

FOCUS GROUPS

The Softer Side: What Works, What Doesn't, and How to Better Engage Youth in SUN CS & SSSES Programming

Number and composition of focus groups:

SUN CS. 10; to create a representative sample of SUN CS locations, we will employ stratified convenience sampling across all SUN elementary, middle, K8, and high schools as well as the 6 service regions. Specifically, we will aim to have 4 focus groups at elementary schools, 3 focus groups at middle schools, 2 at K8 schools, and 1 at a high school; and we will aim to perform 1 FG each in Regions 1, 2, and 3; 2 FGs each in Regions 4 and 5; and 3 FGs in Region 6. As a result of holding FG across regions, we will simultaneously be sampling across lead regional and culturally specific agencies.

SSSES. 4; to complement the FG locations for SUN CS, we intend to perform SSSES FGs at CS other than those utilized for SUN CS FGs. We will employ convenience sampling to determine specific sites.

Using random assignment, we will strive to have 5 SUN CS and 2 SSSES FGs consist of youth who are less engaged in SUN/SSSES programming; the remaining 5 SUN CS FGs and 2 SSSES FGs will consist of youth who are more engaged in SUN programming. We will also aim to have a relatively equal number of culturally-specific and non-culturally specific FGs.

Sample: Youth who are at least 10 years old and attend SUN programming or participate in SSSES. Because the ideal size for a focus group is 7-10 participants, we will try to recruit, via convenience sampling based on site and case managers' recommendations, 10 youth per focus group (in anticipation of attrition) for a total of 140 potential participants.

