

# ENHANCING FAITH-BASED PARTNERSHIPS IN HOMELESSNESS

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LA COUNTY HOMELESS  
INITIATIVE'S SURVEY OF FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

MAY 2023





# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- I. Overview of Survey
- II. Methodology and Outreach Approach
- III. Survey Highlights
- IV. Recommended Strategies
- V. Questions and Answers



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# SURVEY COMPONENTS

1

## **General Survey**

Targeting Faith-Based Organizations FBOs throughout LA County.

2

## **Part II Survey**

FBOs who completed the General Survey to capture resource needs and capacity of FBOs.

3

## **Focus Groups and Interviews**

Focus Group sessions held in person and virtually throughout LA County.





# SURVEY OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

- LA County HI email blast to FBO network & LA County list.
- CIM directly contacted FBOs throughout LA County.
- FCEH members contacted FBOs in their networks.
- Other County agencies and partners distributed the survey.
- A total of 14 in person and online engagement sessions were conducted.
- Site visits and interviews were also conducted by CIM.





# **SURVEY RESPONSES**

- 252 General Surveys completed
- 34 Part II Surveys completed



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# **SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS**

**1**

Current FBO Landscape & Efforts

**2**

Capacity Opportunities & Challenges

**3**

Recommended Strategies



# **SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS**

*Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) are holistic in their approach and their contributions have been long-standing and often not measured, which results in government and other community-based agencies not seeing their full contributions and potential to make a difference in homelessness.*





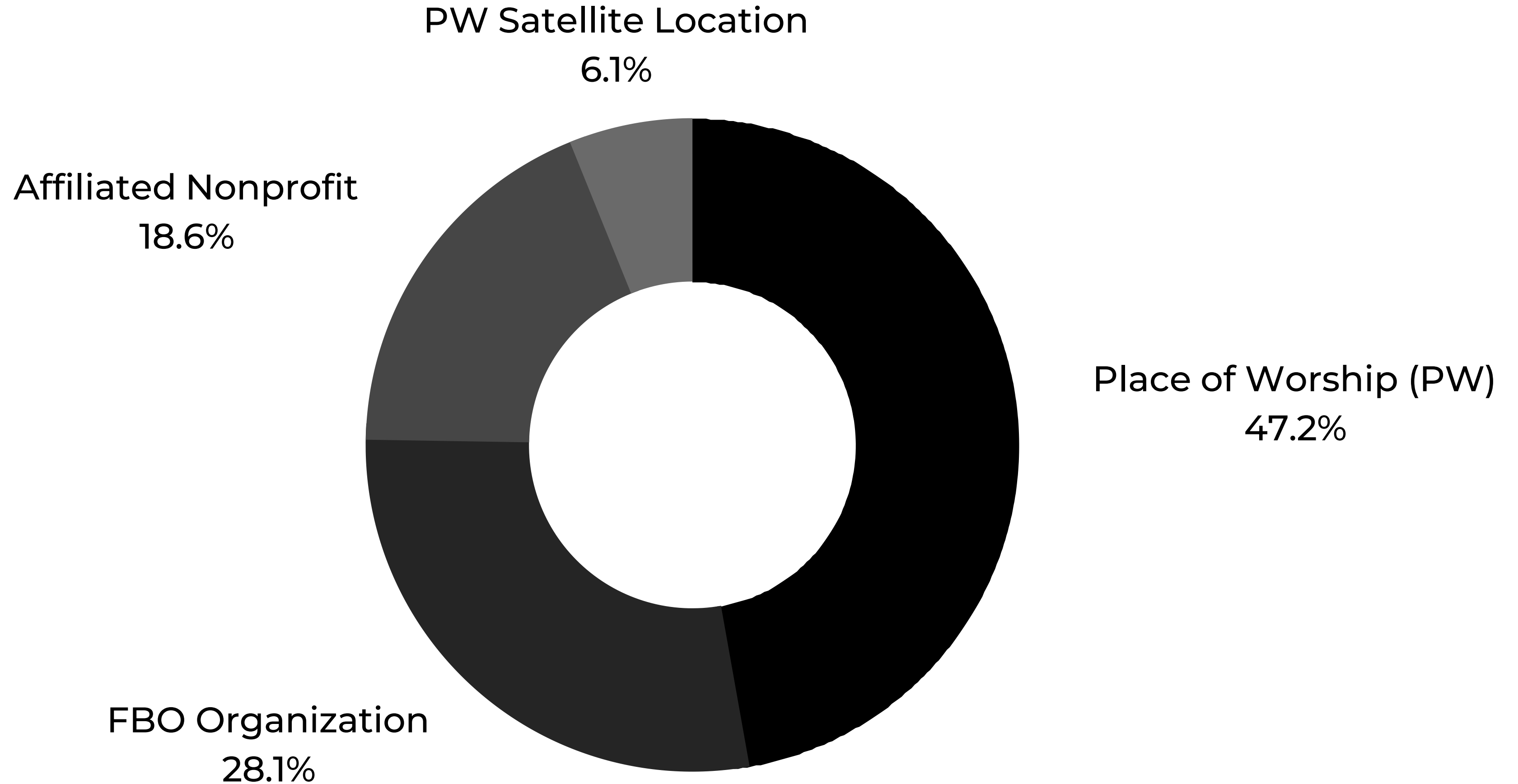
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# SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

- 78.6% (198) of FBOs reported they currently partner with government and nonprofit agencies to provide services and support to people in need.
- The COVID-19 pandemic (particularly when there were mandated shutdowns of facilities and businesses) had a significant impact on FBOs' service and resource capacity.
- FBOs need a variety of support and training to increase their capacity to better serve people experiencing homelessness.



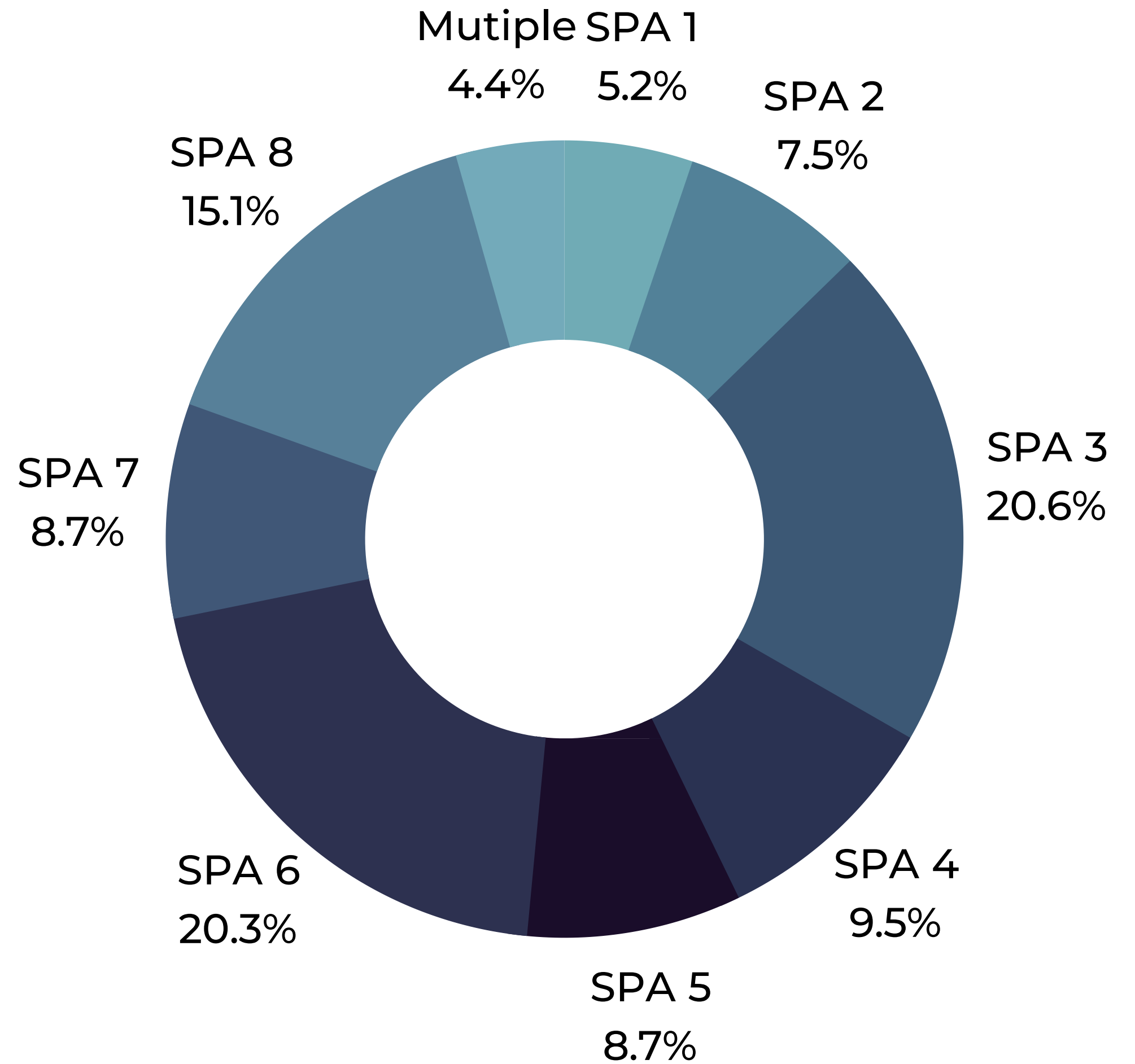
# FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATION TYPE





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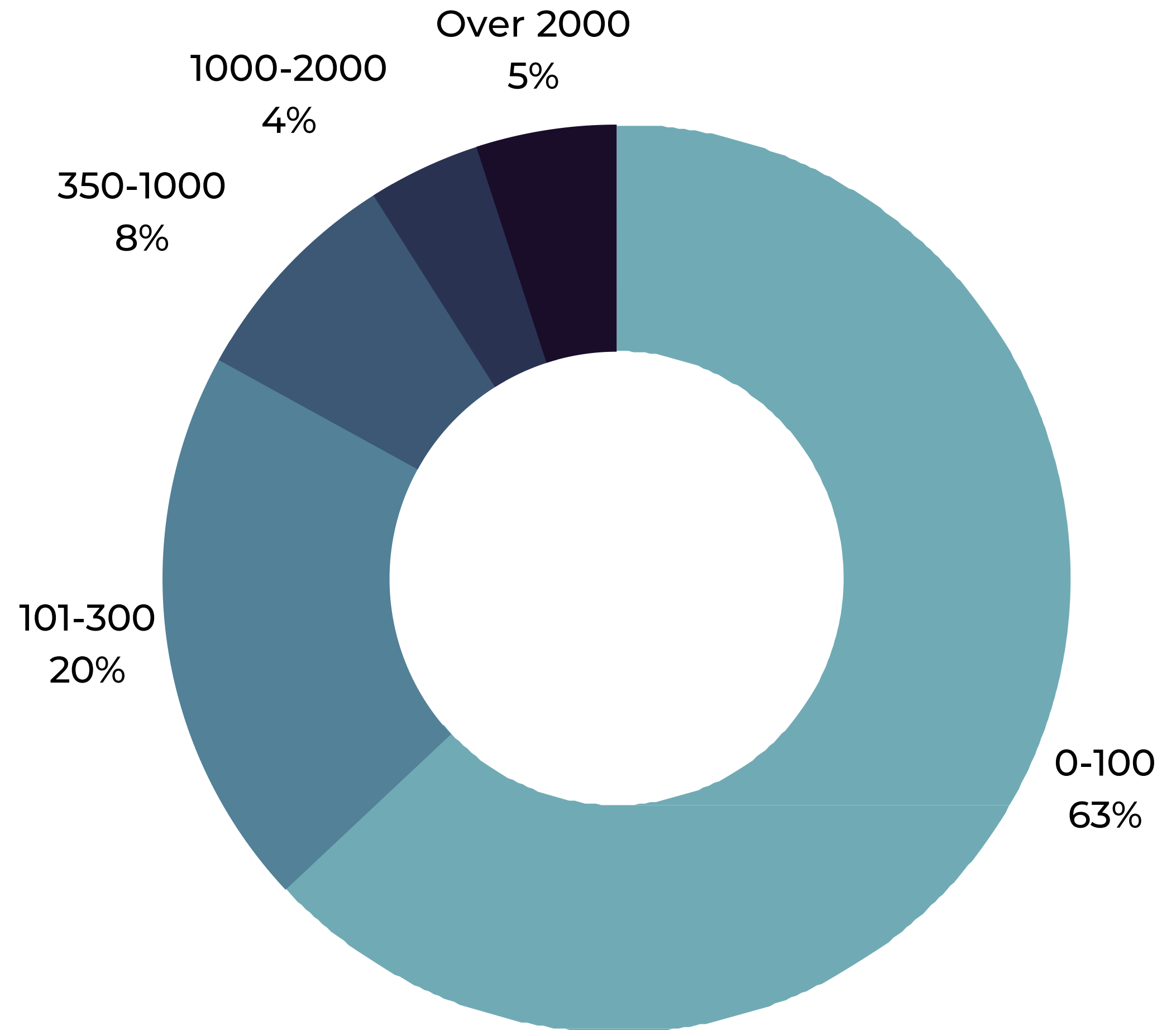
# GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN OF RESPONDENTS



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# AVERAGE WEEKLY ATTENDANCE DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS

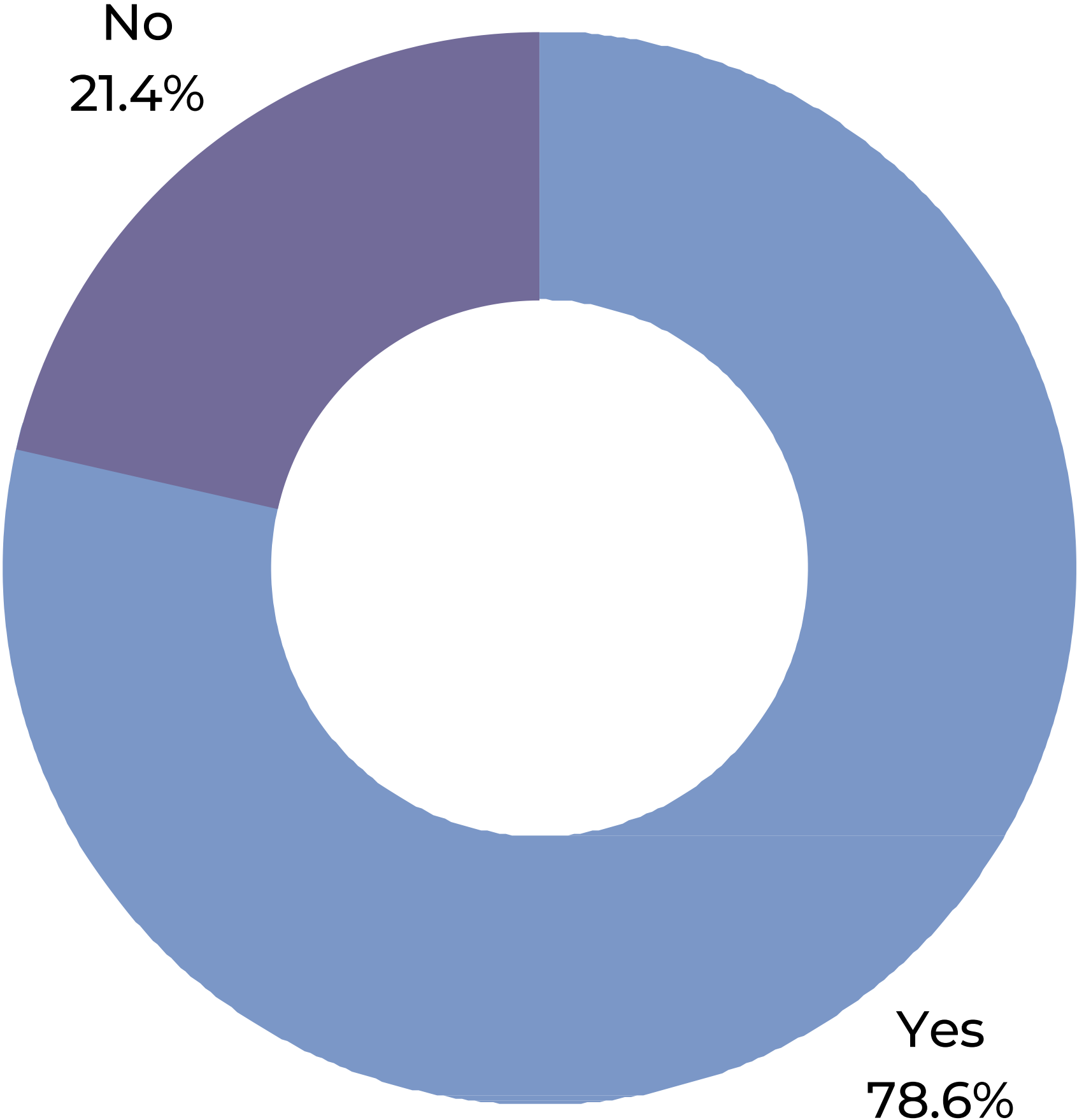
*The COVID-19 Pandemic had a large impact in declining attendance at FBOs who identified as, or are affiliated with a place of worship.*





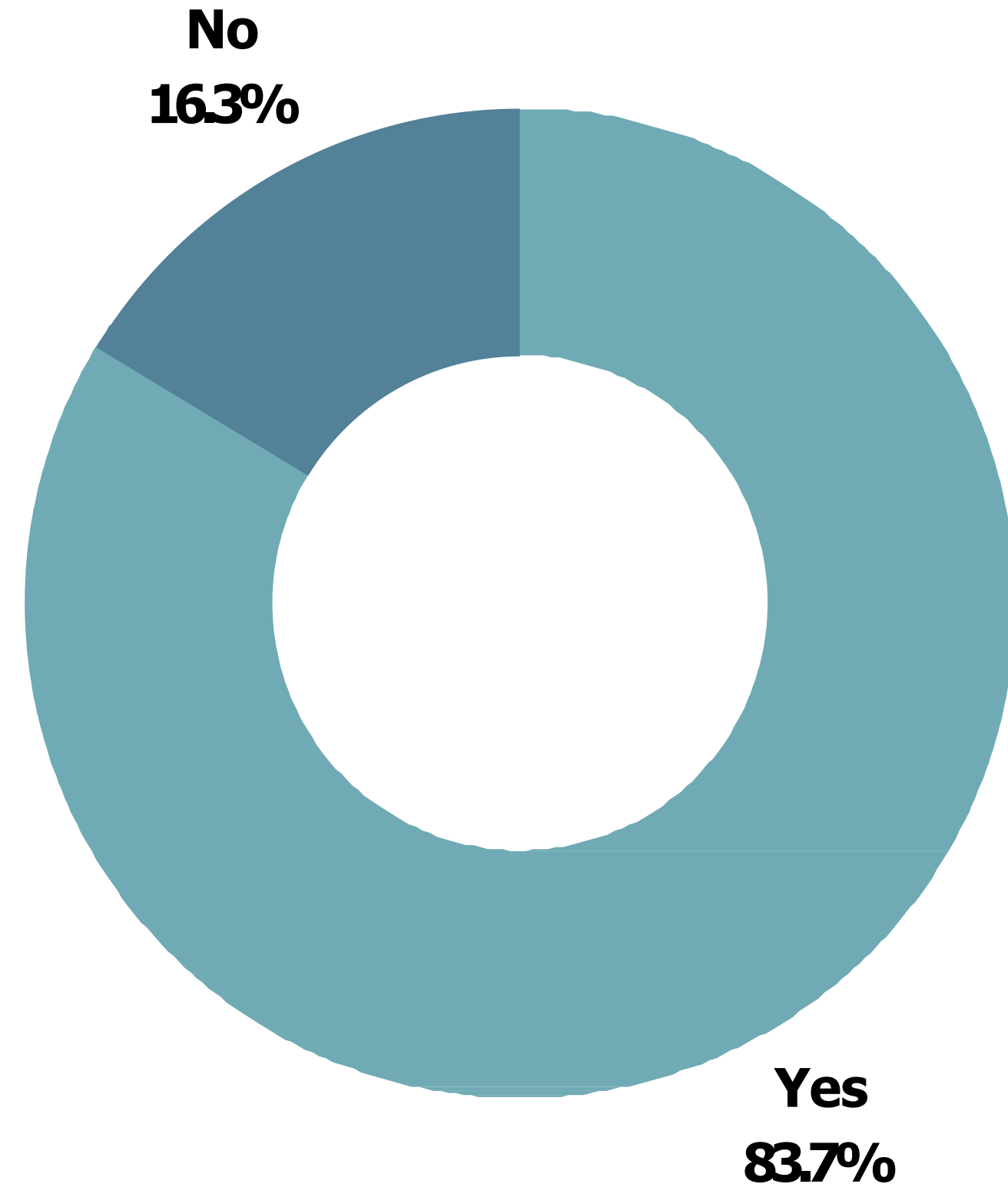
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# **PARTNERSHIPS WITH GOVERNMENT AND NON PROFIT AGENCIES**



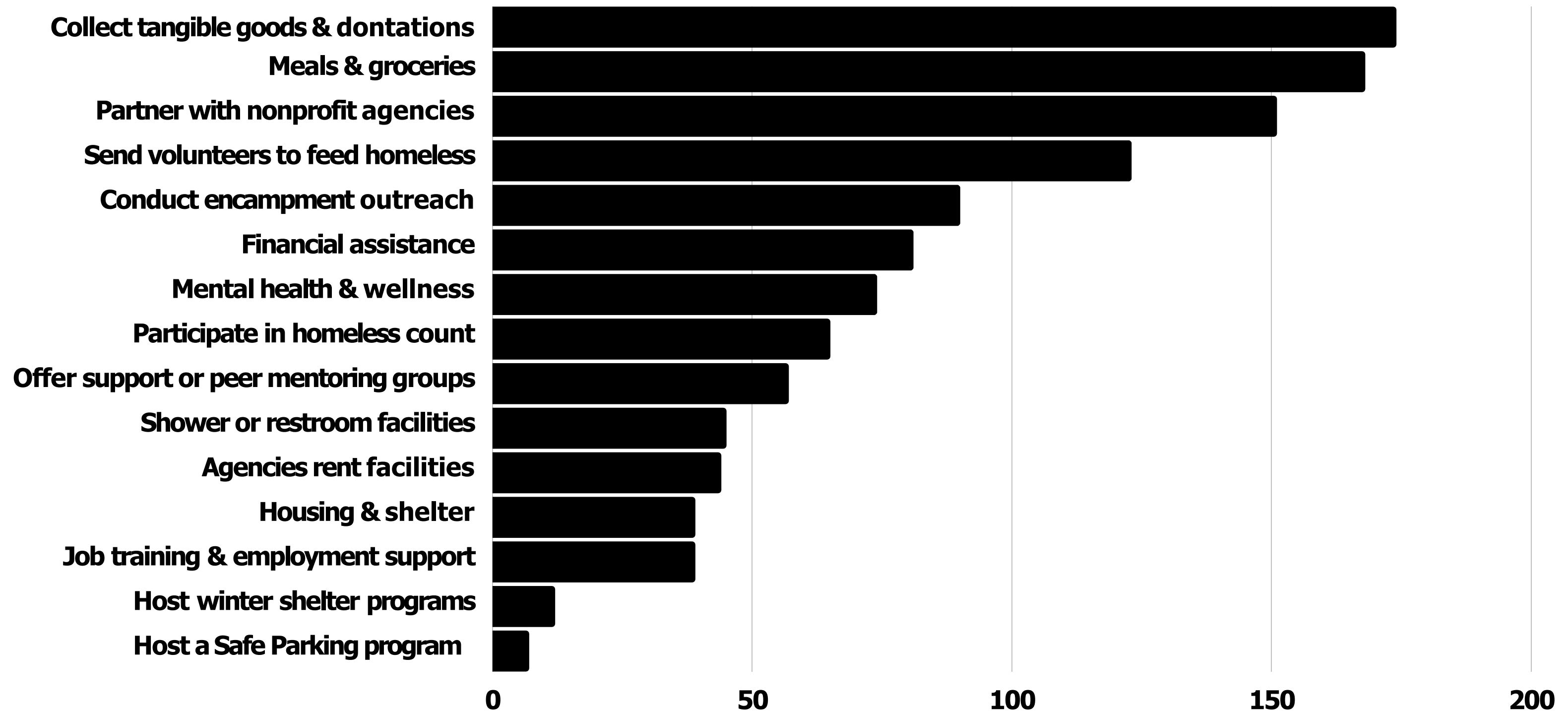
# CURRENTLY PROVIDING SUPPORT, SERVICES AND/OR PROGRAMS

	Number	%
Yes	210	83.7%
No	41	16.3%
Total	252	

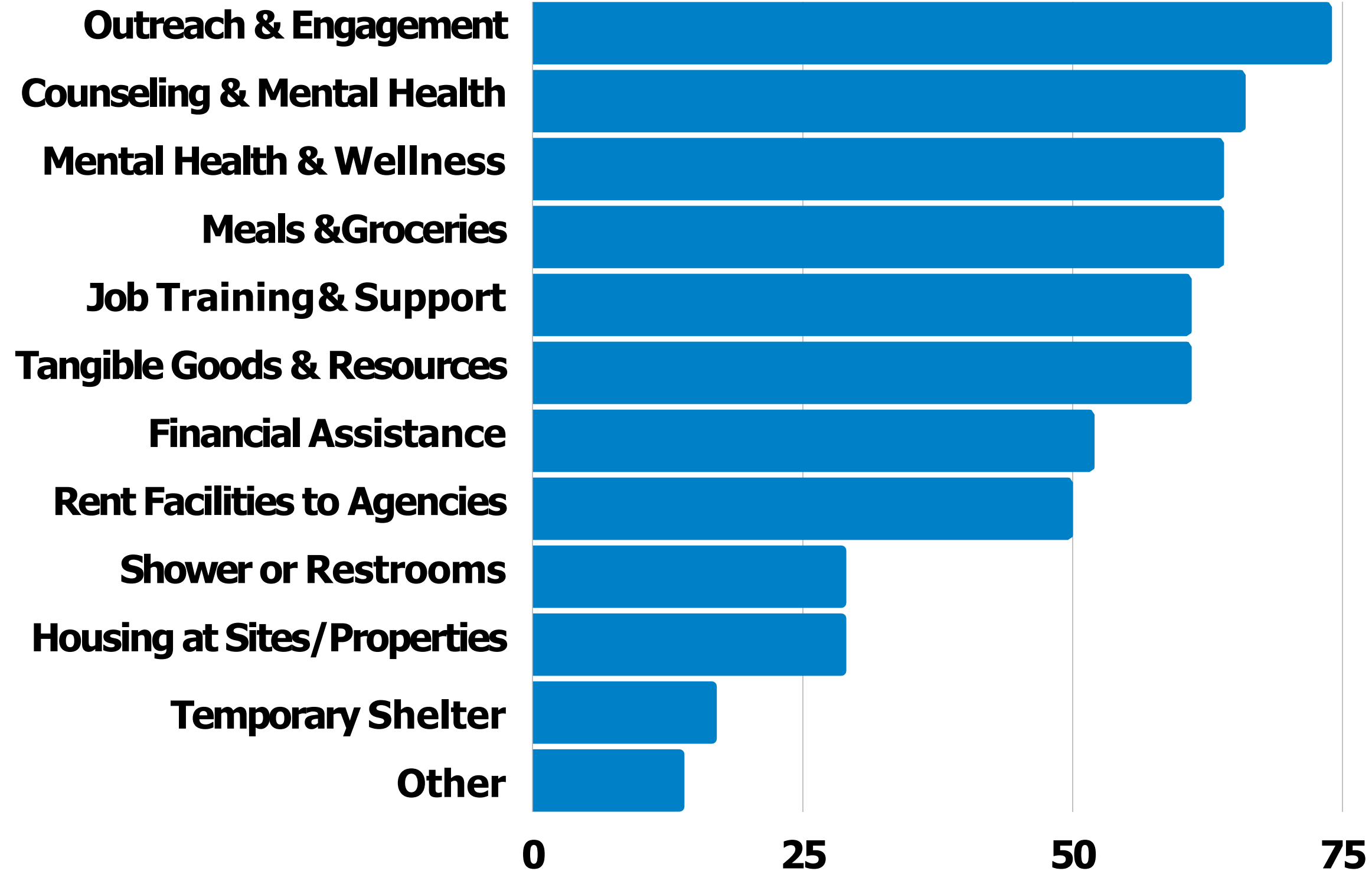




# WAYS IN WHICH FBOS SUPPORT PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

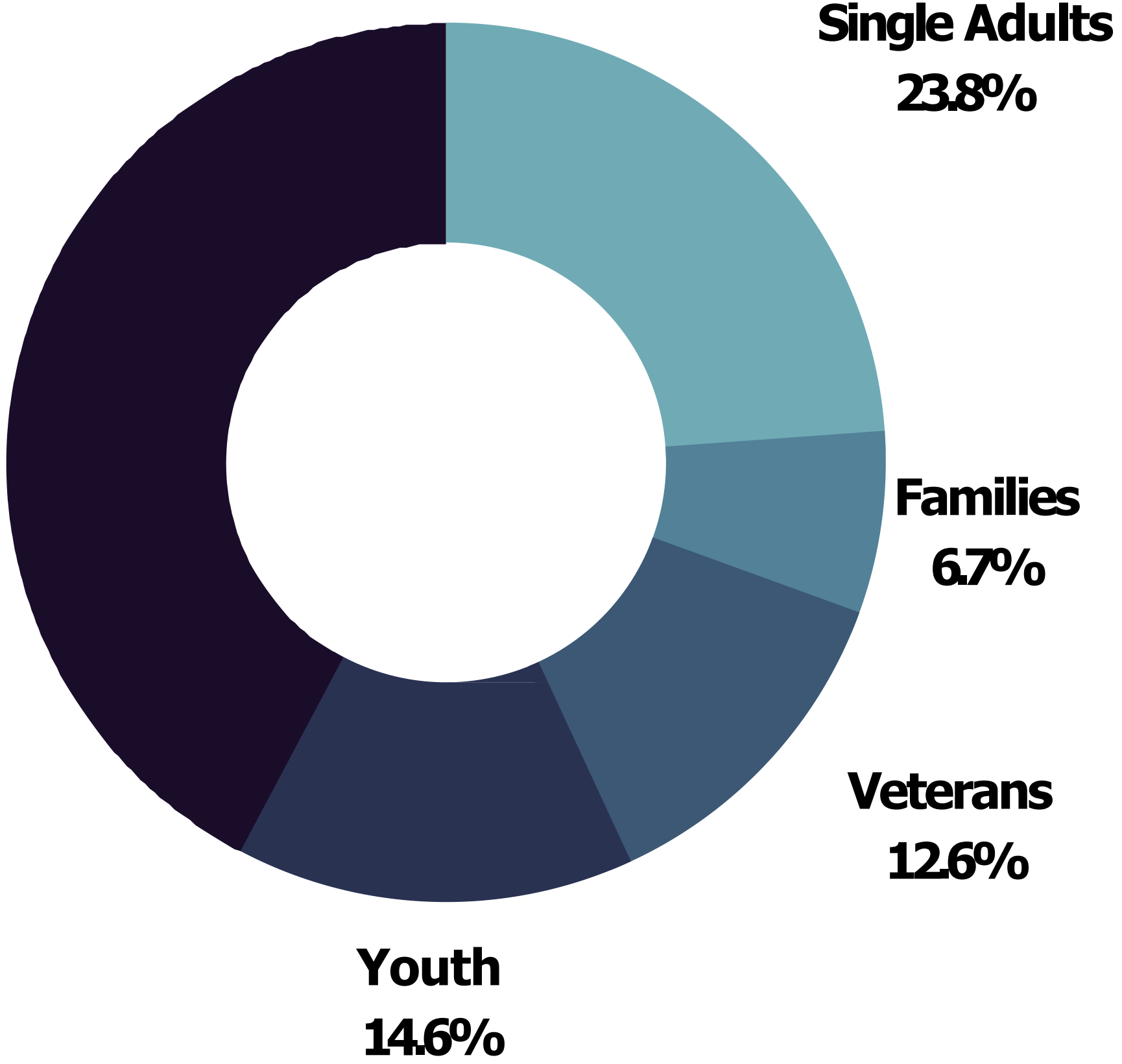


# WAYS IN WHICH FBOS WANT TO SERVE OR EXPAND



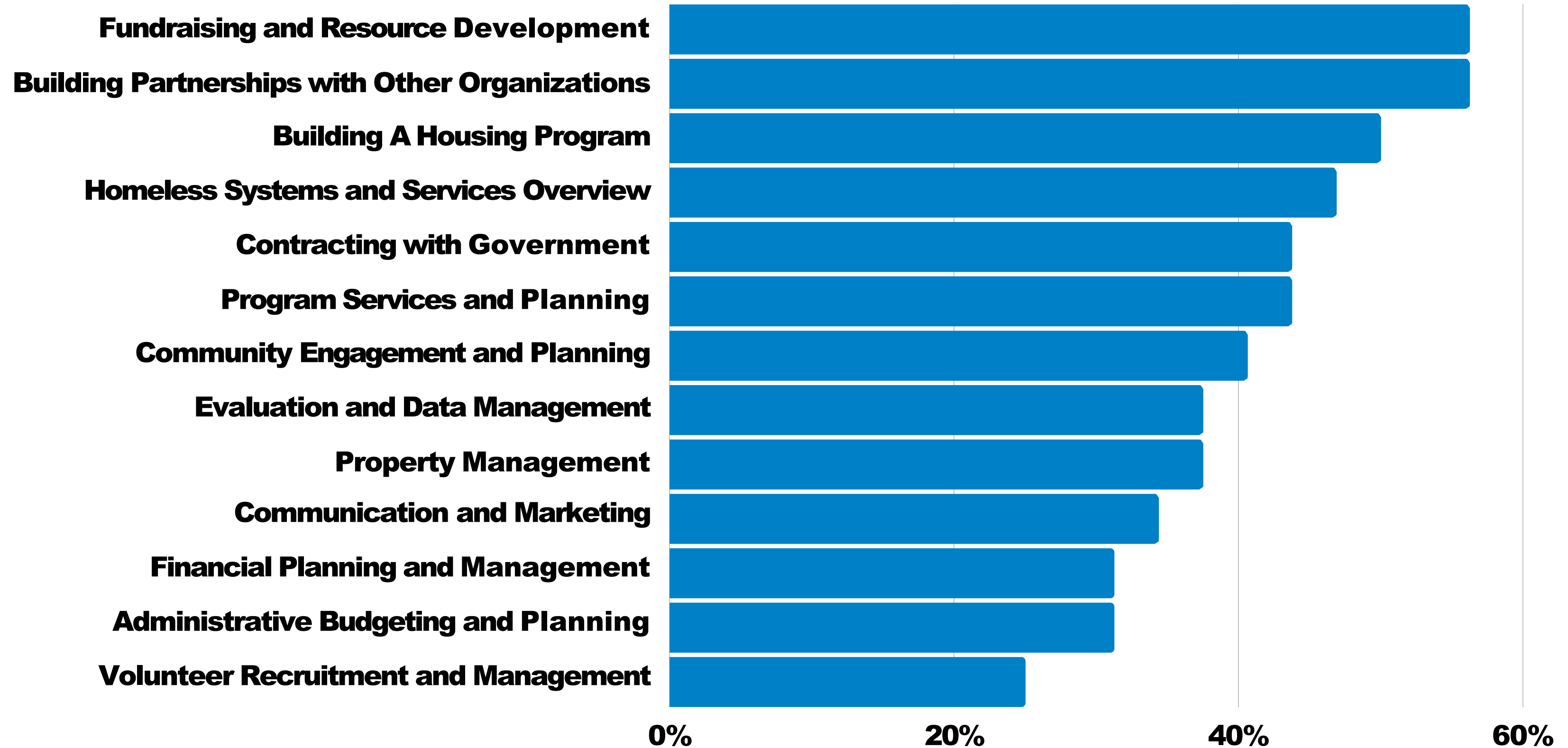


**GROUP(S) OF PEOPLE  
CURRENTLY SERVED**





# TRAINING AND SUPPORT NEEDED







# RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES

1

ADVANCE CONCRETE  
COLLABORATION & PARTNERSHIP  
ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES

2

INCREASE FUNDING & CAPACITY  
BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES

3

IMPROVE COMMUNICATION &  
INFORMATION SHARING AMONG THE  
FAITH COMMUNITY & LA COUNTY

4

INCREASE THE INVOLVEMENT OF  
THE FAITH COMMUNITY IN  
HOMELESS POLICY & ADVOCACY



# **STRATEGY 1: ADVANCE CONCRETE COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES**

- Host bi-annual faith summits to engage FBOs on a regular basis.
- Establish or support faith collaboratives in each Service Planning Area throughout LA County, focused on homelessness.
- Create partnerships among FBOs, public agencies and service providers around homeless outreach efforts.
- Align the efforts of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's (LAHSA) to support faith-based engagement.





## **STRATEGY 2: INCREASE FUNDING AND CAPACITY BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR FBOS**

- Create a separate funding stream for FBOs that is flexible and easily accessible and where all funding sources, inclusive of private donations and philanthropic funding are managed in the same way.
- Develop a comprehensive capacity building approach focused on increasing FBO participation in homeless services.



## **STRATEGY 3: IMPROVE COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SHARING AMONG THE FAITH COMMUNITY AND LA COUNTY**

- Improve the centralization and access of homeless information and resources.
- Develop a system and an approach to send regular updates to FBOs.
- Provide a mechanism for the FBOs to provide feedback and guidance to LA County and LAHSA about resources and needs of people experiencing homelessness in the communities FBOs serve.
- Develop effective and consistent opportunities for FBOs to communicate and connect with the homeless services delivery system locally and through the Faith-Based Commission on Homelessness.



## **STRATEGY 4: INCREASE THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY IN HOMELESS POLICY AND ADVOCACY**

- Develop countywide information and policy priorities that faith communities, and their leaders can access and apply in their communities and regions.
- Designate faith representatives to be involved in policy and advocacy efforts and groups that are convened countywide and regionally.
- Develop and implement a training and technical assistance system focused on increasing the faith community's policy and advocacy knowledge and experience.