



## Parent Survey Results

## I. Introduction

Heart-Centered Leadership (HCLF) was established in 2008 with the aim of empowering the youth of Aruba to unleash their full potentials. The foundation works on its mission with its overarching Sustainable Me – We program, which supports young people, youth-serving professionals, and parents by offering different programs that foster personal development and leadership: trainings, seminars, workshops, after school programs, and coaching. Our heart-centered approach focuses on transformation from the inside out, providing young people with the tools to be responsible, respectful and resilient individuals.

In August, we hosted our first Impact Camp, under which we offered EduCare Foundation's 3-day ACE Program to young people between 14 and 21 years old. In the last 5 years, we have offered the ACE Program to 5 secondary schools, each ACE Program catering to 100 students, preceded by a one-day professional development workshop for the teaching and administrative ('directie') staff of the school. This time, Impact Camp offered an open setting of participation for young people.

Impact Camp: ACE Program was held from 12 August to 14 August 2019 and counted with 72 participants, of which 70 completed the program. Impact Camp: ACE Program culminated with a family evening, wherein parents were invited to attend to listen to what the participants experienced during 3-day program.

## II. The Survey

With this ACE Program, we asked parents to share their experience and feedback on the ACE Program with us. A 12-question survey was sent digitally to 38 parents via email. The form included questions in Papiamentu on how parents perceived their child's experience, what they saw in their child after participation in Impact Camp: ACE Program, how they experienced the ACE Family Evening, and their interests in programs offered by Heart-Centered Leadership Foundation.

The survey was sent via email on August 21, 2019 to 38 parents/caregivers. To reach parents whose emails we did not have, a Facebook post was put up asking parents to contact us to fill in the form. A reminder was sent via email to parents on September 4, 2019.

The questions were as follow:

1. On a scale of 1 to 5, with one being terrible and 5 being fantastic, how would you say your child reacted to Impact Camp?
2. What did your child(ren) value most about Impact Camp?
3. What did your child(ren) like least about Impact Camp?
4. What did you notice in your child(ren) after Impact Camp?
5. Were you present during the ACE Family Evening of Impact Camp?
6. On a scale of 1 to 5, how would you rate your experience during Family Evening? (If you were not present during the Family Evening, you may skip this question).
7. What did you like most about Family Evening?
8. What did you like least about Family Evening?
9. How did you hear about Impact Camp?
10. Do you have any comments or suggestions for us about Impact Camp?
11. Are you interested in knowing more about our programs?
12. In the following list you will find all the programs we offer to young people. Of the mentioned program, which are you interested in for your child?

Note: The questionnaire was provided in the Papiamentu language, and as such, answers were given in the Papiamentu language. The results were translated into English for the purpose of this report. Respondents used the pronoun 'e' to refer to their child/children, which in the Papiamentu language does not classify a particular gender. As such, in this report, the 'e' parents refer to in the results is translated to 'they'.

### III. Results

Of the 38 parents who were sent the survey via email, 13 responded (34.2%) by filling in the survey. The respondents were parents or caregivers of participants of Impact Camp. As Impact Camp: ACE Program included participation of siblings, respondents were asked to indicate the sexes of the first participant of Impact Camp and second participant separately, if relevant. The same was done with age.

Most respondents (76.9%) were parents/caregivers to a participant between the age of 12 – 16, while 23.1% were parents/caregivers to a participant between the ages of 17 – 22. The majority of respondents were parents/caregivers to a female participant (53.8%).

The first question asked respondents to rate how their child experienced Impact Camp, with a 1 indicating that the experience was terrible and 5 indicated that the experience was fantastic. The response to this question was positive, with all respondents rating it a 4 or above, with the majority (76.9%) saying their child's experience was a 5 (fantastic).

13 responses

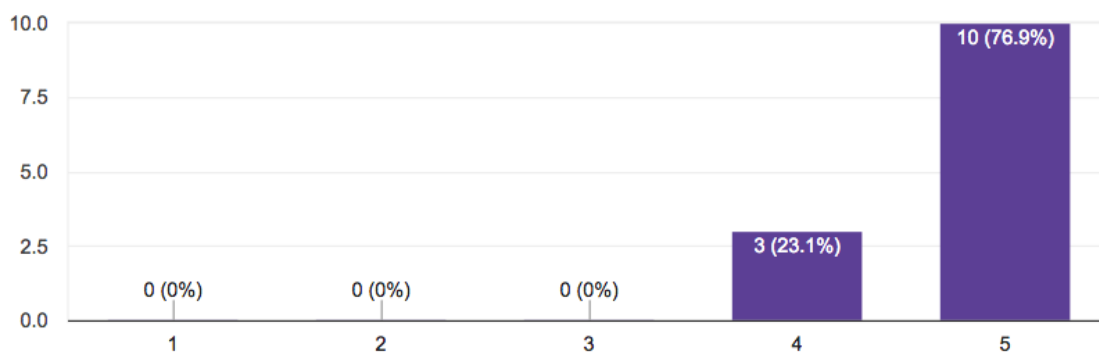


Figure 1. Responses to question 1.

The second question asked respondents what, according to them, their child valued the most about Impact Camp.

The tools that they were given to socialize and how to apply them in life

That they received good guidance from their resource group leader. They liked the activities and learned how to get out of their comfort zones, and how to be themselves.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Interaction with people who are usually out of their usual environment                                    | Interaction with other young people and learned more about her character/personality  |
| The motivation to express themselves and to continue to fight for what they want to achieve in the future | My child's experience was a little emotional, in a good way, because a lot of participants came forward and shared things that my child too was struggling with. They told me they cried several times but in a positive sense. Because my child always thought that they were the only one experiencing something. And they learned that there are more people who are going through the same thing. |
| Getting out of their comfort zone and make new friends  | The friends that they made during the camp  |
| Getting out of their comfort zone   | Make more friends   |
| Self-confidence   | Communication   |

Table 1 . Responses to question 2.

Getting out of their comfort zone, opportunities to express themselves, experiencing relatable moments with other participants, and meeting new friends were overarching themes that parents said their children valued most about Impact Camp.

When it comes to what participants liked *least* about Impact Camp, parents said the following:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| They liked everything   | No, they liked it.  |
| They didn't comment on anything negative.   |   |
| What they didn't like was when there were interruptions during activities and they had to start again   |   |
| That the food was not nutritious, or what there was provided was not enough for the whole day. Also that they were tired and had enough of the program by the end of the day. | They didn't comment on anything negative, just that they like to eat a lot and I told them that they didn't go to [Impact] camp to eat. |
| The food.   |   |
| Being the youngest among the participants, they did not make friends and felt at the beginning alone.   |   |
| Too much story telling  |   |
| Not relevant  | I don't know.   |

|  |
|--|
| That they had to stand and talk in front of other participants           |
| That the international facilitator could not connect with the youngsters |

Table 2. Responses to question 3.

Five parents shared that they did not have anything negative to share of their child’s experience. The second most common topic was about food – how the food was not enough or not nutritious enough.

The fourth question asked what parents noticed in their children after Impact Camp. Parents shared the following:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| They focus more on how to communicate better   |  |
| They are more open when talking to me  | They are more open, more social, and have more courage/dare to do more                             |
| They are calmer and analyze [things] better  | They are more open in their conversations and tries new things that before she would not have done |
| More open in conversations   | The communication with others.   |
| It’s a little too soon to comment on but one thing she does now is that she ignores nasty comments and does not take them personally. It’s more of a posture of ignoring the comments. |  |
| Getting out of their comfort zone  |  |
| They are kind and understanding now  |  |
| More confident, more open to talk about things that they wouldn’t before   |  |
| I didn’t notice a lot in my case. It’s like they forgot what they learned, but I have the impression that they will do better at school, by being more open to make friends.           |  |
| One time they expressed themselves with me and said that they appreciate me.   |  |

Table 3. Responses to question 4.

Twelve of the 13 respondents saw an immediate shift in their children’s behavior, with the most common one being how they communicate. One parent indicated that they had not seen any new behavior in their child, but believed their child would show a change at school and with friends.

Out of the 13 respondents, 12 (92.3%) were present at the culminating event of Impact Camp, which was ACE Family Evening. Respondents scored their experience during the ACE Family Evening very positive. Out of a score of 5, all respondents scored it above a 3: the majority of respondents (66.7%)

gave the ACE Family Evening a score of 5, while 25% (3 respondents) gave it a score of 4 and 8.3% (1 respondent) gave it a score of 3.

When asked what they liked most about Family Evening, respondents had this to say:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| The part where parents expressed the value of their children   | That I could express to my child what I wanted to. (positive).               |
| What I liked the most is when we did Heart Talk  | How some participants and parents expressed their feelings                   |
| That you could see what your child did during the 3 days and to get to share with your child. And the Heart Talk.  | That parents could share and express their feelings towards the participants |
| The reaction of the young people   | The moment where our child could express themselves to us.                   |
| To see how the group of young people interacted with each other  | Sit and give appreciation  |
| Because I worked late, I arrived an hour late. So I got there just as the last set of parents were talking to their children. Personally I found that very great. Besides that, it was good. | How different parents spoke to their children                                |

Table 4. Responses to question 7.

The following question asked parents what they liked least about Family Evening.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Everything was great!  | I liked everything about the family evening.  |
| I liked everything.  | Nothing.  |
| There's a need for a little more coordination so that the night runs more smoothly   | There are stories that are not related to the topic   |
| For me it was the location. To live and work 'above the bridge' [the southern side of the island] makes it a little difficult to make it on time. I like being a punctual person and unfortunately I missed a lot. But I understand that it remains difficult to please all. | There is a need for better coordination. It gave the impression that things were a little disorganized. |
| Everything was sublime.  | Everything was nice.  |

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| The international facilitator looked like he wasn't organized. | Not relevant. |
|--|---------------|

Table 5. Responses to question 8.

The rest of the questions asked how respondents learned about Impact Camp, overall comments or suggestions, and their interests on programs offered by HCLF.

13 responses

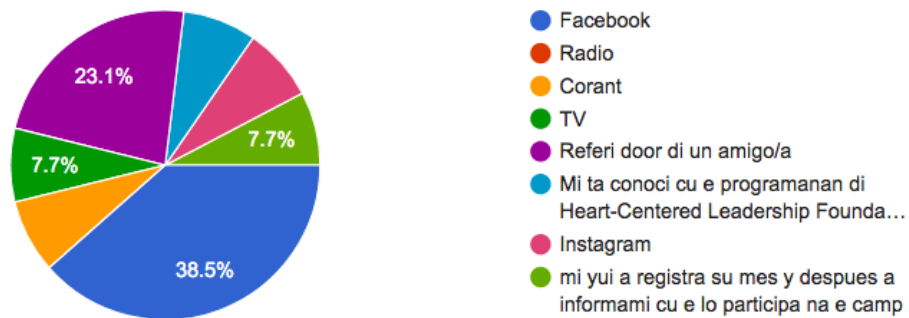


Figure 2

Majority of respondents (38.5%) indicated that Facebook was the platform from which they learned about Impact Camp, followed by referrals by friends (23.1%). The other options had equal respondents. Of the 12 respondents of this question, all (100%) indicated that they would like to know more about Heart-Centered Leadership Foundation's programs (figure 3).

12 responses

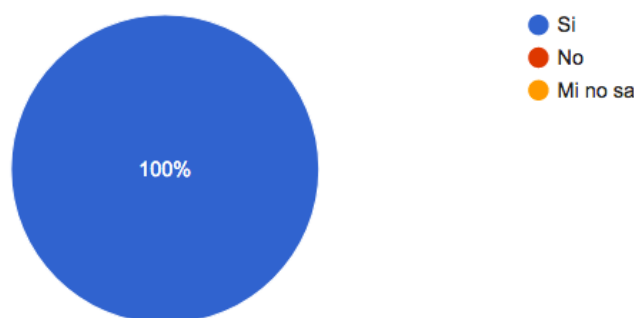


Figure 3

The next question asked respondents which of Heart-Centered Leadership Foundation's programs they would be interested in for their children. This question was a multiple response question, meaning respondents could choose more than 1 answer. Out of 12 respondents, the program that most respondents (83.3%) were interested in was 'The Road to Success'



motivational sessions on goal-setting and visualization, followed by 'Impact Your Future' sessions on professional skills and attitude development. Other programs that respondents were most interested in were 'The Power Within Me' trainings (66.7%), 'Impact Your Life' sessions (58.3%), and 'Impact Camp' seminars (58.3%).

12 responses

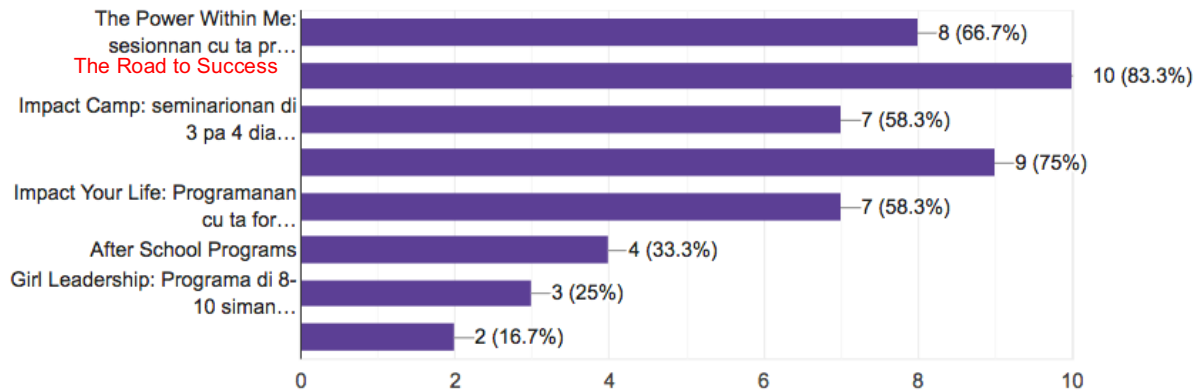


Figure 5.

The list of activities respondents could choose from were as follows:

1. The Power Within Me: sessions that promote different social emotional skills
2. The Road to Success: motivational sessions on goal-setting and visualization
3. Impact Camp: 3 to 4-day seminars that foster personal leadership (ACE Program and Insight Seminars).
4. Impact Your Future: programs that promote development of professional skills and attitude
5. Impact Your Life: programs that strengthen personal development, personal leadership, and social-emotional skills.
6. After School Programs
7. Girl Leadership: 8-10 week program on leadership for young women
8. Boy Leadership: 8-10 week program on leadership for young men.

Finally, respondents were asked if they had any additional comments or suggestions for the foundation. Twelve respondents answered this question.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| No   | Tremendous project   |
| It would be great if the camp were a week long. Maybe a follow-up meeting with the participants this year, like a before and after. And also to have this camp twice a year to give other young people and schools a chance to participate | Keep it up for all summers.  |
| If things like these could happen with more frequency, especially for youth. There are not a lot of activities during school vacations for young people. Things like this are positive for them.   | Keep doing a good job and maybe involve a moment with a local professional on leadership for the young people to see and listen to a local leader. |
| Not relevant.  | Make it possible for more young people to participate  |
| That the camp were at least 5 days long instead of 3.  | Good job.  |
| Keep up the good work and give young people/participants better food.  | That there is a follow-up program so that they don't forget what they learned.   |

Overall, the response from respondents on Impact Camp: ACE Program, and the ACE Family Evening that concluded the 3-day program was very positive. The need for more program of this quality and caliber is resonated by the response from parents and caregivers.