences, better organization, and becoming more structured and data-driven.

- We have been able to support youth in our community through direct programs, have a robust evaluation of all of our programs, increase our capacity, give focused time to equity work, and have the time and resources to bring multiple community partners together to work collaboratively to provide much needed preventative programs and services to the youth of Anchorage.
- We've become much better at centering lived experience and working towards creating structures that better allow for input from impacted communities.
- More organized and better long term planning
- More structured and data driven
- I am new to the coalition and cannot say what changes have taken place since I joined.
- I do not know very much about the grant, other than it funds AYDC.
- I have only been with the coalition for six months, so I am unable to speak to the evolution of the coalition, however, I can say that many of the members are experts in the field of prevention and behavioral health.

**Question 4: Who else is needed at the table in order to increase the diversity and professional expertise of the coalition?**

To increase diversity and expertise, the coalition seeks representation from youth, African Americans, K-12 teachers, law enforcement, higher education, arts, religious communities, and community organizations working directly with target populations.

- Youth voices are vital at the table to understand the unique perspective they bring to supporting their peers.
- I am still getting acquainted with the members of the coalition, if anything the area that needs some representation would be to have a youth involved in the coalition.
- More youth, Black individuals, and K-12 teachers.
- Law enforcement, higher education
- Possibly law enforcement and like-minded business community members
- We are already reaching out to groups in the arts and religious community, and I think that having more people from these communities will diversify our reach and our work.
- More community orgs that are actually out working with people we want to reach.
- I don't know.

### **Other Comments**

The coalition is praised for its longevity and resilience during the pandemic. Members expressed appreciation for the opportunity to work together towards prevention and behavioral health goals.

- 24 years is long time for a coalition to survive. AYDC is doing something right.
- I am glad that AYDC exists and hope it can grow to promote more youth involved initiatives.
- I am impressed with the coalition's strength and our ability to survive the chaos of the pandemic and thrive despite the multiple challenges our members faced in the last four years. The last year has been especially fruitful and the increase in engagement is exciting and encouraging.
- Thank you for having me as a member of the AYDC LT, it is an honor and privilege to be able to work with other experts in the field of prevention and behavioral health.
- Well run and adaptable and responsive to community conditions.

## **Conclusions**

The 2024 Coalition Capacity Survey indicates that The Anchorage Youth Development Coalition (AYDC) is a strong coalition, with no scale scores greater than 2.50. The strongest scores were in the follow three constructs.

- Meetings and internal communication (1.51)
- Leadership (1.57)
- Effectiveness of planning and implementation (1.74)

The biggest score improvement in scores were in the following topics.

- *Cultural responsiveness* (change of 0.88 points)
- Outreach and communication (change of 0.34 points)
- Effectiveness of planning and implementation (change of 0.22 points)

The weakest scales in the 2024 survey are as follows.

- Local government and community leaders (2.45)
- Outreach and communication (2.50)
- Structure and membership (2.50)

More specifically, the items with the strongest scores were:

- We accomplish meeting agendas. (1.30)
- Leadership encourages open dialogue and expression of views among members. (1.40)
- Leadership is skillful at building positive relationships with community partners. (1.40)
- Meeting minutes are recorded. (1.40)

The items with the weakest scores were:

- All necessary sectors of the community are represented (e.g., media, law enforcement, education, youth, EMS, clergy, bar owners, etc.) (2.80)
- We have about the right number of active members. (2.80)
- Member roles and responsibilities are well-defined. (2.80)
- We go to "where the residents are" to do outreach and to enhance our understanding of behavioral health issues in the community. (2.80)
- Community residents are aware of our vision, mission, and goals. (2.90)