



Summary: December 2022 Kids Garden Community Member Survey Results

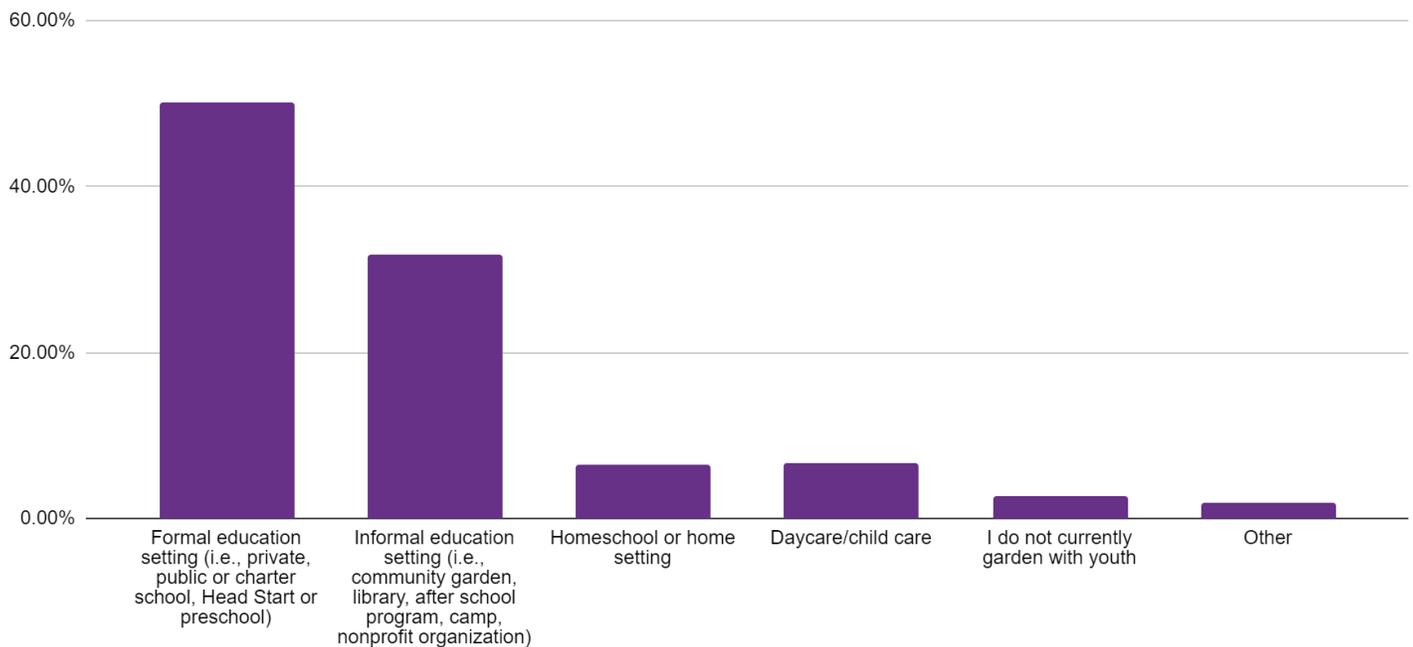
Thank you to everyone who completed the annual member survey! Below is a summary of the most relevant questions and key themes from the open-response questions related to improving the Community and the support/resources that members identified as most needed.

This survey was sent to 3473 Kids Garden Community members in December 2022.

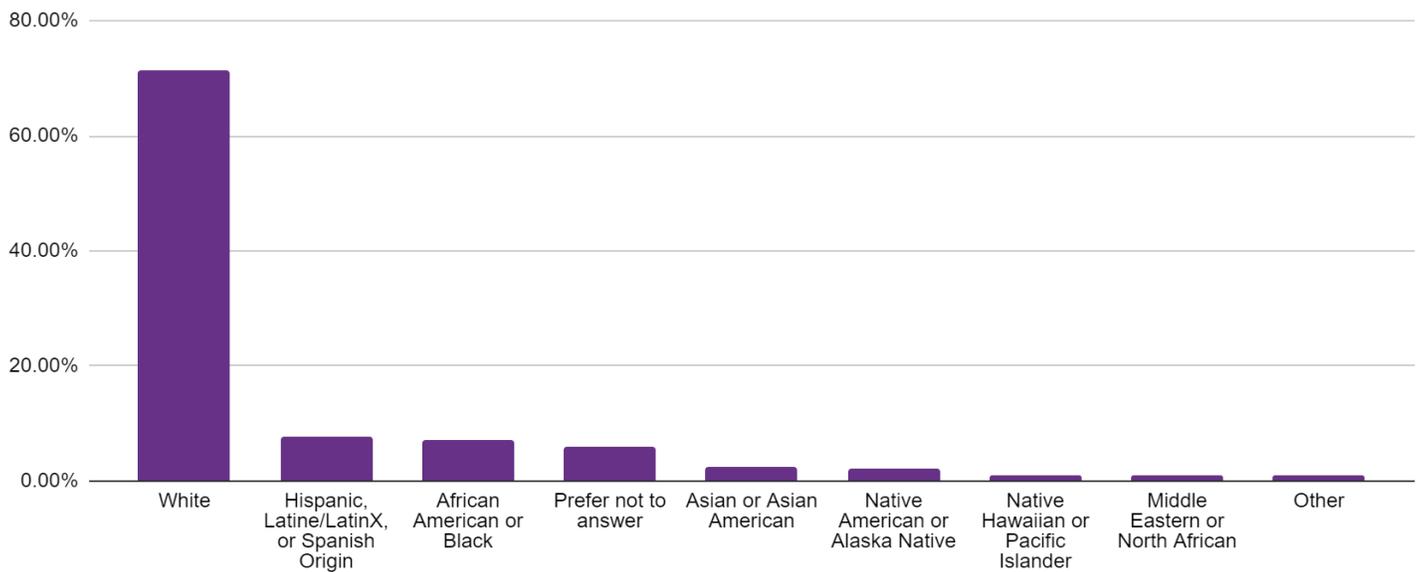
Total Completed Responses — 400

Response Rate — 11.5%

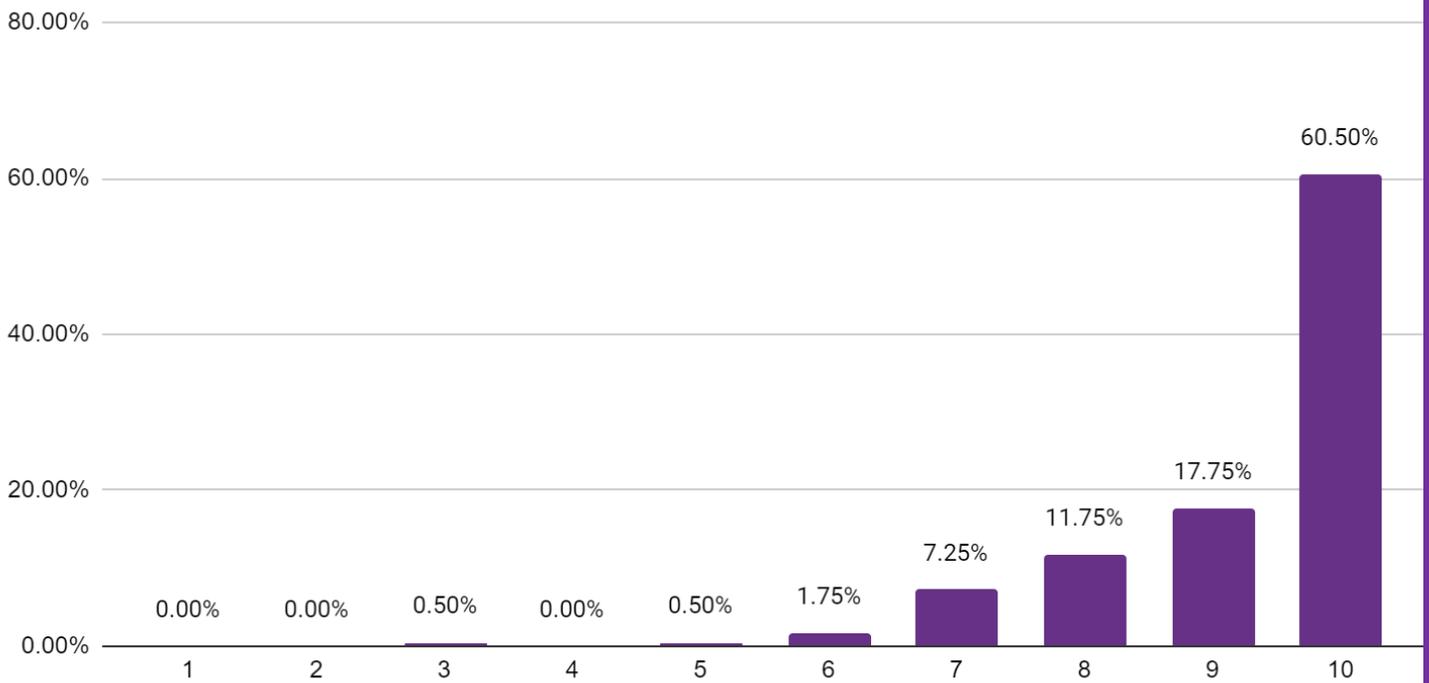
Where do you garden with youth? (Select all that apply)



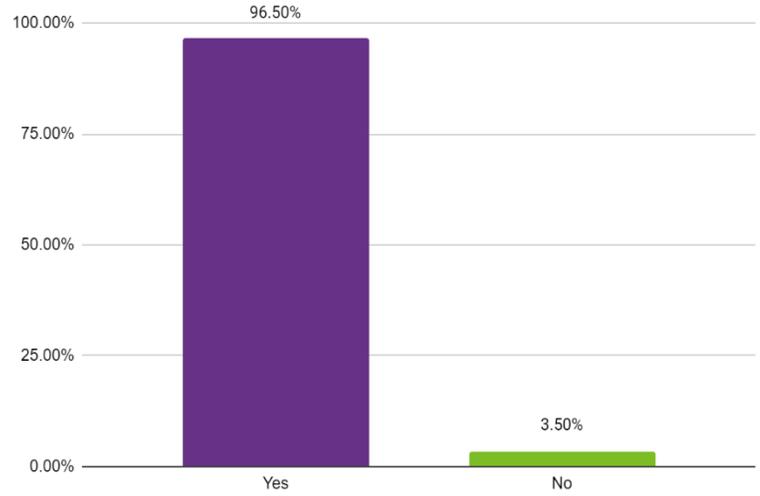
I identify as: (Select all that apply)



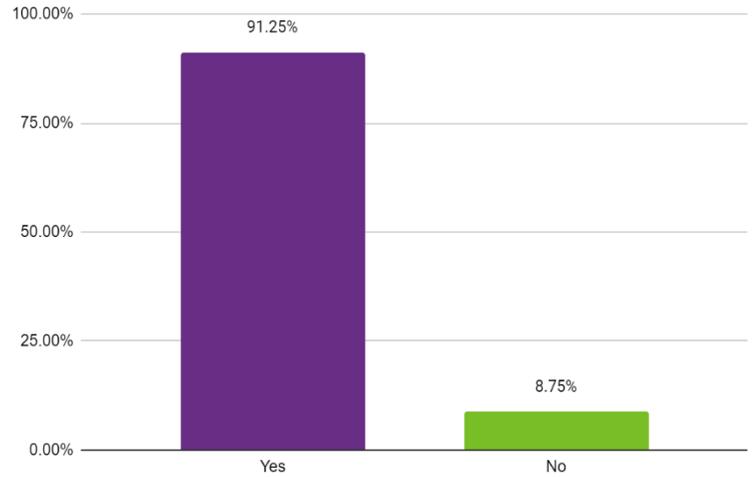
How likely are you to recommend the Kids Garden Community to a colleague or friend?



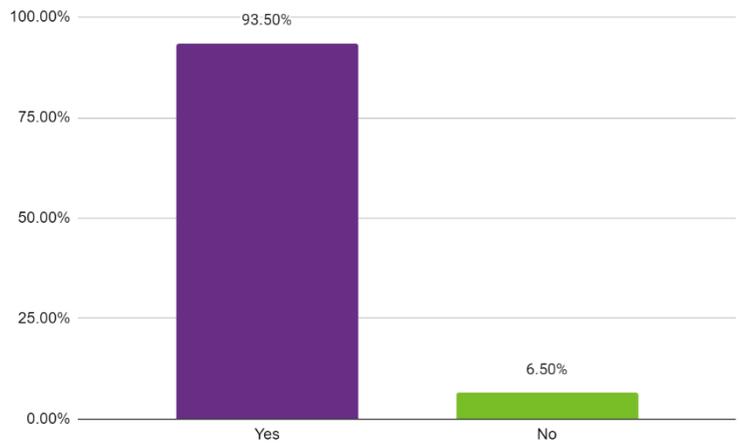
Does being a member of the Kids Garden Community make you feel more connected to the youth garden movement?



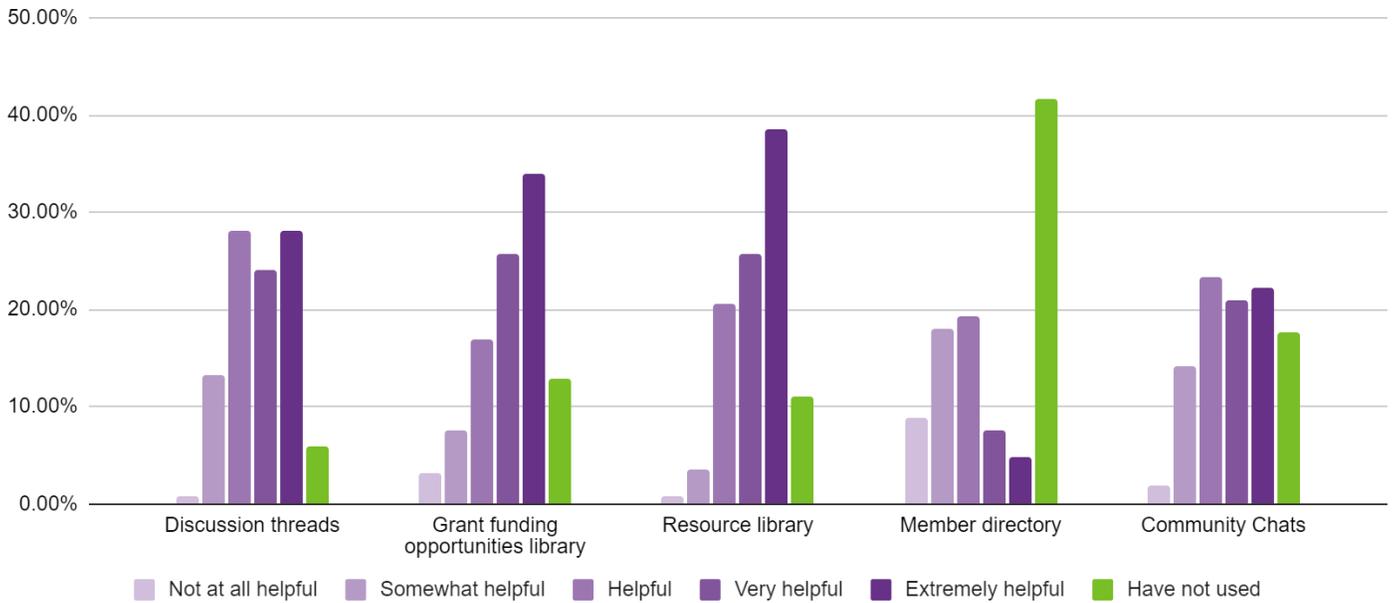
Have you learned new things about gardening with kids by being a member of the Kids Garden Community?



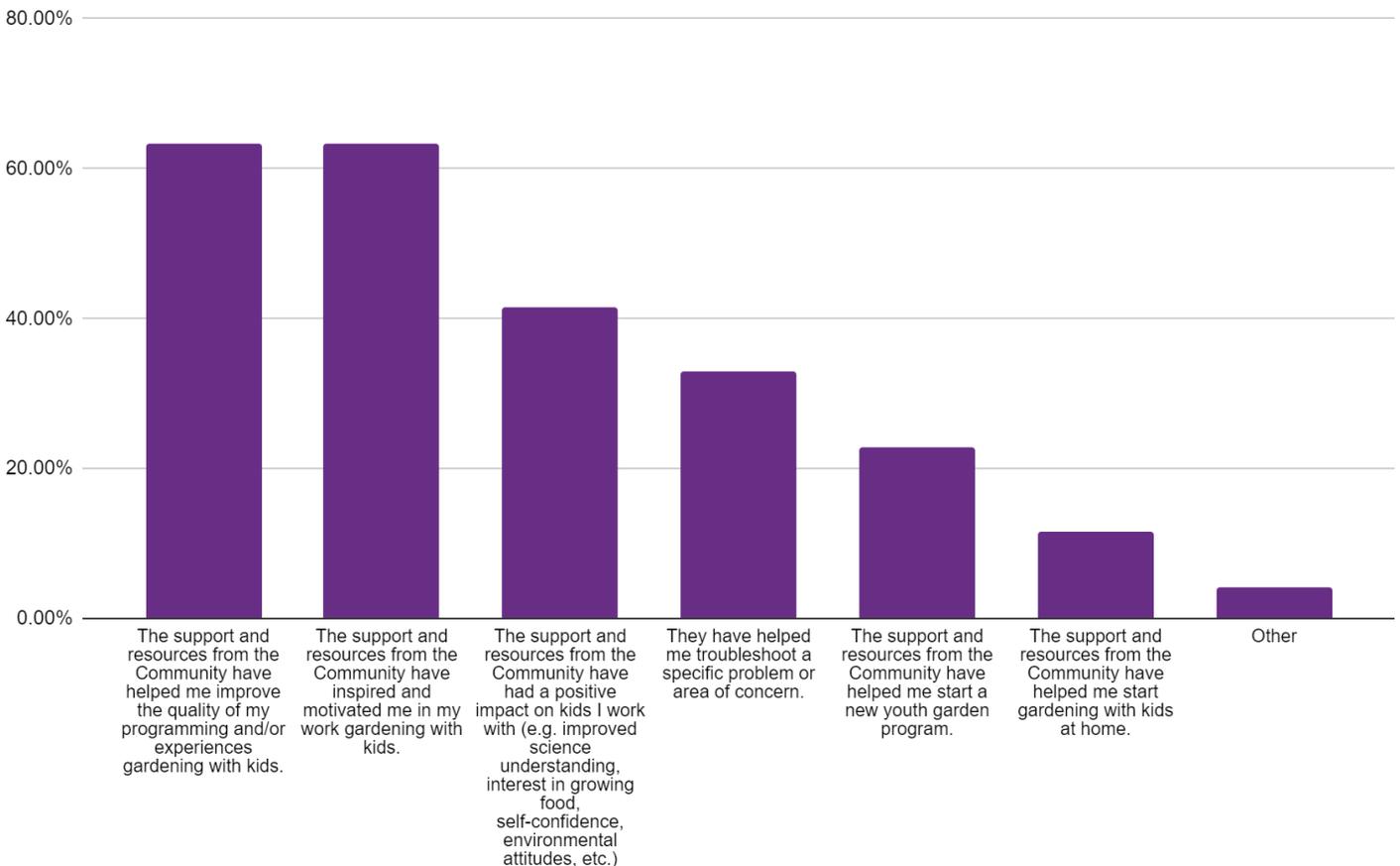
Has being a member of the Kids Garden Community better equipped you to garden with kids?



What support and which resources have been the most helpful to you?

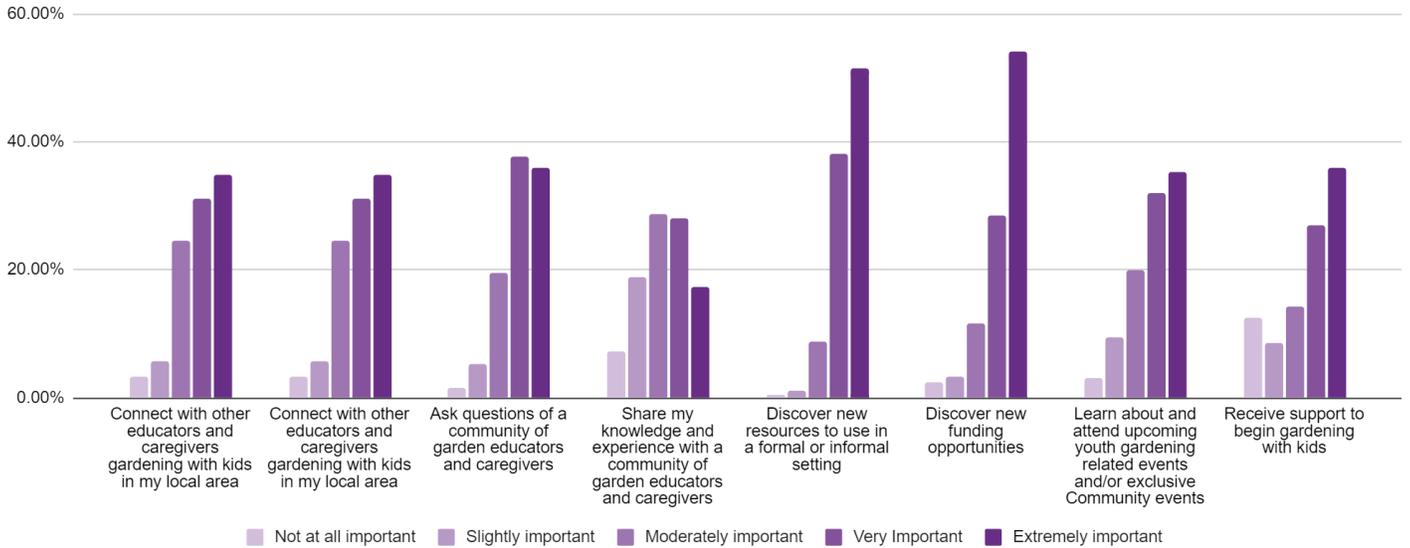


How have the support and resources in the Kids Garden Community better equipped you to garden with kids? (Select all that apply)

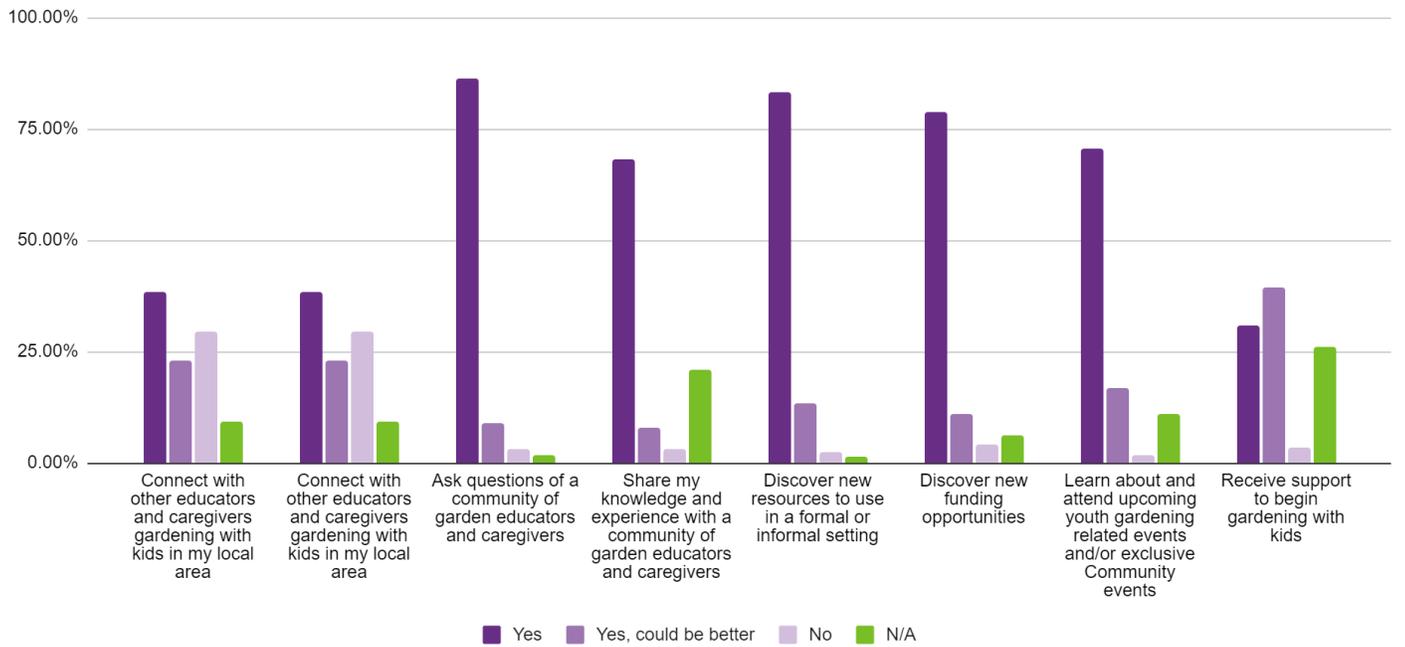


Rank how important each of the following reasons for joining the Kids Garden Community is to you AND indicate if the Kids Garden Community has met each need:

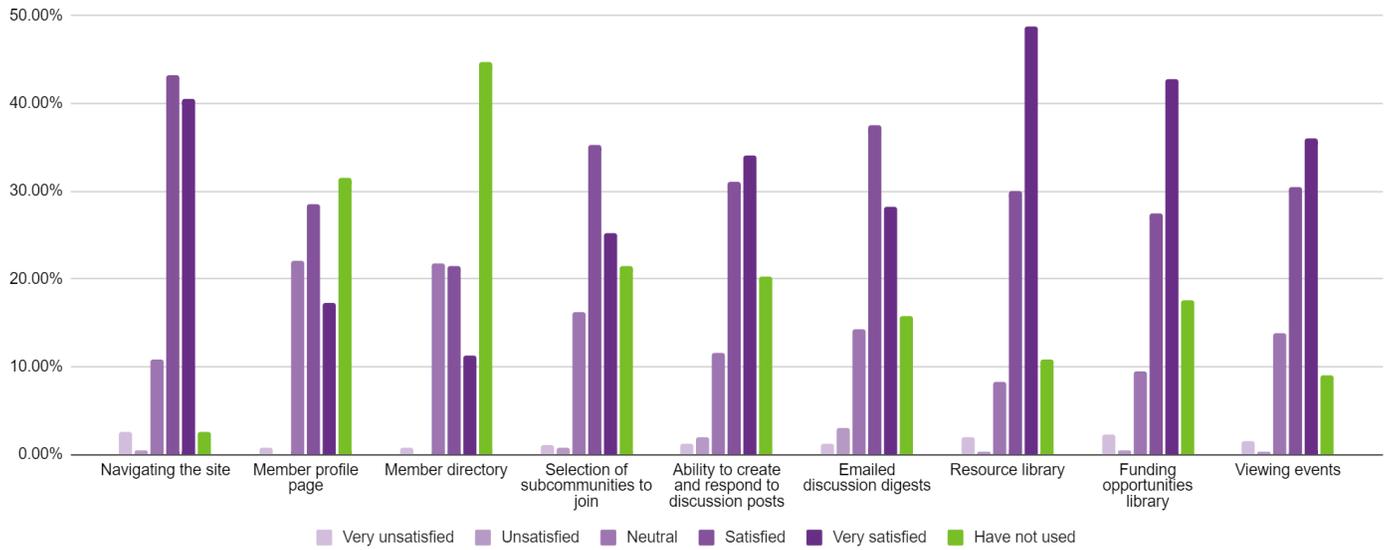
Importance of Reason for Joining



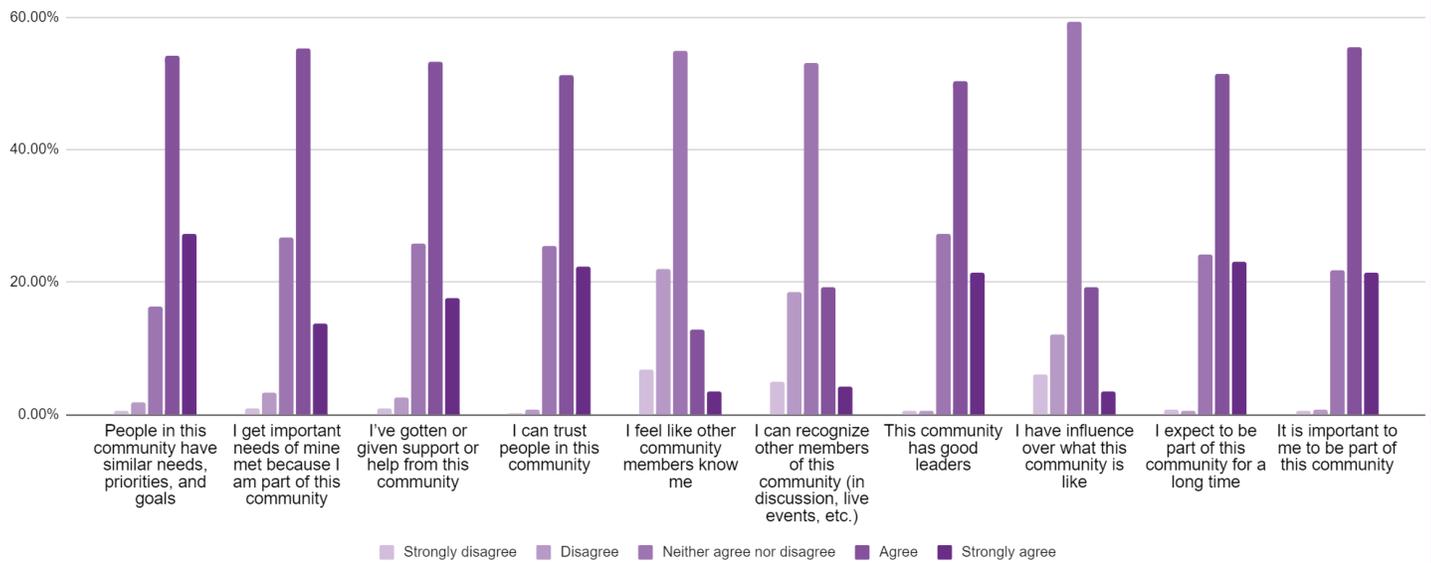
Has the Community Met the Need?



How satisfied are you with the features and functionality in the Kids Garden Community? Consider ease of use, design, options available, content, etc.



Indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statements:



Open response key themes and ideas related to improving Community functionality, resources, and offerings:

*** indicates a comment that was mentioned more than once

- **Support for specific age groups and program types**
 - ***More resources for childcare centers
 - ***More resources for nonprofits
 - ***More resources for children under 5
 - ***More resources for high school aged children
 - More resources and members from public/historic gardens
 - More resources for community gardens
 - More grant offerings for child care centers, nonprofits, and specifically those that serve less than 10 youth at a time (e.g. transitional housing programs)
 - More networking opportunities for library gardens

- **Desired support related to networking and inspiration**
 - ***More local meetups and regional groups (occasional local in-person meetups)
 - More interactive virtual events
 - One-on-one mentoring
 - More pictures of garden projects
 - Videos of members and their gardens; maybe a YouTube video series of gardens around the country
 - Being able to connect with companies that will sponsor their garden needs

- **Comments related to improving site features and functionality**
 - Difficult to navigate and needs a simpler layout for discussions
 - Feels more like a newsletter than a forum to connect
 - Discussions need more organizing and could be broken up by category
 - ***Emails are hard to navigate and follow the flow of a conversation
 - Have more resources in the emails rather than just discussions

- **Topic-specific content needs**
 - Ideas for budget gardens and native planting
 - Cold weather summer gardening
 - Indigenous foods local to an area
 - Connecting children's books with gardening activities
 - Resources for students with mental and emotional disabilities
 - Aeroponic and vertical gardening
 - Working in underfunded urban communities
 - Connecting the garden to standardized curriculum
 - Fostering parent support and sustaining gardens without constant need for grant funds
 - Involving the whole school in utilizing the garden
 - Content ideas for a school garden binder that includes garden rules, month-by-month or seasonal garden tasks, year-round activities by grade, year-round activities for student garden club, annual budget/supplies, etc
 - Faith-based resources
 - Plants for gardening with specific age groups
 - Crop planning
 - Pollinator gardens

- Winter gardening and seed starting
- Organic farming

- **Other comments:**

- Forum for sharing activities and lessons, particularly easy 30 minute activities
- Hands-on in-person education program classes
- Seed swap list of schools
- Standards attached to lessons for teachers
- Continuing education page that offers classes/workshops for different regions
- ***More garden advocacy
- Keep adding collaborative partners that support this work
- I would love to see more communication between the schools and the local community and beyond to our state representatives
- Garden signage help or templates (More inexpensive high quality signage options similar to Life Lab offerings)
- More free courses
- General info on grant applications
- How-to webinars
- Access to recorded webinars all in one place
- Community feels very big and anonymous.
- Helpful to see the open and closed dates for grants likely to open again in the future
- Team up with NAAEE and botanical gardens for events
- Awards for schools for having gardens through this community