

# IMPACT REPORT

*police youth challenge*

JAN - JUN | 2016



BALTIMORE CHESAPEAKE BAY  
**OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL**

# POLICE YOUTH CHALLENGE

## PROGRAM BACKGROUND / HISTORY

The Police Youth Challenge (PYC) program has been running since 2008 and engaging various levels of the Baltimore City Police Department (BPD) and Baltimore City school-aged youth. Between 2012-2015, The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, funded by a grant from the Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice, Delinquency and Prevention, conducted a quantitative and qualitative study of the PYC program. Final study results were published. Beginning in January 2016, BCBOBS began an internal quantitative study of the PYC program as it exists currently with BPD sworn Officers embedded in mandatory annual in-service training and with Baltimore City school-aged youth. Results presented in this report are preliminary for the current program cycle and an on-going study will run concurrent for all programs.

## Q2 QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

Officers who participated in the Police Youth Challenge in Q2 2016 (April – June) were reporting to the program as part of mandatory, annual in-service training. With support from the Baltimore City Police Department, 441 Officers participated in the PYC program. Student participants were recruited from 14 different Baltimore City schools and the average age of the youth was 13.4 years. Of the total number of PYC participants (Police and Youth) in Q2, the quantifiable data ranged from 186-338 records per scale item. Graphs show responses in percentage of participants surveyed and reflect cumulative data from January - June, 2016.



# POLICE YOUTH CHALLENGE: PARTICIPANTS

## SCHOOLS / ORGANIZATIONS



## TOTAL PARTICIPANTS



## AVERAGE YOUTH AGE



- 0 - 4 YEARS
- 5 - 9 YEARS
- 10 - 14 YEARS
- 15+ YEARS

*The chart to the left shows the distribution of Officers, based on their years of service with the Baltimore Police Department.*

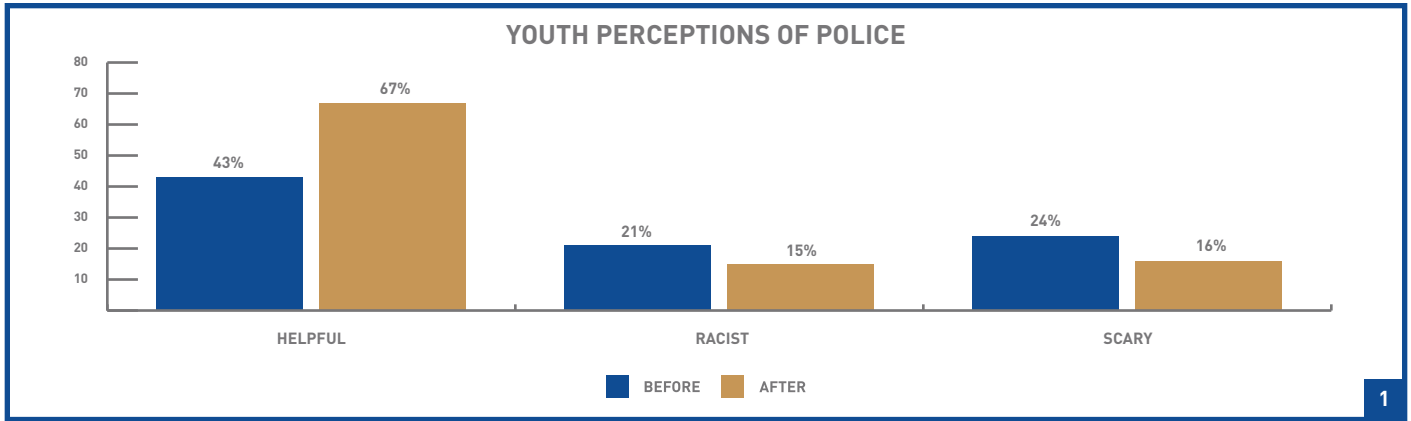
## SCHOOLS / ORGANIZATIONS

- Green Street Academy
- Holabird Academy
- Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson E/M
- Commodore John Rodgers E/M
- Windsor Hills E/M
- Digital Harbor High School
- Arundel E/M
- Booker T. Washington E/M
- Patterson Park Public Charter School
- Hampstead Hill Academy
- Baltimore SquashWise
- Harlem Park E/M
- REACH Partnership School
- Renaissance Academy High School
- Dickey Hill E/M



# POLICE YOUTH CHALLENGE: SHIFTING PERCEPTIONS

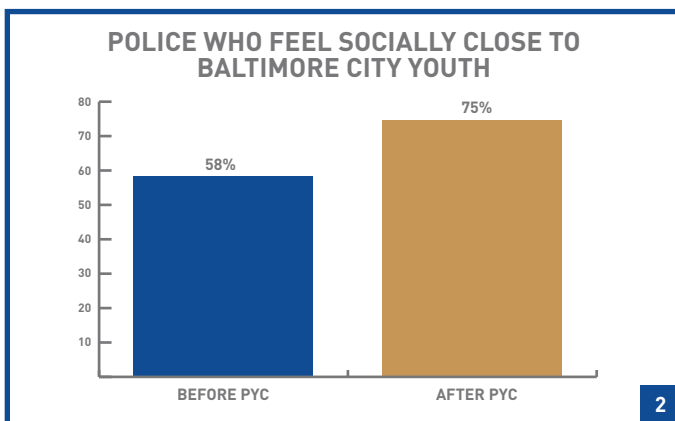
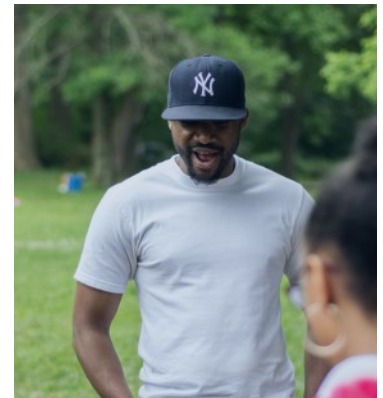
Youth are given an opportunity to rank their perceptions of Officers on a 7-point Likert scale both before and after the PYC. The data below represents the percentage of the surveyed population that experienced a statistically significant change in their perceptions. Findings demonstrate an increase in positive perceptions and a decrease in negative perceptions across all adjectives given. The most impacted perceptions are shown below and are as follows: helpful, racist, scary, and trustworthy (on the following page).



Y-axis indicates percentage of youth who responded to the survey questions. Each of the attitudes included here show significant differences in attitudes after participation in PYC; all paired t-tests were <math><0.001</math>, n=186.

## 43% of Officers surveyed made significant positive change in their responses regarding stereotyped beliefs of youth after the PYC.

Questions included, “Trying to better Baltimore City youth is a waste of time and money,” “In general, all Baltimore City youth think and act alike,” and, “Baltimore City youth should be under strict, harsh discipline.” (Paired t-test <math><0.05</math>, n=210).



Y-axis represents percentage of Police who responded to the survey. Paired t-test <math><0.001</math>, n= 209.

### SOCIAL DISTANCE (2)

58% of Officers surveyed made significant positive change in their responses to these questions from before the PYC program to after the PYC program. Questions included, “Only a few Baltimore City youth are truly dangerous,” “I think I would like the majority of Baltimore City Youth,” and, “I wouldn’t mind living next to a Baltimore City Youth.”

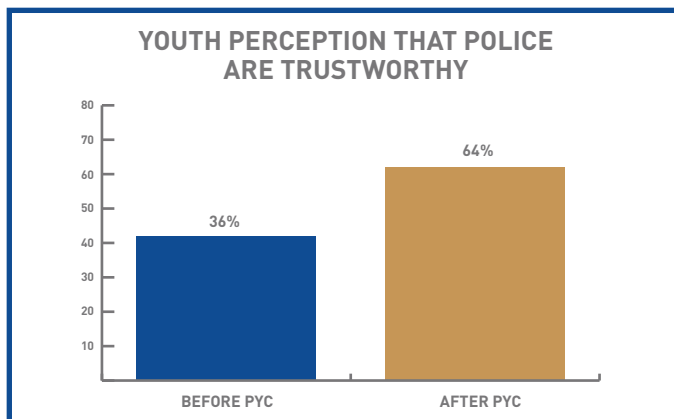
## POLICE YOUTH CHALLENGE: REBUILDING TRUST

**95% of Officers surveyed think youth are trustworthy after the PYC. 56% of Officers made significant positive change in their feeling from pre survey to post-survey.**

Questions included, “You never know when a Baltimore City youth is telling the truth,” and, “Baltimore City youth are always trying to get something out of somebody” (Paired t-test <0.05, n=209).



**62% of youth surveyed shifted their perception to believe Officers were trustworthy.**



Y-axis indicates percentage of youth who responded to the survey questions. Each of the attitudes included here show significant differences in attitudes after participation in PYC; all paired t-tests were <0.001, n=186.

# POLICE YOUTH CHALLENGE: FORGING RELATIONSHIPS

## IMPORTANCE OF POLICE AND YOUTH RELATIONSHIP

83% of Officers feel that building relationships with youth is important after the PYC, 55% of Officers surveyed made significant positive changes in their response to questions from before the PYC program to after the PYC program. Questions included, “Police Officers can benefit from positive interactions with Baltimore City youth,” and, “Police Officers should be positive role models for Baltimore City youth.” (Paired t-test <0.05, n=207)

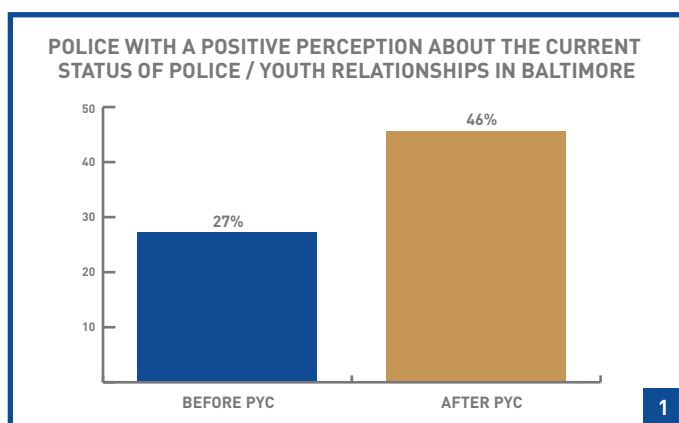
## CURRENT CLIMATE OF RELATIONSHIP (1)

50% of Officers surveyed made significant positive changes in their feelings that the relationship between Officers and youth is getting better. Question: “Police relationships with Baltimore City youth are very good.”

## RELATIONSHIP BUILDING SKILLS

40% of Officers surveyed made a significant positive change toward feeling like they now have the skills to interact with youth after the PYC. (Paired t-test <0.001, n=212)

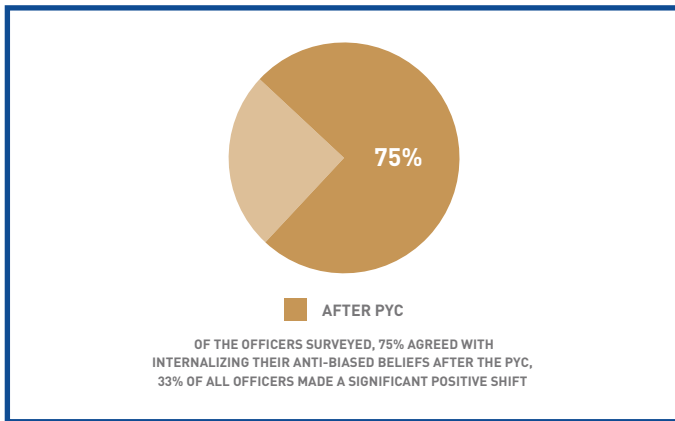
# 81% of Officers feel that they have the skills to positively interact with youth after the PYC.



Y-axis represents percentage of Police who responded to the survey. Paired t-test <0.001, n=214



# POLICE YOUTH CHALLENGE: BIAS & BEHAVIOR



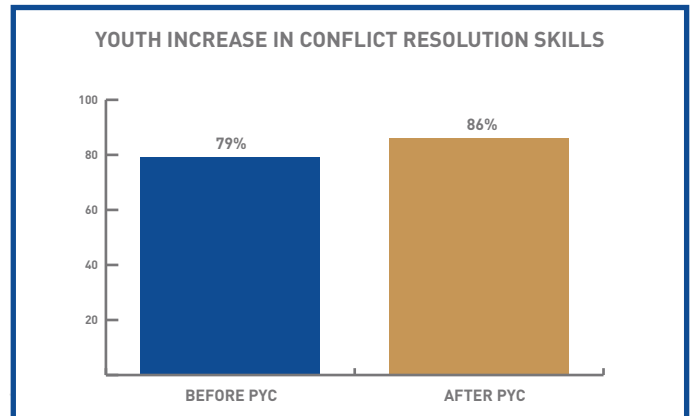
Represents percentage of Officers who responded to the survey. (n=220)

## POLICE WITH INTERNALLY DRIVEN MOTIVATIONS TO ACT IN NON-PREJUDICED WAYS TOWARD BALTIMORE CITY YOUTH

33% of Officers made significant positive changes toward internalizing anti-biased beliefs about Youth from before the PYC program to after the PYC program. The question for internal motivation was as follows, “Because of my personal values, I believe that using stereotypes about Baltimore City youth is wrong.”

## YOUTH SKILL DEVELOPMENT IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION

After just one day at the PYC, youth leave feeling more capable of resolving conflict in constructive, non-violent ways. As future interactions between youth and police are promoted and encouraged, these skills become increasingly important.



Y-axis represents percentage of youth who showed statistically significant change. Paired t-test <0.001, n=383.

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