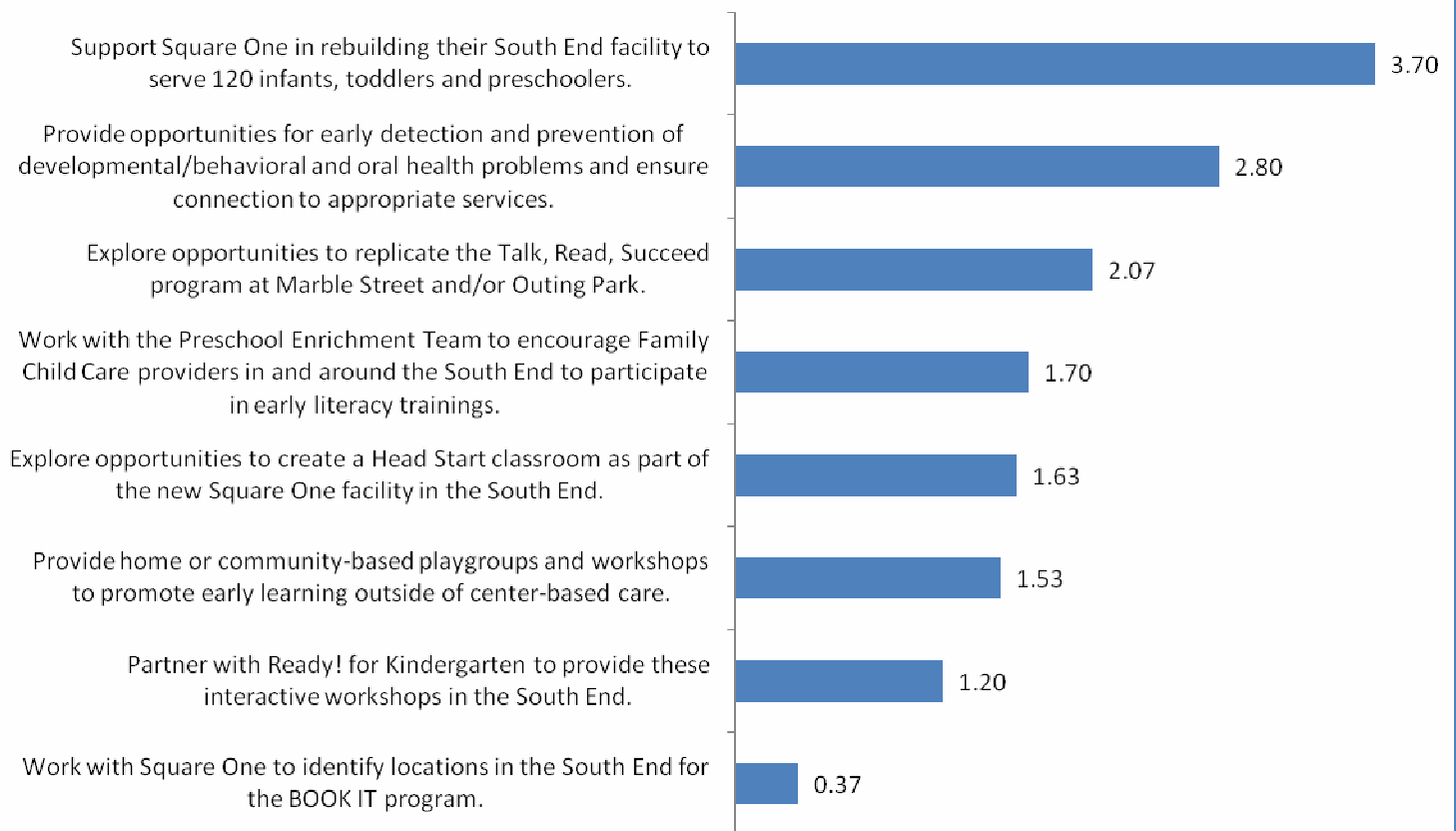


Education & Youth Strategies: Partner Survey Results

(Prepared by EJP Consulting Group, 03/18/2013)

Strategy #1: Connect children ages 0 to 5 to high-quality early learning opportunities that address health, social-emotional and educational needs and prepare children to enter kindergarten ready to learn.

5=top priority, 1=lowest priority



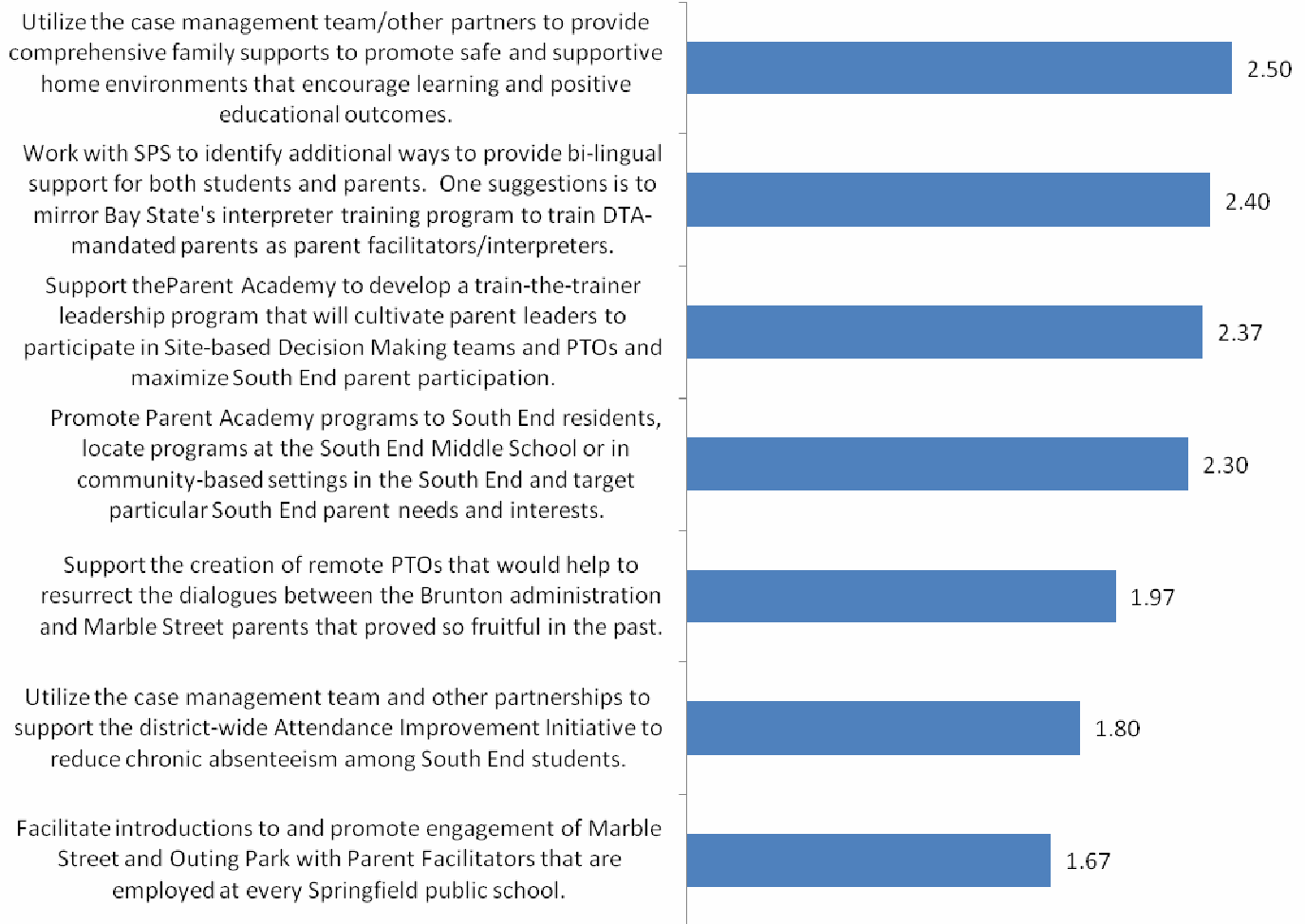
Comments/Additional Strategies:

- Partner with Springfield Partners to offer financial literacy for young children.
- Explore expanding the current partnership with HCS Head Start and SHA to create a Head Start classroom in the Marble Street development. Currently, Head Start has three classrooms in three different SHA developments.
- Add vision screening to the early detection and prevention opportunities.
- Work with SPS to develop a Pre-K program connecting parents and children to schools with early education.
- Develop systems which promote parents' awareness of the benefit of early education and care for children through cross training and better collaboration with housing and other family service agencies to increase referrals and enrollment.
- Develop a community wide language and culturally-sensitive advertising campaign to educate and explain to parents, despite their personal experience with early education, the benefits of enrolling their children.
- Increase funding to existing early education and care providers so that parents who do not qualify for state or federal subsidies are able to enroll their children. The issue is not capacity, it is access.
- Engage with young parents so they are part of the development of programs.

Additional Proposed Partners: Springfield Partners for Community Action, Springfield Public Schools, Community Music School, YMCA, Family Advocacy Center - Maple Street, Funders Collaborative, State/Federal elected officials, HAP Housing, United Way, Corporations and for-profit businesses, Regional Employment Board, Department of Public Health, DHCD/FOR Families, Hasbro Summer Learning Initiative, Baystate Health, Stand for Children (Luz Lopez), THOM Springfield Infant Toddler Services (Marie Peirent), WIC, Department of Early Education and Care -The Office of Regional Operations, Support and Engagement (Erin Craft), New England Farm Workers Council, Western MA Regional DEEC representative

Strategy #2: Promote existing and create additional venues to support parents in their role as their child's first teacher, to help them nurture healthy, safe and school-ready children and to empower them to take an active role in their child's education.

5=top priority, 1= lowest priority



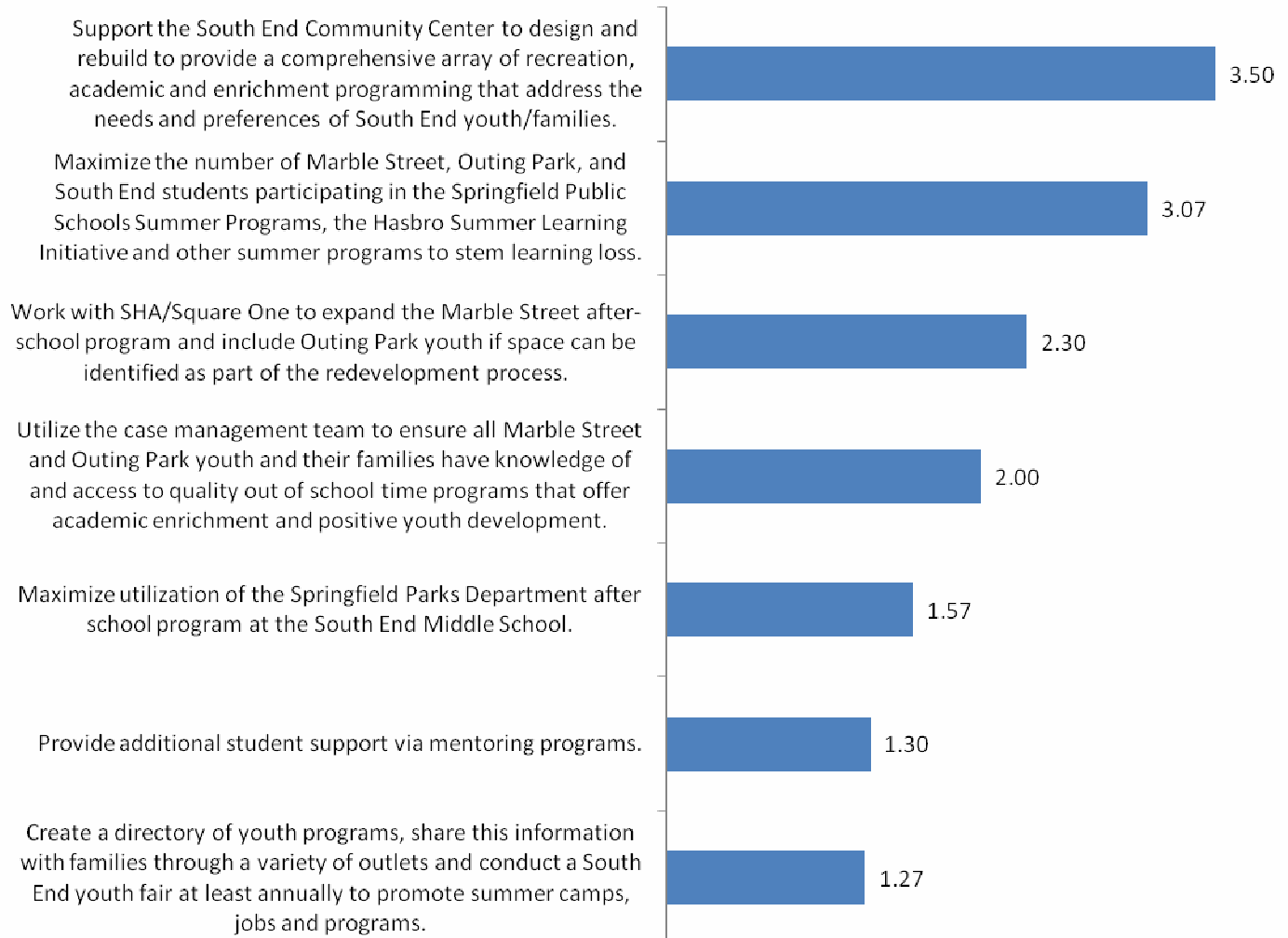
Comments/Additional Strategies:

- Make sure strategies are linked broadly to include non-South End schools that children for the South End attend.
- Explore the Home Instructional Program for Pre-School Youth (HIPPY) as a way to support parents in becoming their child's first teacher and promote early literacy.
- Promote the Ready! for Kindergarten program done by HomeCityFamilies.

Additional Proposed Partners: Springfield Partners New Beginnings Childcare, HCS Head Start, Inc. (In addition to preparing children for school, all Head Start programs are designed to engage and support parents in their role of child's first teacher), Local colleges, STCC, UMASS, Department of Children and Families, Hasbro Summer Learning Initiative, Healthy Families program administered by Square One, Springfield Parent Resource Center (Cindy Stoval)

Strategy #3: Promote positive youth development via participation in out-of-school programs.

5=highest priority, 1= lowest priority



Comments/Additional Strategies:

- The youth programs directory should have a web presence, perhaps including registraton for programs, as well as smart phone app access to information.
- Introduce organized summer sports program for the area's young people through the Parks Department at Emerson Wight Park.
- Re-direct Shannon funding to support agencies serving the children of the South End Community.
- Ensure that funding for agencies is only provided to those organizations who meet a certain threshold of quality and outcome measurement. Fund based on ROI.

Additional Proposed Partners: Again local colleges, STCC, UMASS, Westfield State, AIC, Springfield College, WNEU etc... Springfield Housing Authority, Boys and Girls Club

Strategy #4: Create safe routes to school and after-school programming.

4=highest priority, 1=lowest priority

Work with the City and the School Department to review the locations of the bus stops and crossing guards in the neighborhood and survey the status of maintenance along the proposed Walking School bus route.

2.70

Implement a walking school bus program to ensure students at Marble Street, Outing Park and elsewhere in the South End get safely to and from the school bus stops and/or the South End Middle School.

2.53

Expand the walking school bus program to include safe routes to and from after-school and early learning programs.

2.47

Consider training parents to serve as volunteer school bus monitors to increase adult supervision, provide opportunities to meet community service requirements and/or obtain additional skills.

2.07

Comments/Additional Strategies:

- Address snow removal and lighting.
- Make sure there is handicap/wheelchair accessibility.

Additional Proposed Partners: Hampden County Sheriff's Department, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, City Planning and Parks and Recreation Departments

Strategy #5: Address the lack of elementary school options in the South End.

3=highest priority, 1=lowest priority

Work with the Springfield School Department on a new school assignment plan for Marble Street when the units are rebuild elsewhere in the South End.

2.03

Support the application for a new K-8 charter school in the South End to serve up to 466 students starting with a kindergarten class in 2014.

2.00

Work collaboratively and maximize the alignment of the CNI Education Plan with the proposed Promise Neighborhood program.

1.87

Comments/Additional Strategies:

- New charter school should be Pre K - 8, as Square One and even an additional HeadStart classroom do not have enough pre K capacity to meet the needs of families

Additional Proposed Partners: All local colleges (i.e. AIC, STCC and WNEU), Springfield City Council, MA Department of Education