

## Background

- Cancer Bridges is a non-profit organization that provides free services and programming for individuals across the lifespan affected by a cancer diagnosis, whether their own or that of a loved one
- The impact of cancer on youth can result in an array of physical, psychosocial, and developmental changes
- The challenges that youth face can be addressed through **increased tailored programming to foster social connections, enhance overall wellness, and promote community participation**

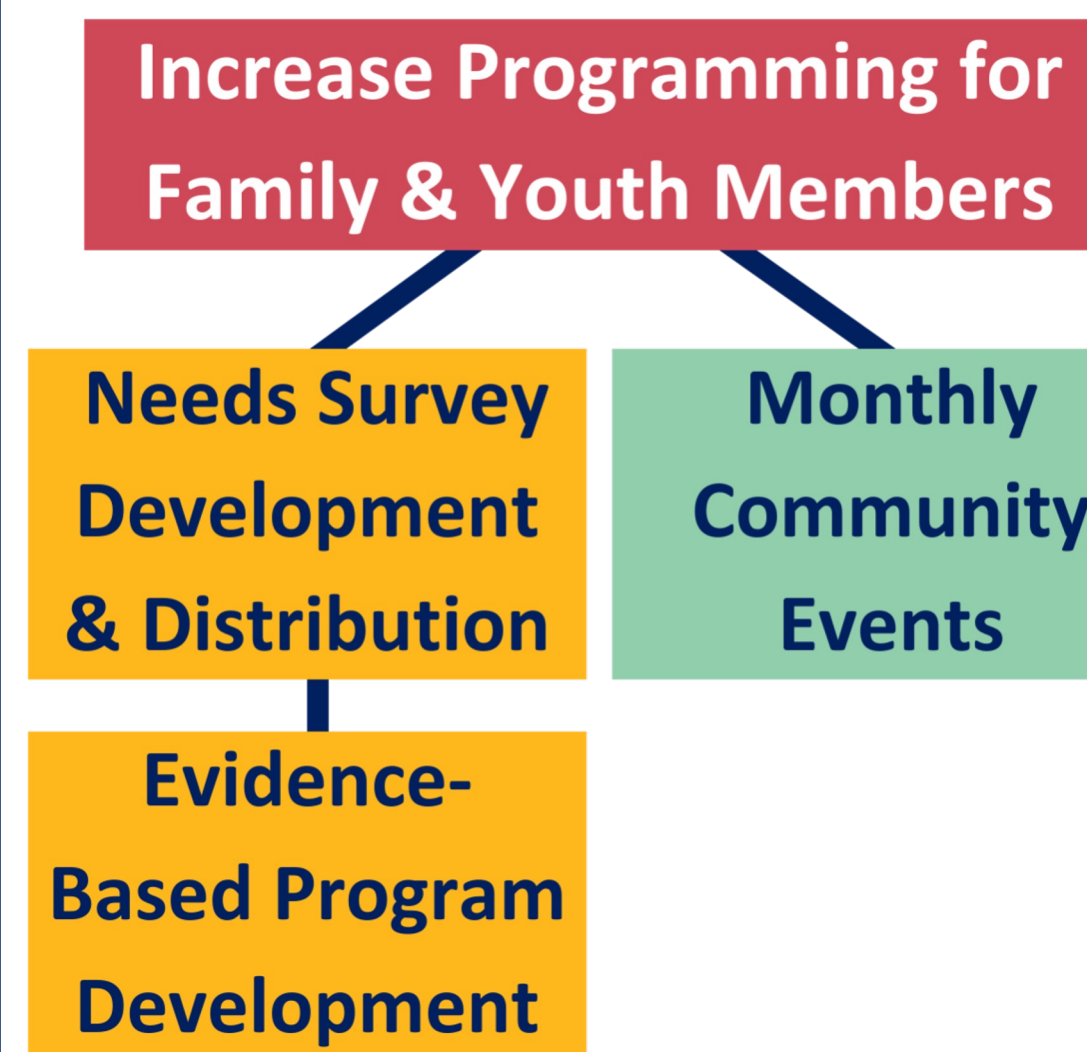
## Objectives

1. Conduct a comprehensive survey for members to **identify the preferences and interests** for family and youth programming
2. Create an **evidence-based program** to support the needs and interests of family and youth members

## Methods

**Participants:** Cancer Bridges youth and families

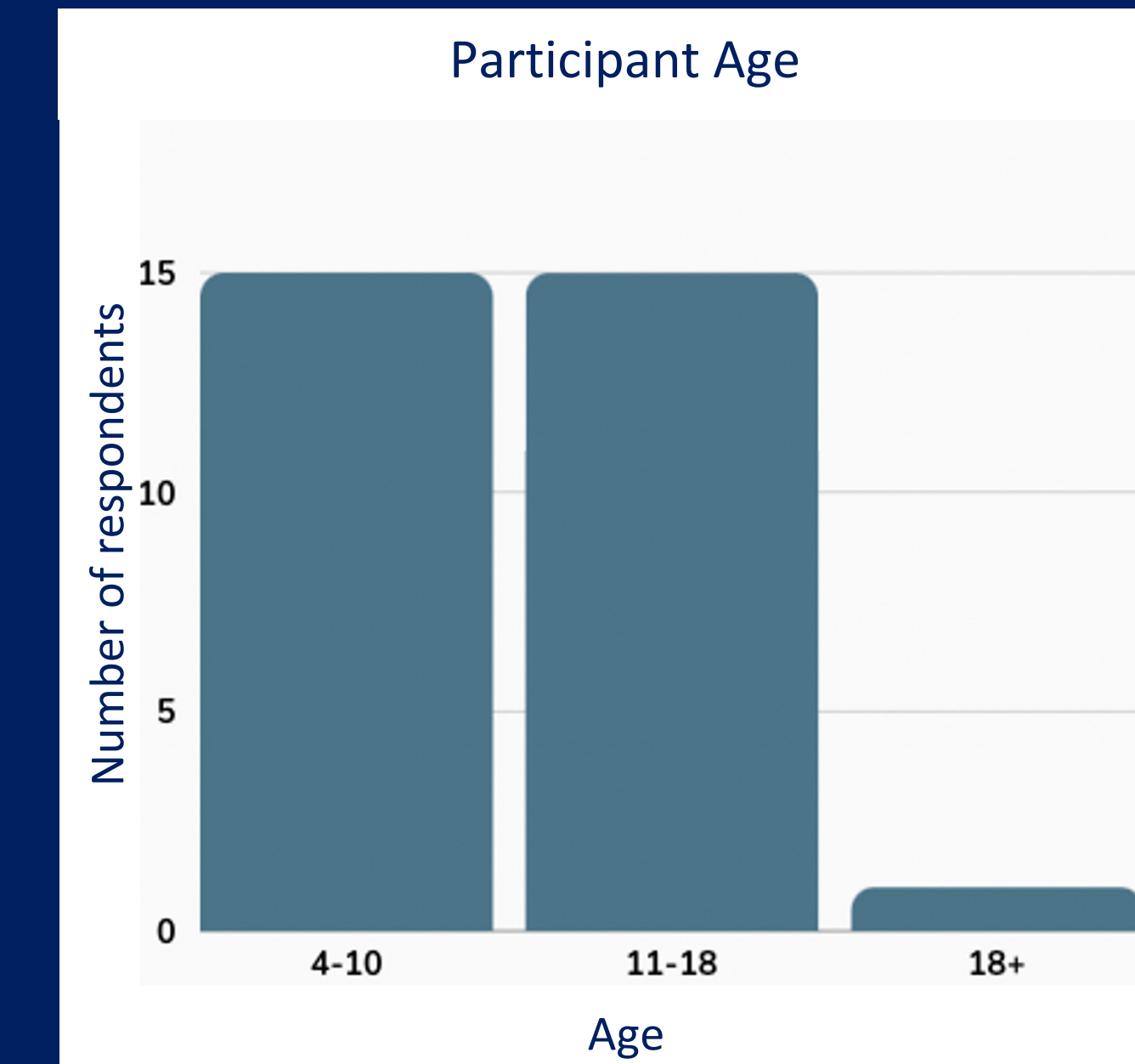
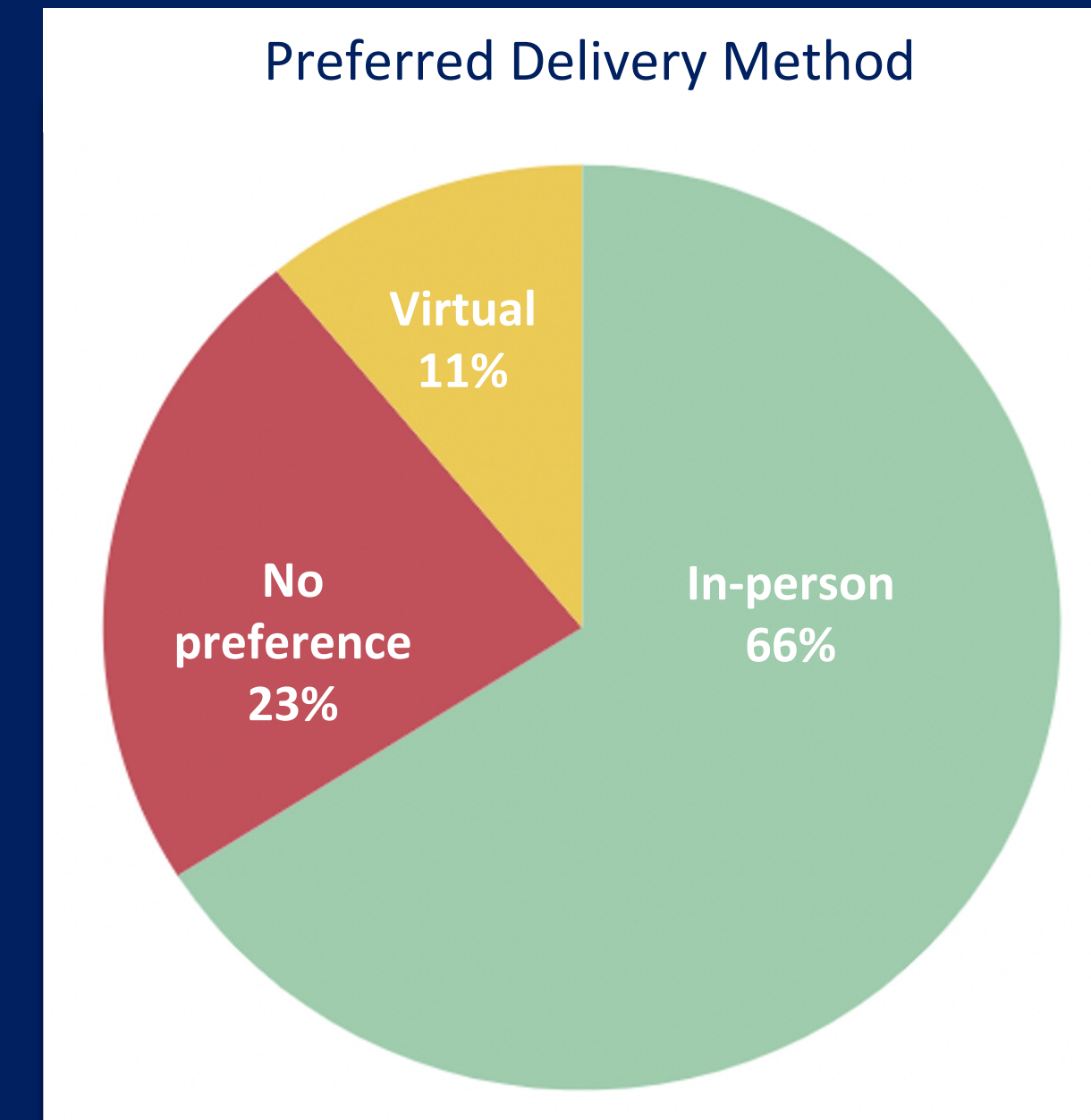
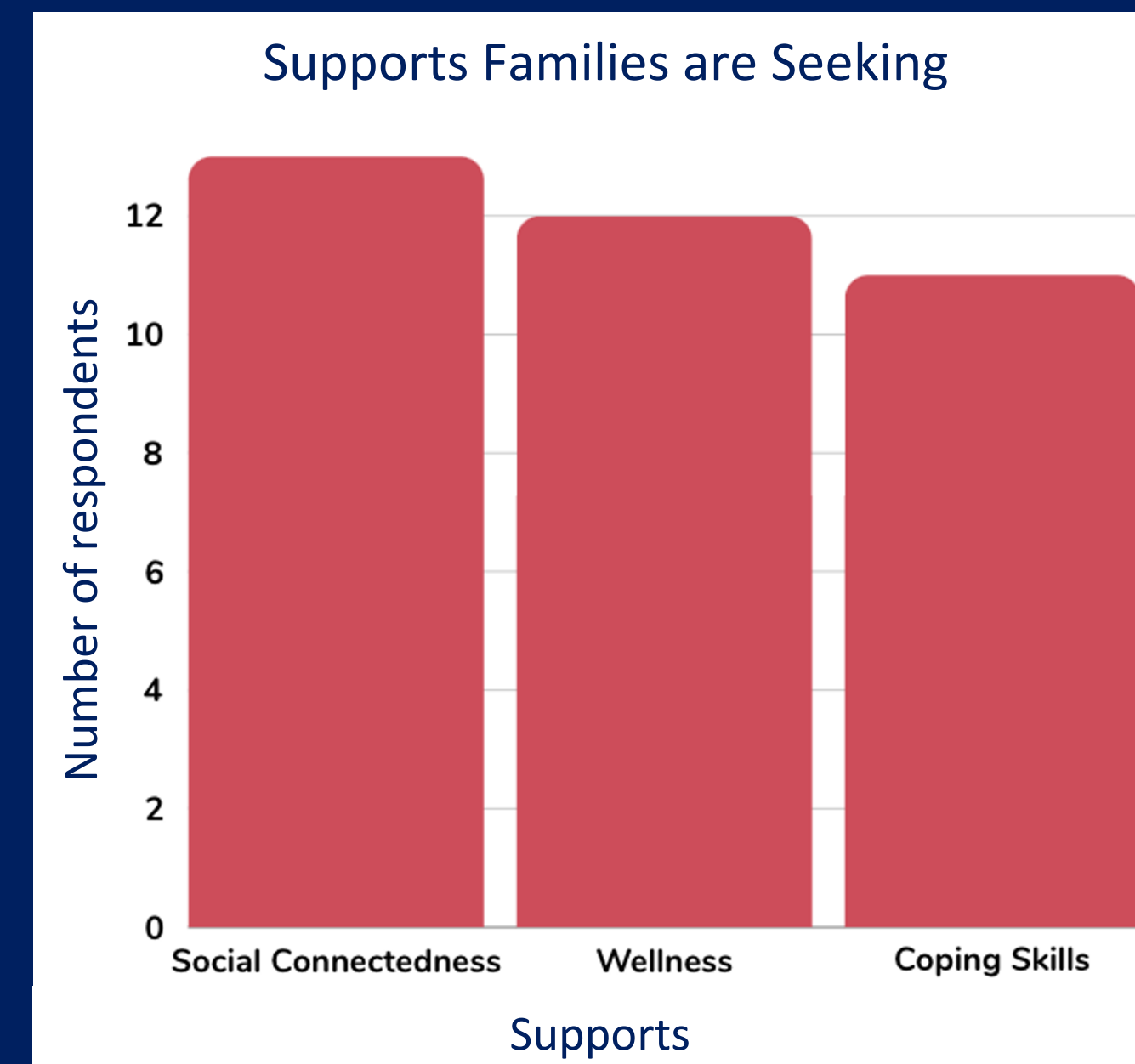
**Procedure:**



**Outcome Measures:**

- Number of **participant** surveys received
- Program areas participants were most **interested** in
- Preferred **delivery** method
- Ages of participants

## Survey Results & Discussion



### Qualitative Data:

- “Distance from site [prevents us from attending events]”
- “Options don’t seem to fit teens”

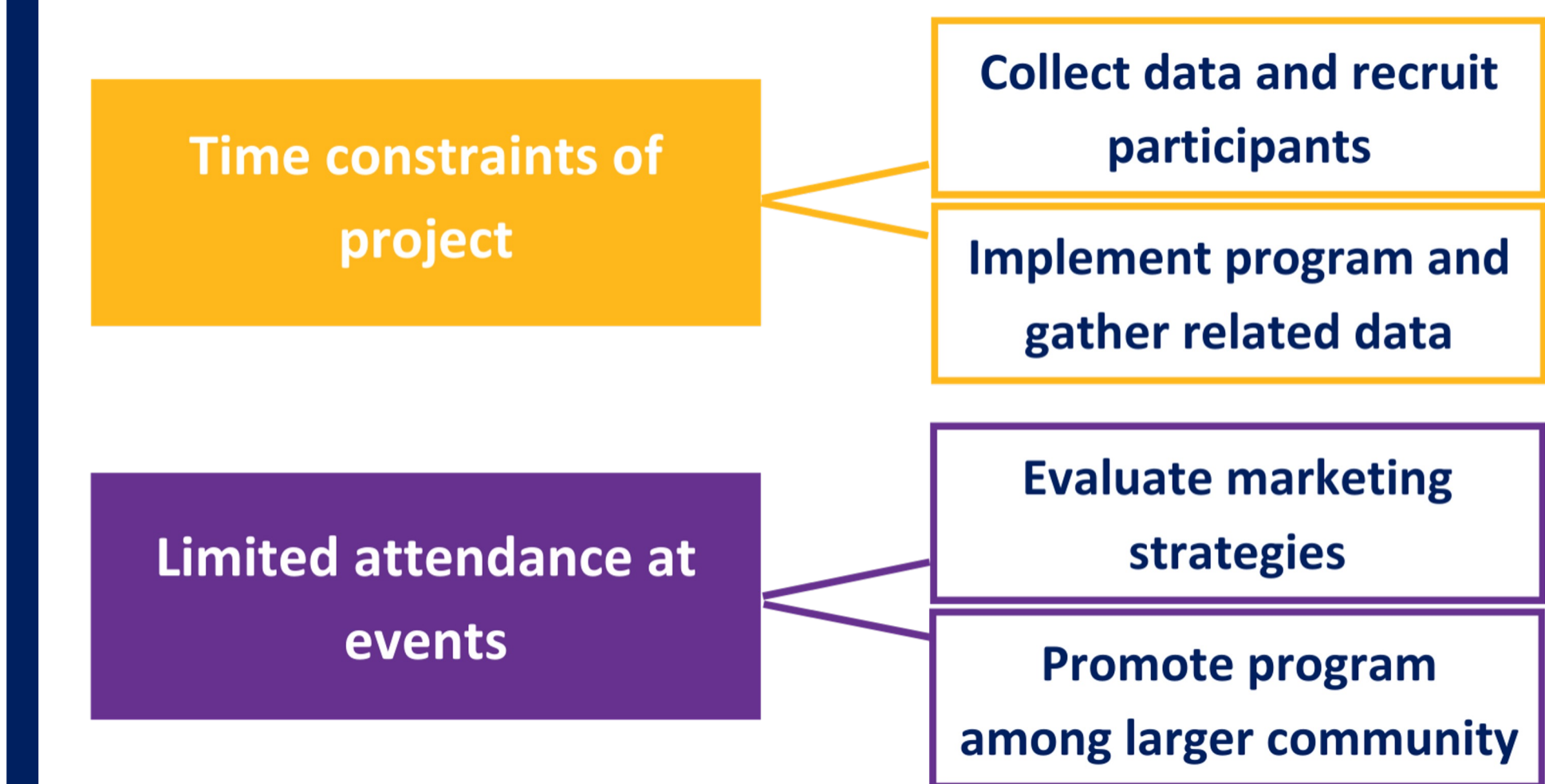
### Key Points Learned:

- Highest attendance points at major organizational events
- Families want mixed participation of youth impacted by their own diagnosis and someone else’s diagnosis

## Discussion

- Meeting need of programming **across ages**
- Staff expressed **positive feedback** related to program materials with desire to continue
- **Interest surveys** were distributed to all teens

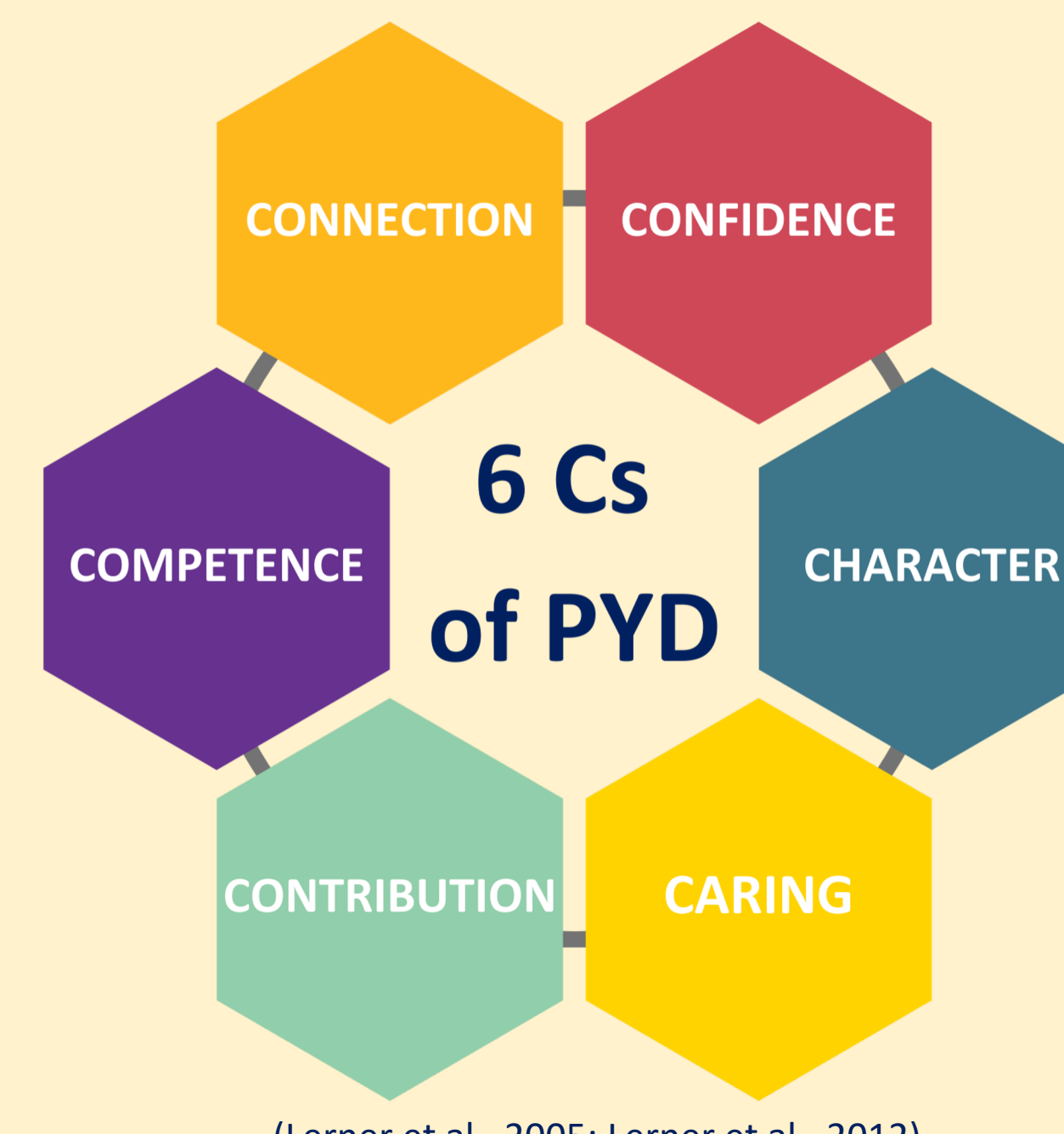
## Limitations & Future Directions



## Program Development

R.E.A.C.H. aims to cultivate leadership skills, promote resilience and coping strategies, and provide ongoing support and resources to teens in the program to advance role competency as mentors.

### The Big 3 of Positive Youth Development (PYD)



## Key Implications for Practice

- OTs are **experts** in community-based program development and can use their scope of practice to nurture adolescents impacted by cancer
- OTs can address role competence, social and emotional health promotion, and social engagement with peers and the community

## Acknowledgements

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## References & Resources

