

# Youth and Family in Henry County & Martinsville

Find out how your gift is making a difference every day of the year or find out where volunteers are needed most, visit [unitedwayofhcm.org](http://unitedwayofhcm.org)!

*When you do not have access to quality and affordable childcare when you need it,*

*When your children are attending under-funded schools,*

*When your community does not approach education as a community-wide effort,*

***How do you keep your family strong and help prepare your children for the future?***



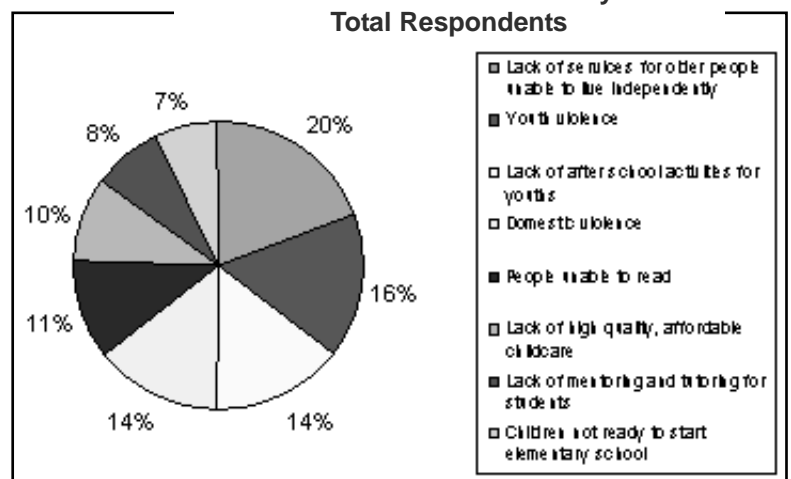
## What We Need to Achieve the Vision:

- ▶ Families are connected to the community and know where to turn to get quality, accessible, and culturally-sensitive assistance, education and resources.
- ▶ Families have access to affordable childcare, after-school activities and eldercare.
- ▶ Youth receive quality education that prepares them for college, a job and life skills.
- ▶ Parents and care-givers have access to parenting resources.

## Interesting Facts About Youth and Family in Martinsville and Henry County

- ▶ According to survey respondents, satisfaction with family relationships was strongly linked with annual household income, level of education, race and marital status, but not strongly linked to gender.
- ▶ A little over half of survey respondents rated K-12 education as “excellent” or “good” and a little less than half rated it as “fair” or “poor.”
- ▶ In our area, 26.5% of children entering kindergarten fail to pass the PALS-K testing, a screening tool used by schools in Virginia to identify students who are below grade level expectation in literacy fundamentals. (Success By 6)
- ▶ According to the U.S. Census Bureau, over 25% of Martinsville and Henry County households have no earnings.
- ▶ Almost 27% of the children living in Martinsville and Henry County are living in poverty as defined by the U.S. Government. (U.S. Census Bureau)
- ▶ Over 32% of the 18-24 year olds in our community are not high school graduates. (Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau)
- ▶ The number of births per 1,000 to teenage mothers in Martinsville is 47 compared to the state average of 16. In Henry County, the number of births to teenage mothers per 1,000 is 17. (Kids Count Census Data)
- ▶ Fully 25% of adolescents ages 13-17 years old are involved in a juvenile intake case which is an assessment on juvenile offenders and/or children in need of care who are brought into custody by law enforcement. (Success By 6)
- ▶ In 2005, the percentage of non-marital births in Martinsville was 62%, in Henry County, 50%, compared to the state average of 32%. (Kids Count Census Data)

**Seriousness of Youth and Family Issues**  
Total Respondents



# Youth and Family in Henry County & Martinsville

## What's Working Now

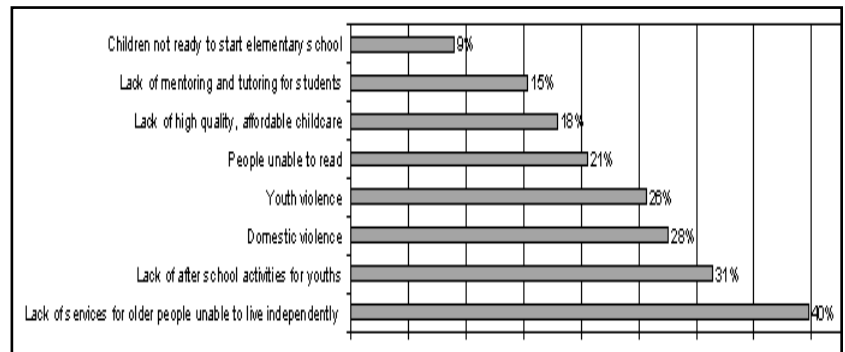
- ▶ United Way's Success By 6 initiative helps parents and caregivers with practical strategies to guide children's learning and development.
- ▶ The MHC-After 3, After School Program Initiative is working with after school programs such as the YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, Bassett Community Center and Healthy Community Initiative, to make sure kids have quality after school activities.
- ▶ For the Children's Reality House brings together youth and adults to teach important life lessons and decrease the teenage pregnancy rate.
- ▶ Schools in the area are continually focused on increasing the quality of education and graduation rate.
- ▶ There are several schools of higher education in the area such as Patrick Henry Community College, The New College Institute, Old Dominion University and National College.

## Gaps in Achieving Children and Family Vision

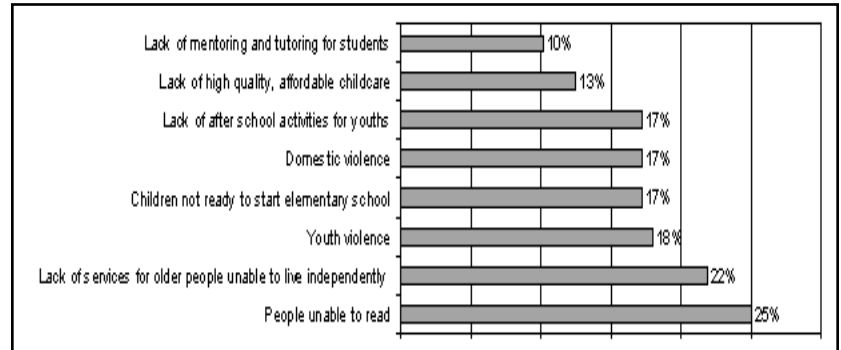
Some resources exist in the community to encourage and support strong families and successful youth, but a number of problems persist:

- ▶ There needs be a greater focus on keeping children and teens out of the juvenile justice system.
- ▶ There is a greater need for affordable and quality childcare.
- ▶ There needs to be a centrally located resource center focused on parenting skills.
- ▶ There is a great need for programs that encourage family involvement and get kids excited about school.
- ▶ Collaboration is necessary in identifying developmental delays in children early.

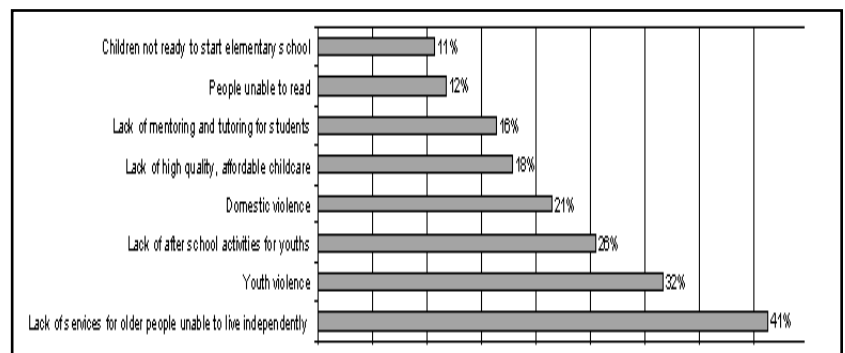
Rating of Youth & Family Issues  
for Less Affluent Residents (income less than \$30K)



Rating of Youth & Family Issues  
for Affluent Residents (income more than \$80K)



Rating of Youth & Family Needs Issues for Black Residents



Rating of Youth & Family Issues for Hispanic Residents

