

THE 8TH ANNUAL

# READY BY 21 NATIONAL MEETING REPORT



Seattle, Washington | April 23 - 25, 2019



[www.readyby21.org/nationalmeeting](http://www.readyby21.org/nationalmeeting)

#rb21



the  
forum  
FOR YOUTH INVESTMENT

# 2019 National Meeting At-A-Glance

650+

Youth development leaders convened at the 2019 Ready by 21 National Meeting in Seattle

38

38 states were represented at this year's National Meeting – plus Washington, D.C., Guam and the United Kingdom!

35.7k

Highest number of Tweet impressions in the Forum for Youth Investment's history!

55 Learning sessions

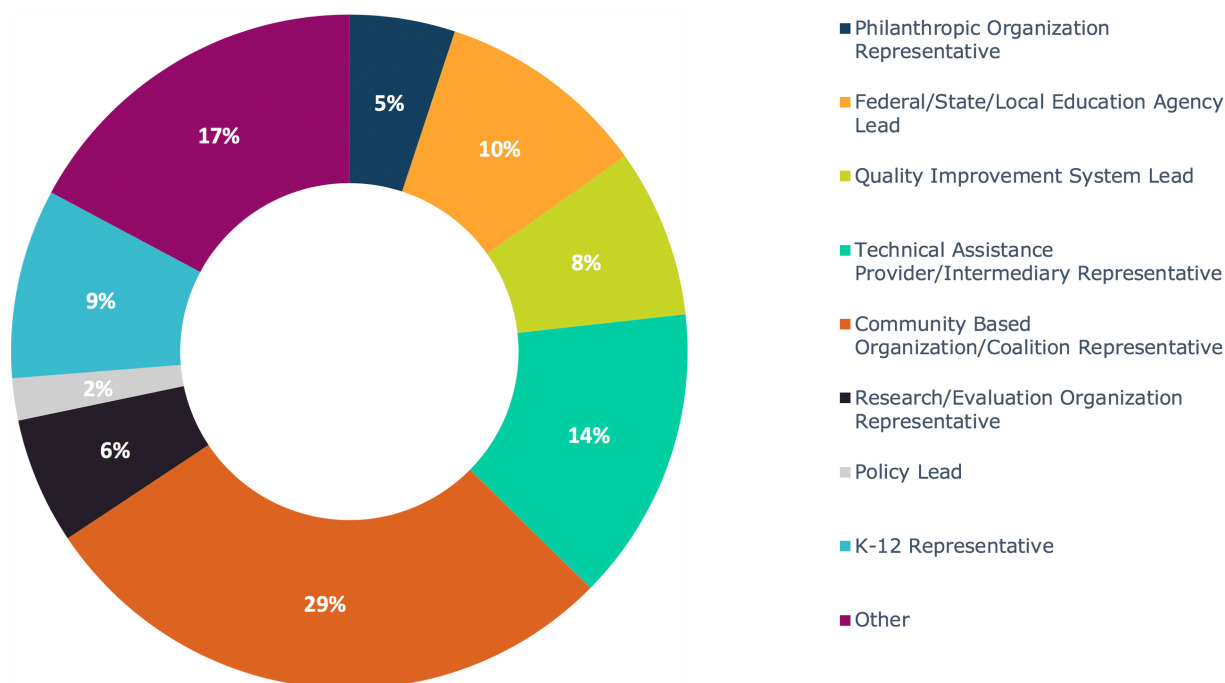
25 Peer Roundtables

4 Plenaries

3 Pre-meetings

2 Networking Receptions

## Profile of participants



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## PRAISE FROM ATTENDEES

**"The conference was amazing! I walked away with a great deal of information and look forward to sharing what I learned with my teammates and students!"**

**"I have worked in the field of out of school time for the past 11 years, and I have attended upwards of 10 conferences. From my experience, this was the best conference that I've ever attended."**

**"I felt a connection with others working in the youth development field. The meeting provided an opportunity to connect with others who spoke the same SEL language and who had the same desire and drive to make a real difference in the lives of those we serve."**

**"The Breakout sessions were well-prepared and speakers tuned into the needs of people attending the sessions."**

**"It feels like a family reunion. Strangely comfortable, I sat next to strangers and started random but good conversations."**

**"It drew a very diverse set of people--across geographies, roles and positions, types of organizations. It was a unique chance to meet and network with a range of colleagues whose work is relevant to mine."**

**"I was given a new vocabulary to use when speaking about readiness and learning."**

**"Learning from national leaders in-person and having the opportunity to ask questions is helpful. Also, the national meeting has a good balance of learning from national leaders and also from peers. It's a great combination for not only learning, but also planning for implementation."**

**"As a developing manager, I believe that this conference allowed me opportunities to think and discover the type of manager I want to be/become."**

## 2019 Evaluation Summary

Statements (on a scale from 1 “strongly disagree” to 4 “strongly agree”)	2019 Mean
Meeting was well organized.	3.71
I was satisfied with the registration process.	3.64
Information/materials received during registration were informative and useful.	3.56
The staff was helpful and courteous.	3.76
Hotel layout and accommodations were adequate.	3.53
Food served at the meeting met my expectations.	3.45
Meeting was held at a convenient time of year.	3.40
I found out about the meeting in a timely manner.	3.54
The Ready by 21 National Meeting was a worthwhile experience.	3.61
I left the Ready by 21 National Meeting with new energy and inspiration to apply to my work.	3.48
After attending the Ready by 21 National Meeting, I have new knowledge and resources to apply to my work.	3.46
Overall, I believe I obtained the knowledge necessary to share the Ready by 21 key ideas back in my community.	3.42
I achieved a good return on my investment considering the entire cost of attendance.	3.30
I would recommend the conference to a colleague.	3.51
I plan to attend the next Ready by 21 National Meeting.	3.24
Information received leading up to the meeting (e.g. blogs from Karen Pittman, logistics, special announcements) were informative and useful.	3.57
I would recommend coming as part of a group	3.45



## Local Youth Performance Groups

Every year, we showcase the talent of young people and organizations that are helping them foster it. This year, we had six groups that performed at various points of the conference.



# the forum

## FOR YOUTH INVESTMENT

is the proud parent organization of:



DAVID P. WEIKART  
CENTER FOR YOUTH  
PROGRAM QUALITY



**The Forum for Youth Investment** was founded in 1998 with a tagline of moving ideas to impact. Our work is carried out in the nation's capital and in more than 35 states by the 50 staff and dozens of consultants associated with our two offices in Washington, D.C., and Ypsilanti, Mich. Our mission: changing the odds that all children and youth are ready for college, work and life.

The Forum is committed to changing the odds that all children and youth are ready for college, work and life. We connect leaders to ideas, services and networks that can help them make more intentional decisions that are good for young people, even in the face of limited resources. We help leaders who are trying to improve & align policies, plan & partner for impact, and/or strengthen programs & adult practice.

We are the home of several leading technical assistance centers (such as the Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality and Big Picture Approach Consulting) and projects & initiatives (from the Opportunity Youth Network to SparkAction to the Children's Cabinet Network). Within the national youth development community, the Forum is a trusted voice, connector and field builder at a time when the field has lost many such organizations.



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