



Regional YACWA

Great Southern Training Needs Survey Report 2022



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Regional YACWA was established in 2021, thanks to funding provided by the State Government through a Lotterywest grant. The purpose of expanding YACWA into the regions enabled a place-based peak body presence to support the sector and young people and amplify regional priorities and voices in our policy and advocacy work. Our role is to strengthen the trust, cooperation, collaboration, professionalism and voice of the non-government youth service sector to better service the young people of Western Australia, while continuing to celebrate and engage young people in all aspects of the community.

Part of our work in the regions is to help build capacity amongst the sector and strengthen the great work organisations and services are providing to the young people in their local community. To better understand the needs of the sector, we developed a Regional Training Needs Survey to help us understand the interest in YACWA workshops but also the broader areas of interest relevant to the youth sector. This information would also help us to explore ways to integrate this into other areas of our work. This report is a snapshot of the results.

YACWA is looking forward to delivering workshops in the Great Southern in 2023 - dates and locations are yet to be confirmed.

If you would like to find out more about our other activities and work across youth participation, sector engagement and support, and policy and advocacy in the Great Southern, please contact Kim Schroeder, Regional Project Officer - Great Southern - kim@yacwa.org.au

A summary of the results of each region will be distributed individually. If you would like a copy of another region's summary, please do not hesitate to contact our Regional Manager Olivia Knowles at olivia@yacwa.org.au



Great Southern Training Needs Survey Results

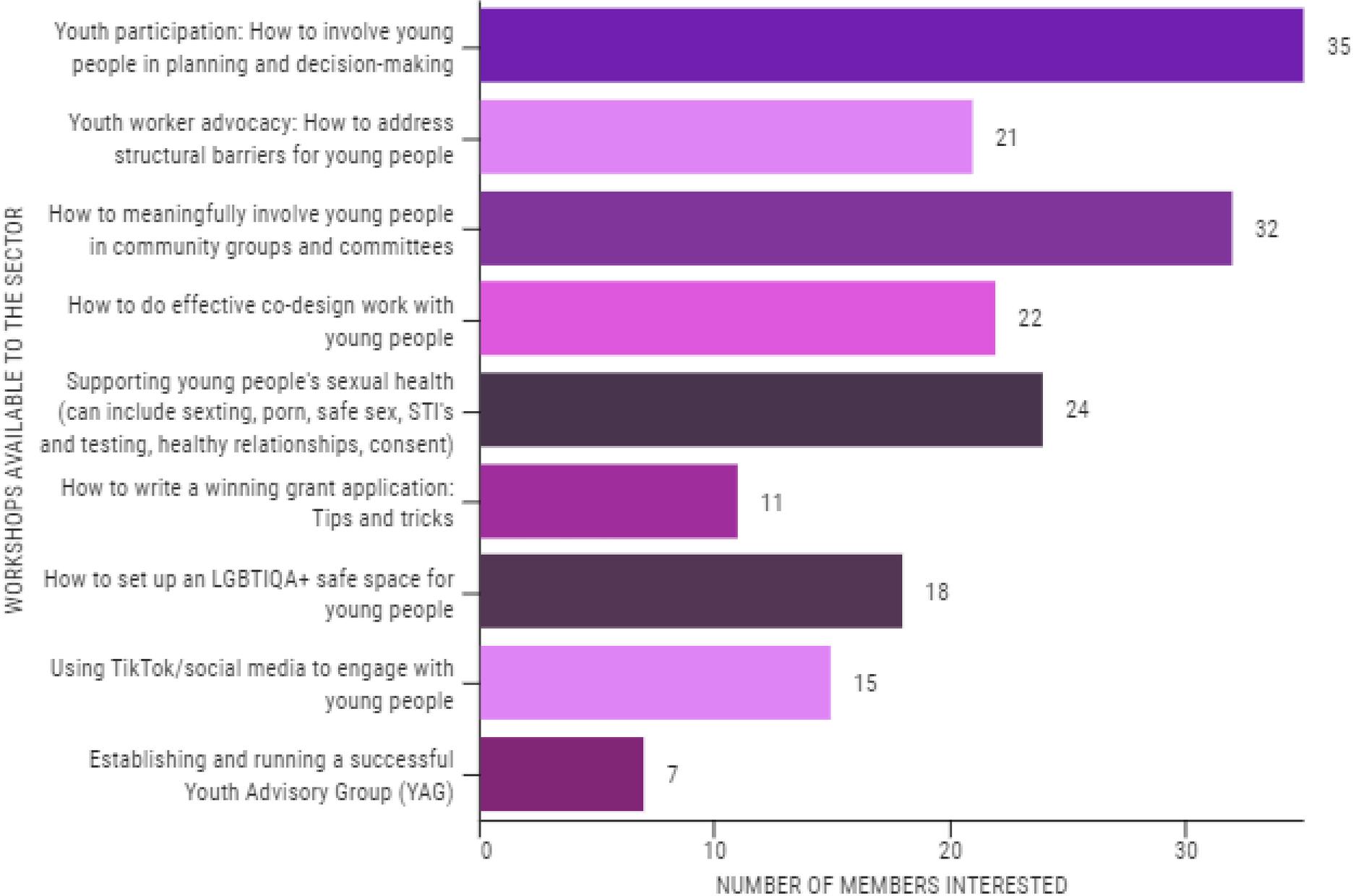
We received 52 responses to this survey from members of the youth sector across the Great Southern, including respondees from Albany, Denmark, Mount Barker, Broomehill & Tambellup, Katanning, Gnowangerup and Cranbrook.

The survey responses received were from a range of youth sector members, including Service Managers, Organisational Leads of youth organisations, Youth Sector Officers (i.e. Youth Workers, Youth Services Officers, etc) and a number of Community Development Officers from across the region.

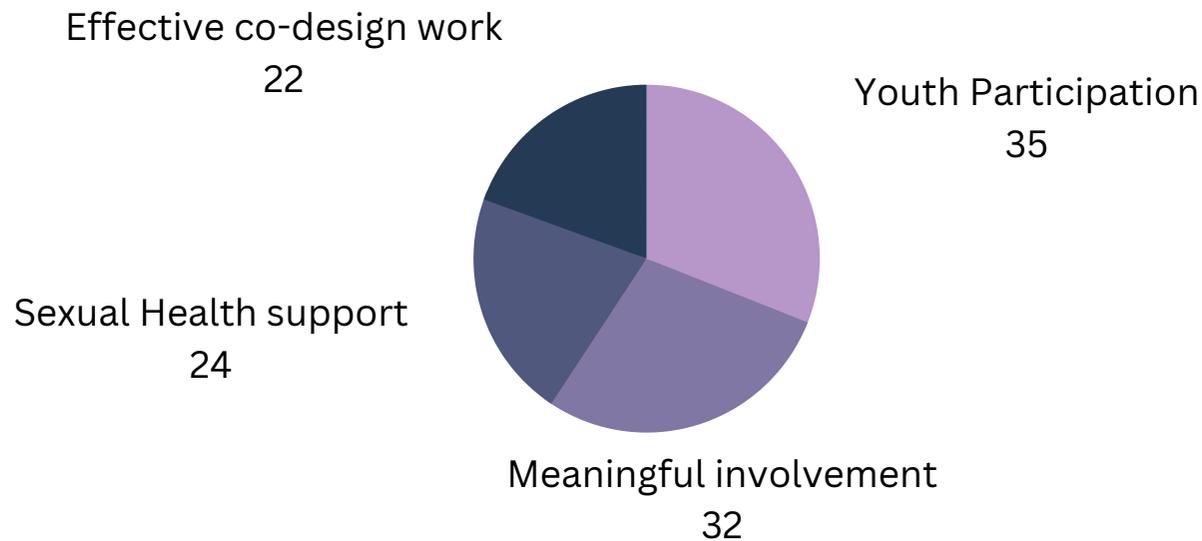
The survey was sent via email and shared in hard copy form with a range of services and networks, to gather their insights as to what is needed in their current roles, to support young people moving forward and also to the key services who support them in their local community.



YACWA Workshops the Youth Sector were interested in



The top four topics of interest most selected by the Great Southern Youth Sector were:



- **Youth participation:** How to involve young people in planning and decision-making
- How to **meaningfully involve young people in community** groups and committees
- **Supporting young people's sexual health** (can include sexting, porn, safe sex, STIs and testing, healthy relationships, consent)
- How to do **effective co-design work with young people.**



Results highlight that in the Great Southern, members of the youth sector felt that **youth participation was a key priority area** for future support.

This includes involving young people in the planning and decision-making process, involving young people in the community and on committees, how to break down the barriers and involve young people in effective co-design.



Other Topics of Professional Development of Interest to the Great Southern Youth Sector

- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Youth Leadership Development
- Employment Supports
- Working with young people living with disabilities
- Culturally informed and appropriate ways of working
- Volatile Substance Use
- Technology - Social Media & Cyber safety
- Community Support Systems
- Alternative pathways for Education
- Post School Support
- Funding
- Policy and Youth Engagement



Where to from here?

Delivery of face-to-face Youth Participation and Youth Changemaker workshops in 2023, co-delivered with young people.

Delivery of these workshops through the Great Southern region. Exact locations and dates are yet to be confirmed.

Workshops will be advertised amongst networks and communicated to youth sector members, YACWA e-news and YACWA Facebook.





This report was made possible by having the support from youth sector personnel throughout the Great Southern region. Their contribution to the Great Southern Sector Training Survey has provided future focus and positive steps to help support the sector and the young people in our communities.

Thank you to all those individuals who completed the survey.