

PYD in the Canadian Jamat



Topic 2 Building the 40 Assets

2.3 Helping Our Youth Find Their Sparks

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT THEME MANAGEMENT TEAM
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Module Overview



Module

Topic 1 – PYD Fundamentals

- 1.1 What are PYD and the 40 Assets?
- 1.2 The Current State of PYD Within Our Jamat

Topic 2 – Building the 40 Assets

- 2.1 Building Assets in the Canadian Jamat
- 2.2 Targeting Segments in Asset Building
- 2.3 Helping Our Youth Find Their Sparks**

Topic 3 – Institutional Tools

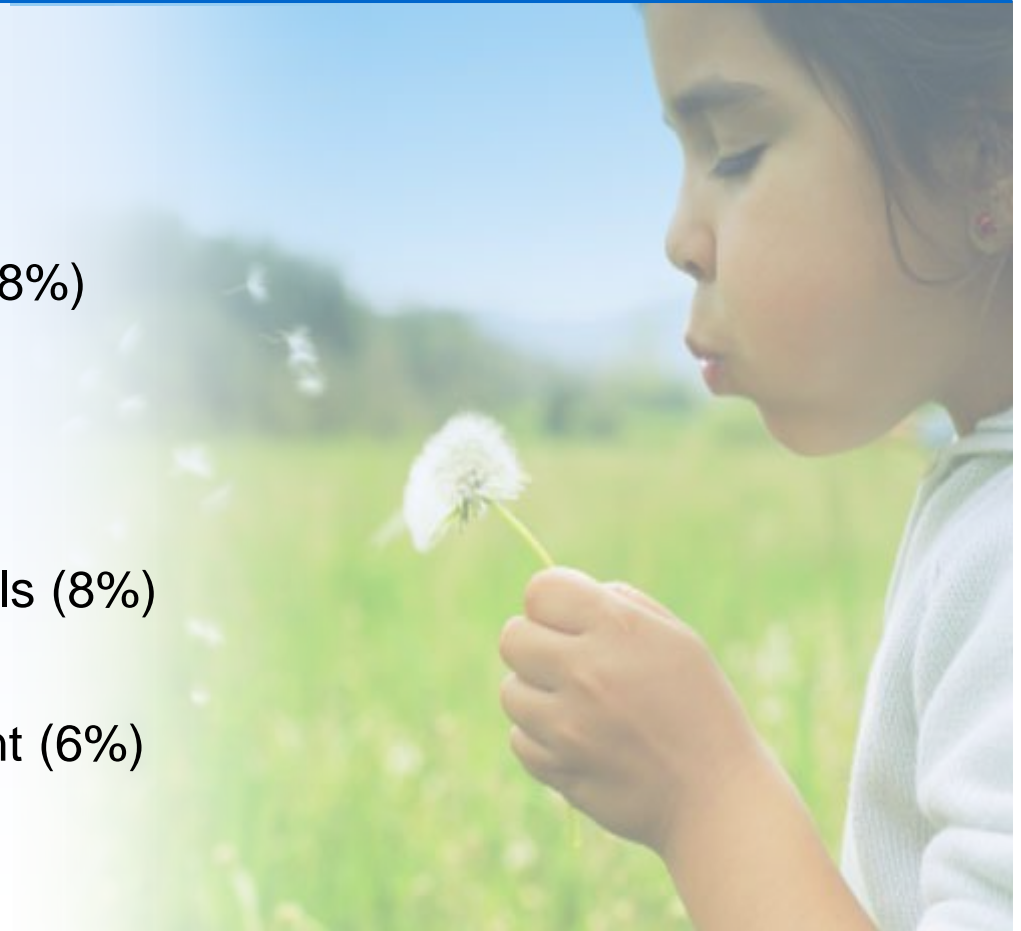
- 3.1 Implementing PYD Within the Jamat
- 3.2 Program Evaluation Toolkit

What is a spark?

“Sparks are the hidden flames in your kids that light their proverbial fire, get them excited, tap into their true passion,”

Sparks can be:

- Creative arts (54%)
- Athletics (25%)
- Learning a subject matter (18%)
- Reading (11%)
- Serving, volunteering (10%)
- Being a leader (10%)
- Caring/advocating for animals (8%)
- An attitude towards life (7%)
- Nature, ecology, environment (6%)
- Spirituality, religion (2%)



Why do sparks matter?

When young people develop a spark with the support of adults, research shows that they...

Have:

- Higher grades in school
- Better school attendance

Are more likely to:

- Be socially competent
- Be physically healthy
- Volunteer
- Care about the environment
- Have a sense of purpose

And less likely to:

- Experience depression
- Engage in acts of violence



Expert Perspective – Sparks: How Youth Thrive



*Peter L. Benson, president and CEO of Minneapolis-based Search Institute, is one of the world's leading authorities on positive human development. Dr. Benson is the author or editor of more than a dozen books on child and adolescent development and social change, including, most recently, *Sparks: How Parents Can Help Ignite the Hidden Strengths of Teenagers*. [View video](#)*