METU Graduate School of Natural and Applied Sciences
Master of City Planning
CP 502 Planning Studio

2023-2024

Community Capacity Building

in the İşçi Blokları Neighborhood

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Outline

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    c. What Should be Offered in Neighborhood Associations
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Community Resilience in Neighborhood Scale

In the context of community resilience at the neighborhood scale, it is critical to highlight the essential function of local communities and capacity building in disaster preparedness and recovery.

Capacity building involves strengthening the

- **skills,**
- **resources, and**
- **adaptive capacities of local communities, enabling them to better manage risks from disasters.**

Neighborhoods are important locations for studying the dynamic interaction between risks and people's perceptions, as well as their adaptive skills.

Community Resilience in Neighborhood Scale

Despite the lack of any political power, **neighborhoods serve as hubs of informal administration**, where residents

- **maintain social order,**
- **make collective choices, and**
- **offer critical services during emergencies when official channels collapse**.

Neighborhood-based organizations and social networks promote this informal governance, allowing for collaborative action in both short and long-term rebuilding efforts. Additionally, they enable community leaders to request resources from government decision-makers, thereby enhancing overall resilience.

Capacity building in these contexts ensures that neighborhoods are well-equipped to handle disasters, fostering a proactive and resilient community environment.

Institutional/Governance Dimension

The institutional and governance elements are critical components of evaluating neighborhood-based disaster resilience. These dimensions include the **structures, processes, and mechanisms** by which communities organize to face problems and manage risks.

Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) emerge as critical actors in promoting community resilience. These organizations, which are typically grounded in local contexts and dynamics, **act as catalysts for community engagement, empowerment, and action.** They play a vital part in mobilizing resources, coordinating responses, and promoting a sense of community within neighborhoods.

CBOs serve an important role in **bridging the gap between community members and government institutions.**

Institutional/Governance Dimension

To enhance resilience; civic, social, and communication infrastructure must be strengthened at the community level. This includes creating strong social infrastructure, such as adopting **Community Resilience Hubs' principles, which function as disaster response centers and long-term community building.** Community Resilience Hubs can improve community resilience by **colocating** and **coordinating services and resources**.

This project addressed **neighborhood associations** at the local level as they play essential roles in meeting social needs and serving as a focal point for crisis response. These associations serve as hubs for community engagement, allowing communication, collaboration, and group decision-making.

The role of Community Resilience Hubs has the potential to reach that degree.

Community Resilience Hubs

Resilience hubs provide critical supplies and support during emergencies while also serving as centers for a variety of community activities. These hubs provide a wide range of services, including

- health,
- education,
- employment, and
- recreational purposes all under one roof.

Notably, **they function as focal points** for social interaction and integration, providing newcomers with essential resources and aid.

Community Resilience Hubs

While providing vital assistance during emergencies, these resilience centers also **promote community connection and mutual support**.

The hub offers a comfortable and secure atmosphere, encourages information sharing, personal development, and community engagement.

Residents can participate in public consultations, seek information and support, and benefit from the hub's financial sustainability and community-building efforts.

What Should be Offered in Neighborhood Associations

When considering the role of neighborhood associations, it is critical to prioritize the **development of multi-purpose institutions** that extend beyond traditional limitations.

These institutions should not only provide social, educational, and health services, but also act as hubs for increasing social connectedness and community capability.

By using Community Resilience Hub principles, these organizations may successfully manage and organize the wide range of services they provide, as well as serve as an interface between citizens and the government.

These multi-purpose organizations should provide

- Shelter and emergency accommodation,
- Meeting places/gathering areas,
- Information stations,
- Food distribution centers, and
- A variety of support services.

What Should be Offered in Neighborhood Associations

An adaptive framework is required, allowing these organizations to provide more services during times of crisis.

- Combining library services with meal delivery during an emergency can boost adaptive ability and resilience.

Measurements of adaptive function and capacity building should be integrated into their operations to ensure effective shock response and coping capability.

Furthermore, these institutions must achieve a balance between absorbing shocks and responding to local needs and crises, all while remaining connected enough to learn from one another. This connection promotes mutual assistance, knowledge exchange, and ongoing improvement, thereby improving the resilience of the entire community.

Best Practices: Kensington Community Council, Melbourne

The Kensington Community Council is dedicated to improving, developing, and educating the community, as well as promoting social welfare.

It benefits the community by offering educational and recreational programs for people of all ages, as well as **publishing the Outlook, a monthly newsletter that covers local events and concerns** and is free of charge to every Kensington household.

The Kensington Neighborhood Portal provides regular updates on what is already happening and what themes will be explored further.

Bringing the Community Together
KENSINGTON
OUTLOOK

KCC
KENSINGTON
COMMUNITY
COUNCIL

Best Practices: Brixton Green, London

- London's urban redevelopment projects aim to provide affordable homes for the vast majority of the city's population. However, new developments frequently promote private housing over affordable alternatives.
- Following that, the renovation of Somerleyton Road in south-west London stands out as a potential example of community-led development. The project offers entirely rental homes, including social target rent, affordable, and private options.
- **Brixton Green, developed by local citizens and business owners, became a community benefit society in 2009.**

"Brixton Green is about Brixton people working together to be at the forefront of the redevelopment of Somerleyton Road, in the heart of Brixton, London"

From Brixton Green Twitter Account

Best Practices: Brixton Green, London

Action Planning Workshops

- The workshops focused on housing and communal spaces, health, education and culture, employment and training, and long-term management.
- Concerns have been made regarding the impact of a new development on surrounding regions, the potential replacement of existing services, and debates about youth care.
- Key issues arising from the initial meeting included **transparency, effective communication** of the process, and provision of concrete information.

Pariticipants agreed that **information should be shared by various channels, including email updates and public meetings.**

- The Future Brixton website was used as a **public forum** for posting reports on the various workshops and associated presentation materials.

Best Practices: Springvale Community Hub, Lyons

The Springvale Community Hub is designed to **represent the neighborhood's rich cultural diversity** and incorporates community narratives into its layout. It provides **a variety of services**, including a huge library, civic spaces, and council offices, all set in a beautiful public park.

By encouraging engagement and a sense of ownership, the Hub symbolizes Springvale's distinct personality while also **strengthening community relationships**.

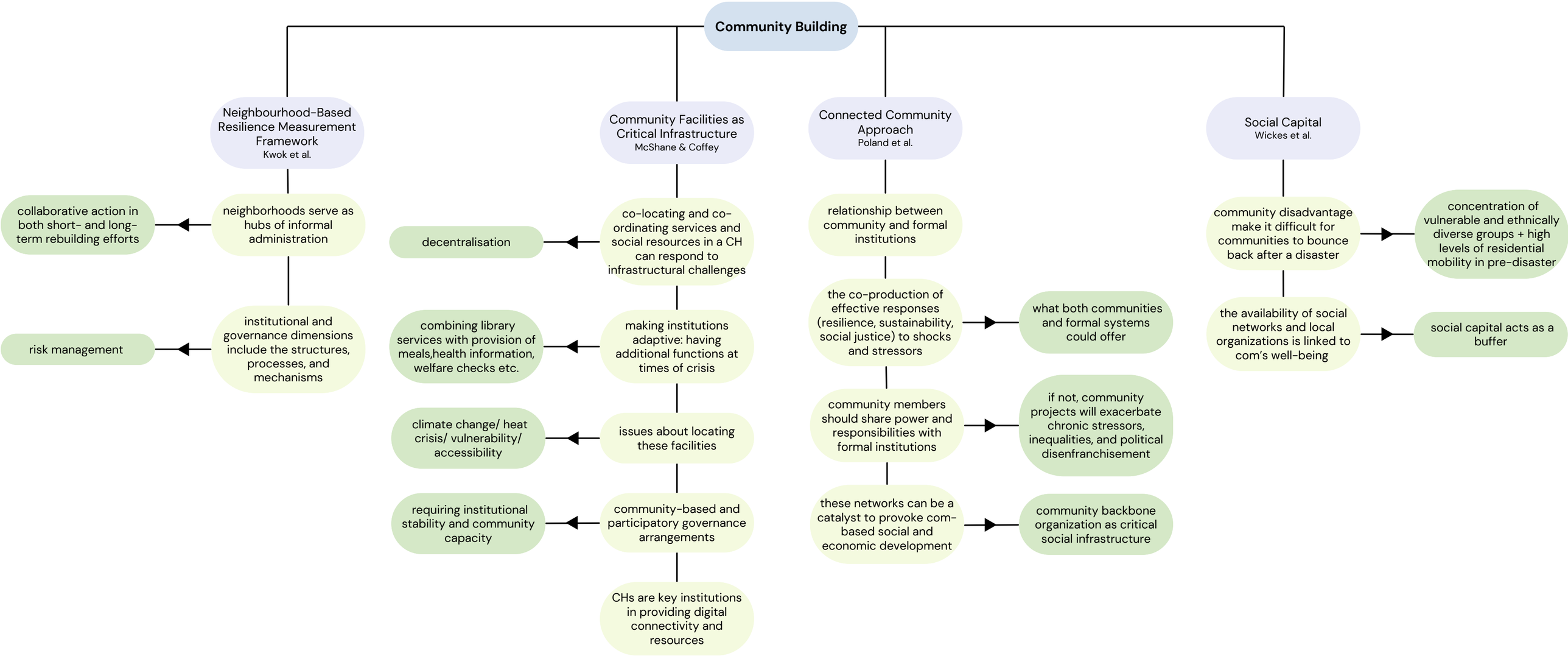
Best Practices: Austin Resilience Hub Network

The City of Austin is pioneering the creation of Resilience Hubs in the Eastern Crescent.

To guarantee community engagement and sustainability, a leadership committee comprised of officials from the City of Austin, AISD, and Travis County meets regularly to assess progress and plan next actions. **This team works with a variety of community stakeholders, including those in healthcare, education, social services, and emergency response, to build local capacity, trust, and connections, which are critical to the Hub Network's success**.

They promoted the selection of the initial six pilot regions based on Vulnerability Index indicators.

Literature Review



Parameters:

- **Social Infrastructure:** The community's social services, communication networks, and support mechanisms.
- **Crisis Awareness:** The awareness of individuals and communities in recognizing and preparing for crisis situations.
- **Solidarity and Collaboration:** The community's ability to work together and support each other.
- **Communication and Information Transfer:** The effectiveness and accessibility of information and communication flow during crises.

Keywords:

- Multi-purpose organizations
- Resilience hubs
- Adaptive capacity
- Community empowerment
- Knowledge exchange

Research Questions

Solidarity and Collaboration

Social Infrastructure

Communication and Information Transfer

Main Question: How can neighborhood associations enhance community capacity and promote resilience in the İşçi Blokları Neighborhood?

Sub-Question 1: How can neighborhood associations foster community development?

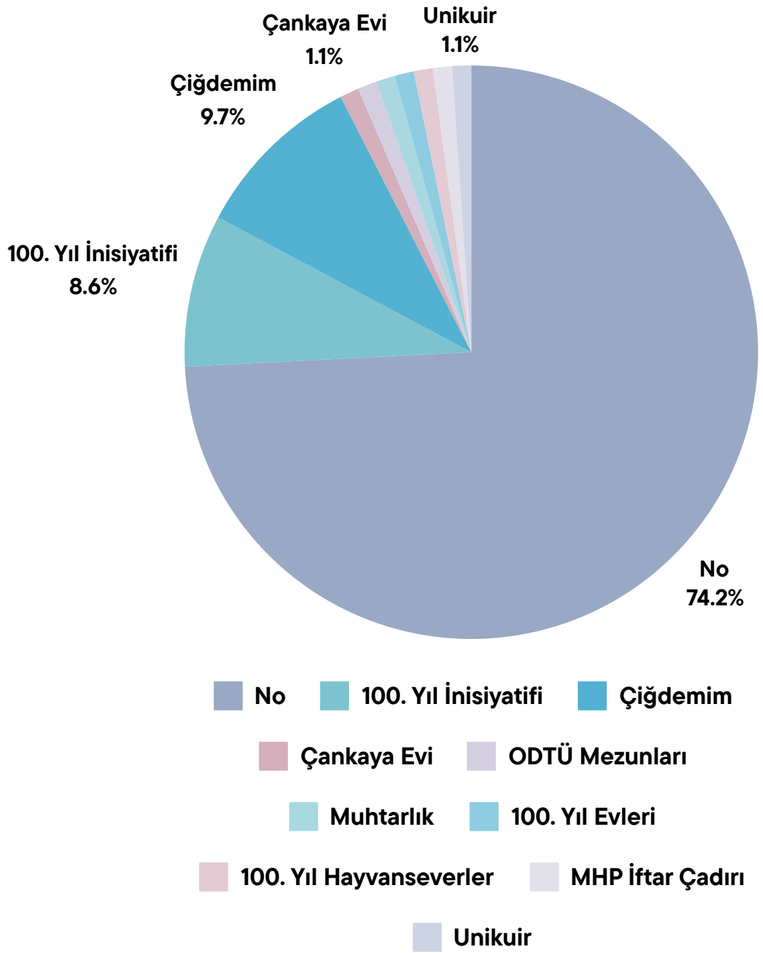
Sub-Question 2: Is it possible to integrate the community hub concept into neighborhood associations?

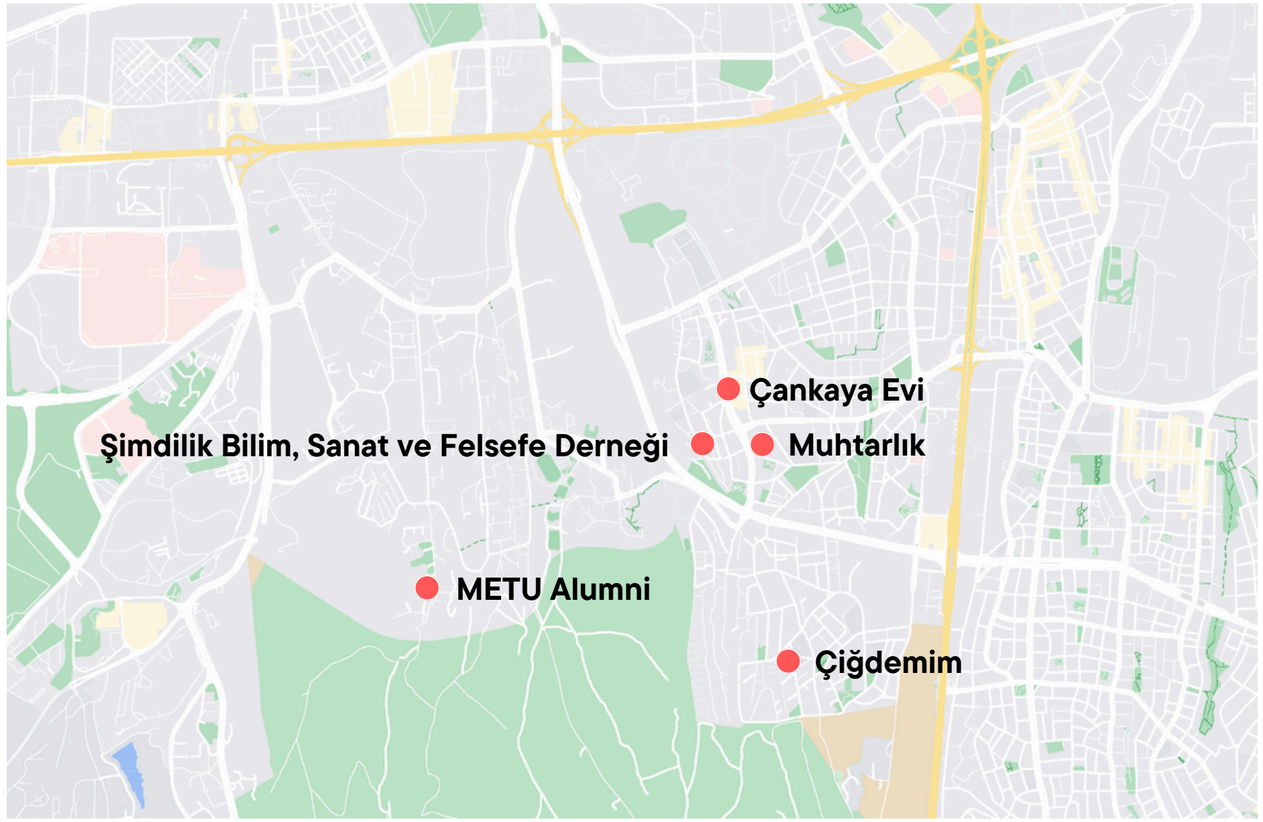
Sub-Question 3: What are the potentials of Çankaya Evi to become a community hub for the neighborhood?

Survey Questions

Crisis Awareness

Q1. Are you aware of any neighborhood associations operating in the 100. Yıl district?





Survey Questions

Crisis Awareness

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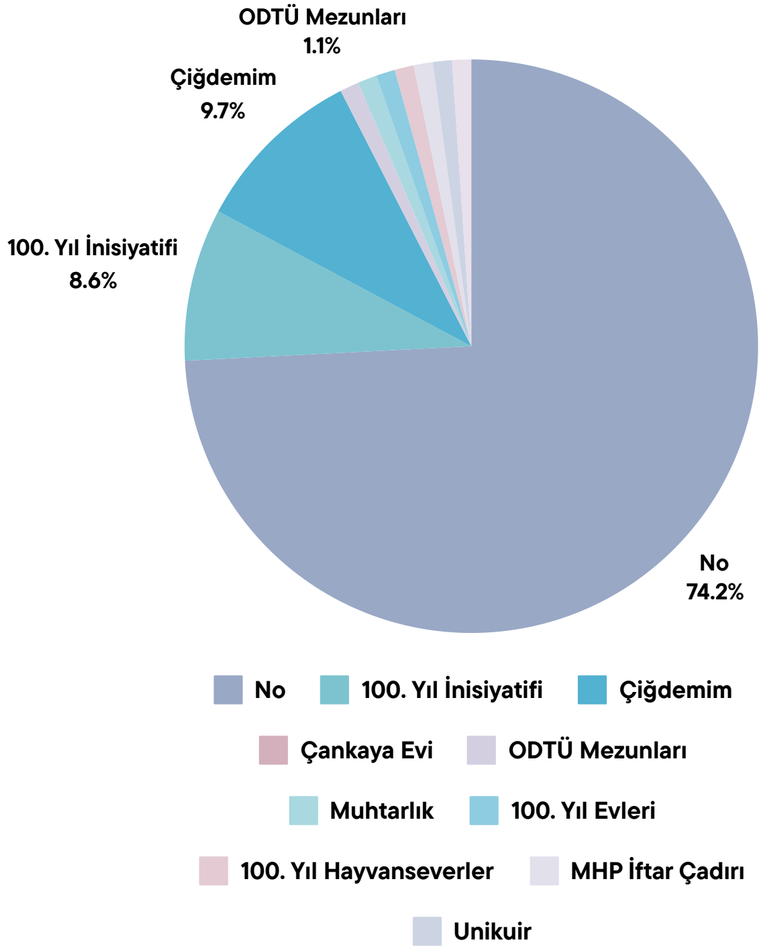


- 100.Yıl Initiative was a volunteer-based civil organization. It is no longer active, but its social media accounts can still be used for communication.
- 100.Yıl Evleri Facebook group is an active communication platform.

A significant majority (74.2%) of residents are unaware of any neighborhood associations operating in the 100. Yıl district.

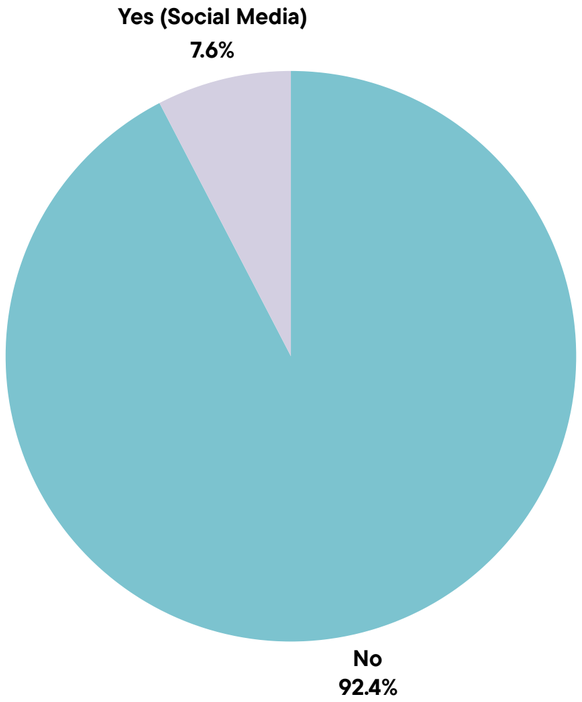
The most recognized associations are Çiğdemim (9.7%) and 100. Yıl Initiative (8%).

Survey Questions

Communication and Information Transfer

Q2. Are you currently a member of any neighborhood association in the 100.Yıl district?

- If yes, is your method of staying informed about developments through social media (such as Facebook) or through meetings held by neighborhood associations?



- Facebook & WhatsApp

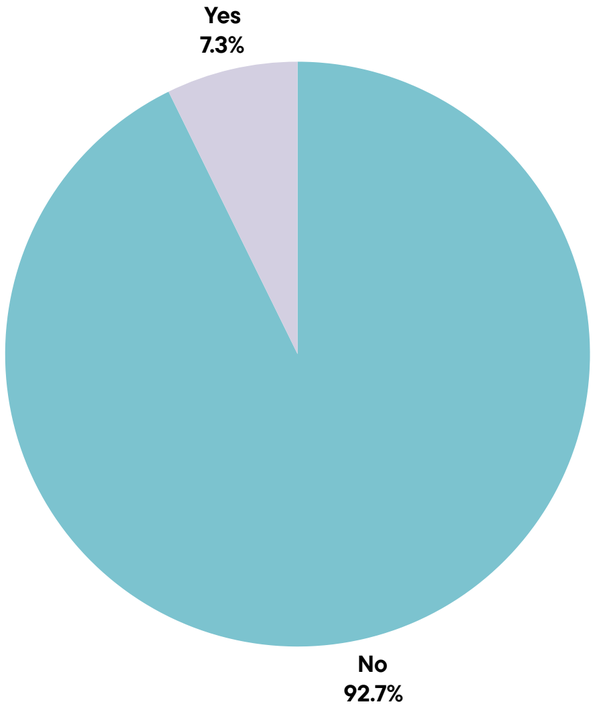
The vast majority (92.4%) are not members of any neighborhood association, and those who are (7.6%) primarily stay informed through social media platforms like Facebook and WhatsApp.

Survey Questions

Crisis Awareness

Q3. Have you attended any events or meetings organized by the 100. Yıl District neighborhood associations to increase crisis awareness?

- If yes, please specify the event or association you attended.



- Joining 100.Yıl Initiative during the Gezi protests
- Participating in disaster management events,
- Contributing to earthquake relief efforts.

Only 7.3% of residents have attended events or meetings organized by neighborhood associations, with examples including participation in the 100. Yıl Initiative during the Gezi protests, disaster management events, and earthquake relief efforts.

Survey Questions

Solidarity and Collaboration

Q4. What are your expectations from the neighborhood associations?

Social Engagement and Exchange of Ideas:

- Consulting the community during the planning process

Social Assistance and Support:

- Providing timely aid to all beings
- Addressing social and individual needs
- Providing financial assistance to students

Security and Protection:

- Taking care of stray animals
- Protecting the neighborhood
- Resisting unjust demands from landlords
- Increasing housing opportunities

Environmental Cleanliness and Care:

- Emphasizing environmental cleanliness

Education and Awareness:

- Enhancing neighborhood organization
- Fostering social consciousness

Socio-Cultural and Economic Contribution:

- Sustaining a culture of unity and solidarity in the neighborhood

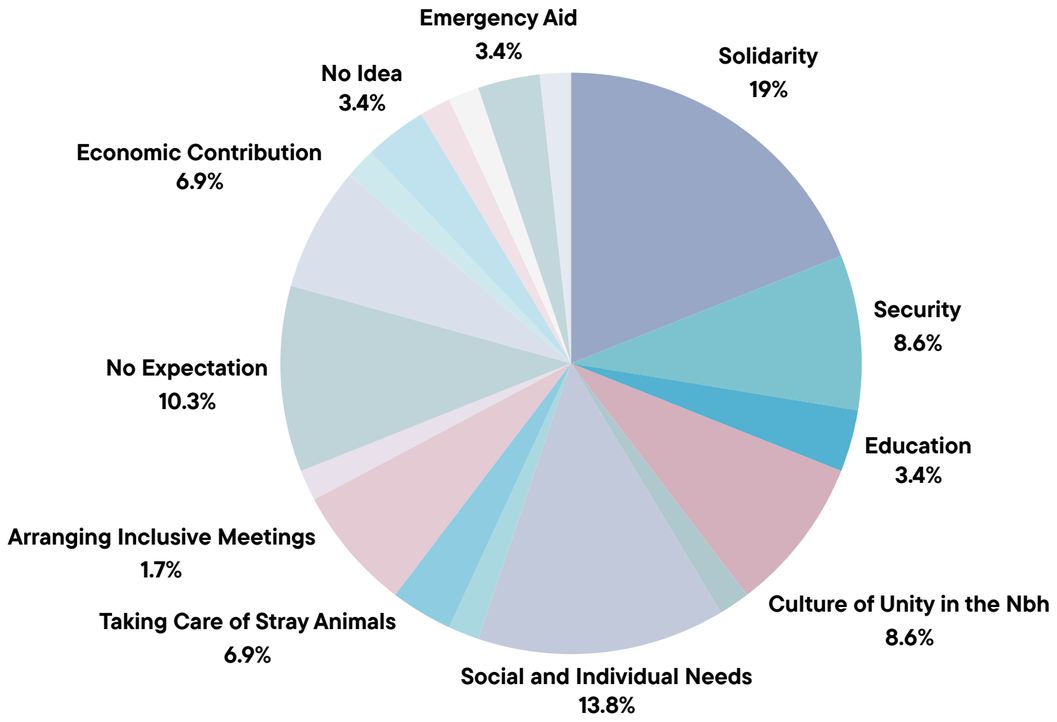
Neighborhood Activities and Solidarity:

- Organizing neighborhood festivals to facilitate networking
- Arranging inclusive meetings for everyone
- Developing an open system for collaborative efforts

Survey Questions

Solidarity and Collaboration

Q4. What are your expectations from the neighborhood associations?



Residents have various expectations from neighborhood associations, with the highest priorities being solidarity (18%), addressing social and individual needs (13.6%), and security (8%).

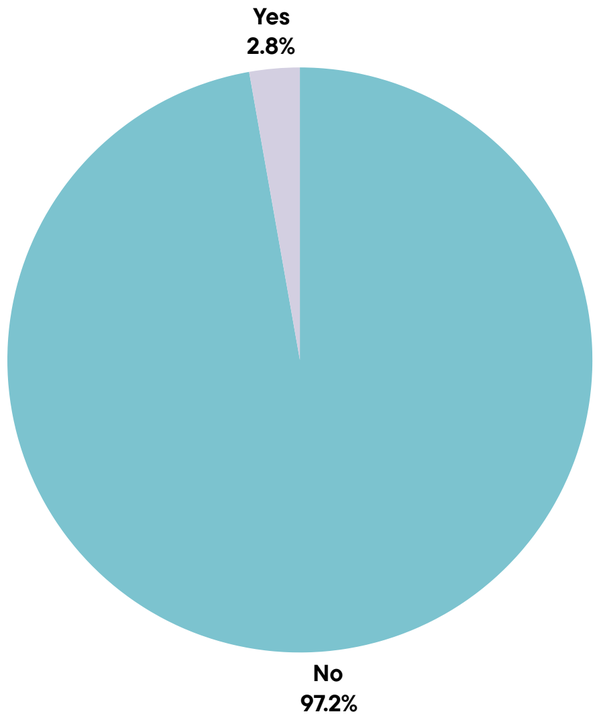
There are also notable mentions of economic contributions (6.9%) and taking care of stray animals (6.8%).

Survey Questions

Social Infrastructure

Q5. Have you been asked for your opinion on physical or social changes in your neighborhood?

- If yes, what are these processes?



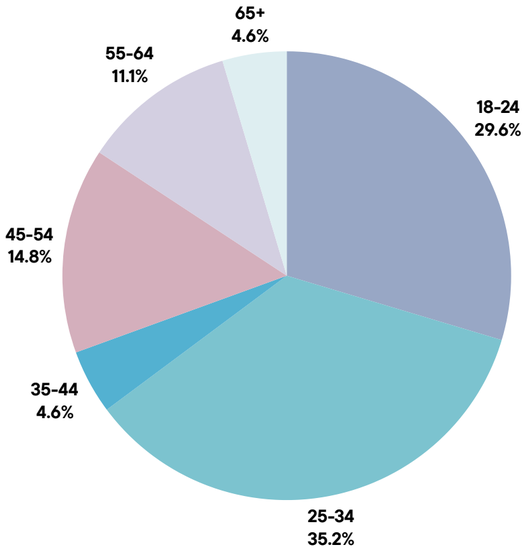
- Asked about painting walls in the name of mining accident.
- Making the road of 1525th Street one way.

An overwhelming majority (97.2%) of residents have not been consulted about physical or social changes in their neighborhood.

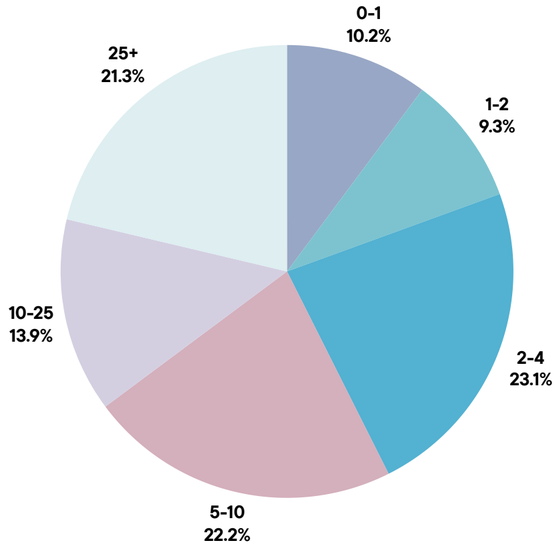
The few who were consulted mentioned minor issues like painting walls and making a street one-way.

Survey Questions

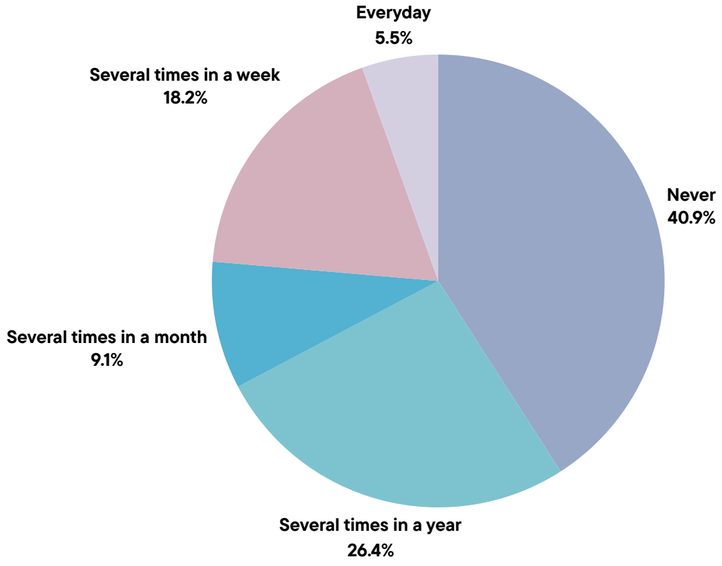
Q1. Age



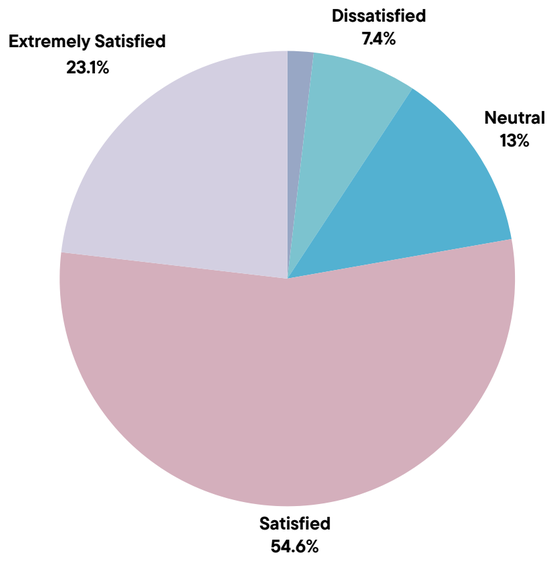
Q9. Year of Residence



Q11.3. How Often are the Facilities Used (Çankaya Evi)



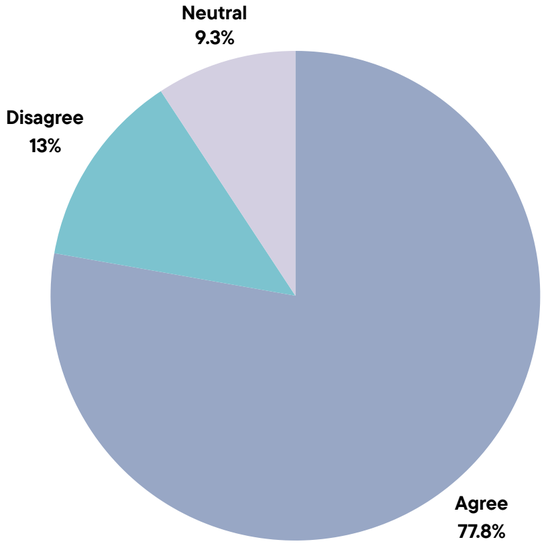
Q17. Wellbeing Level



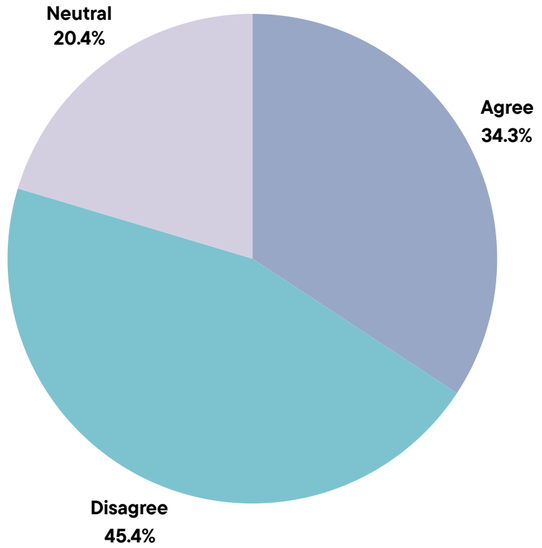
- The data shows that **young adults (ages 18-34)** dominate in the İşçi Blokları, **making up 64% of the population**. Residents who have lived in the neighborhood for 2-10 years represent 45%, indicating a dynamic, recently settled population.
- While facility usage varies, **40% of the population never uses these facilities**, suggesting a need for better accessibility, awareness, or relevance.
- **Overall, welfare levels are positive, with 77% satisfied or extremely satisfied, though 9% report dissatisfaction**.

Survey Questions

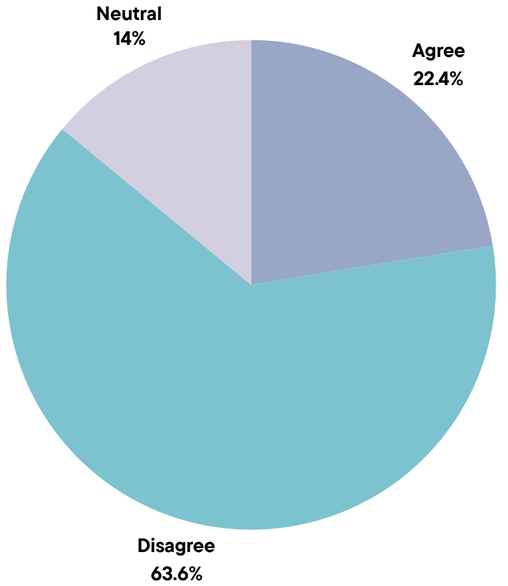
Q18.1. Confidence to Cope with Stress in Daily Life



Q18.3. Feeling emotionally Prepared in Crisis



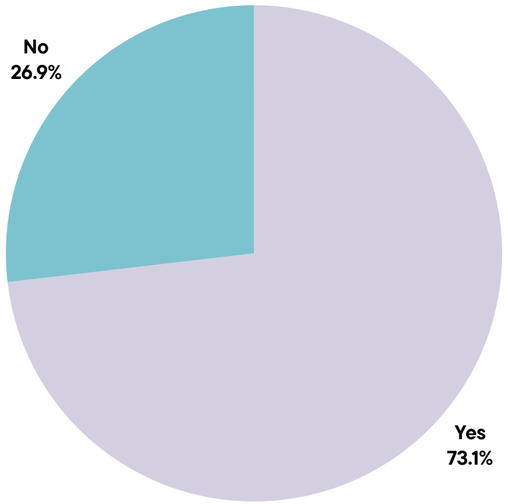
Q18.4. Training to Cope with Stress



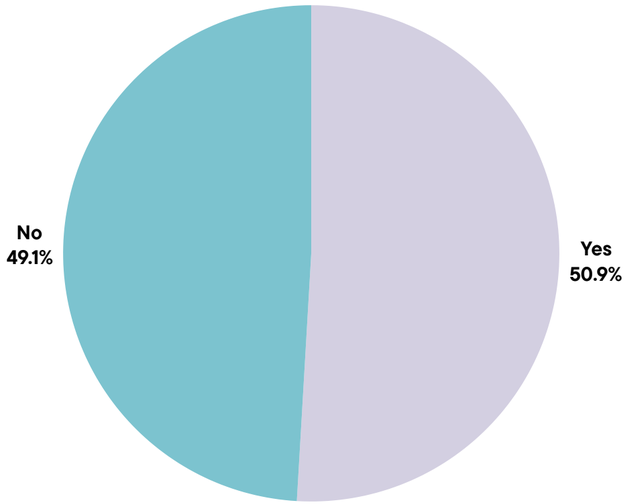
- **The majority of residents (77%) feel confident in managing daily stress**, which aligns with the high welfare satisfaction levels.
- **However, only 34% feel emotionally prepared for a crisis, while 45% do not, indicating a gap in crisis management skills.**
- Additionally, **63% feel they haven't received adequate stress management training**, contributing to their low crisis preparedness.

Survey Questions

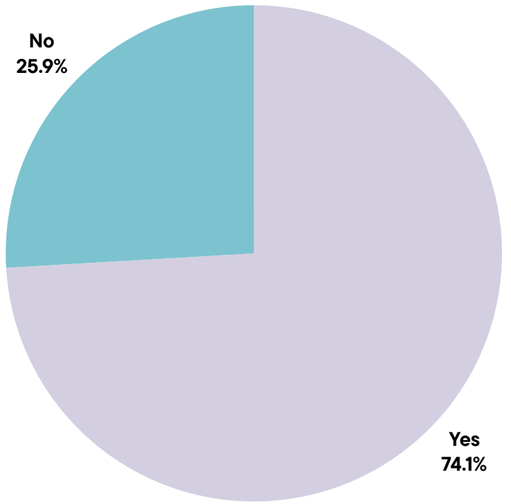
Q20.1. Impact for better well-being: Socio-cultural



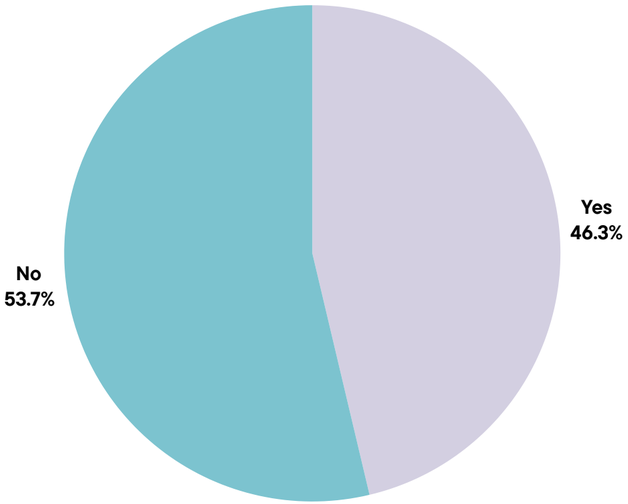
Q20.10. Impact for better well-being: Public Safety



Q20.11. Impact for better well-being: Cultural Events



Q20.12. Impact for better well-being: Inclusivity



- **A significant majority (73%) see socio-cultural factors as positively affecting well-being.**
- Public safety is viewed positively by a slight majority (50.9%).
- Only 25% believe cultural events significantly impact well-being.
- Inclusivity positively impacts well-being for 46%.

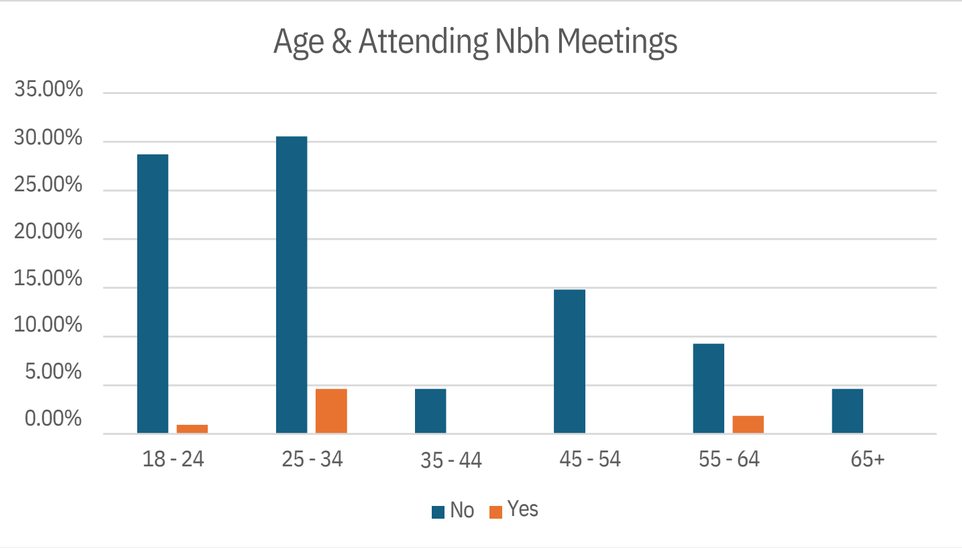
Survey Questions: In-Depth Section

1. Is there a civil community in your neighborhood? If not, what do you think are the obstacles to this situation?
2. Do you think there should be a civil community? Why do you think it is necessary?
3. If there is any financial support, is there enough human and labor power to make this happen?

- There is no guiding figure in the neighborhood. During crises, especially disasters, the local headman (muhtarlık) tried to help, but the METU Alumni was more effective.
- However, if there were an organization taking on a guiding role (such as an association), it could reach larger groups.
- In the end, the local headman and METU could not reach everyone.
- Besides this, there is enough human and labor power. Shopkeepers, in particular, mobilize for the poor and disabled citizens.

Evaluation of the Findings

Figure 1

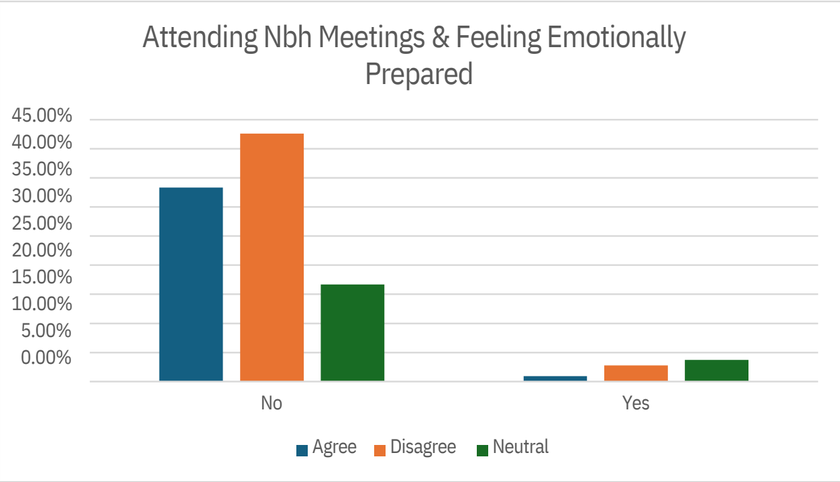


Say Age Age	Attending Neighborhood Meetings No	Yes	Genel Toplam
18 - 24	28,70%	0,93%	29,63%
25 - 34	30,56%	4,63%	35,19%
35 - 44	4,63%	0,00%	4,63%
45 - 54	14,81%	0,00%	14,81%
55 - 64	9,26%	1,85%	11,11%
65+	4,63%	0,00%	4,63%
Genel Toplam	92,59%	7,41%	100,00%

- **Only 0.93% of respondents aged 18 to 24 attend neighborhood associations' meetings, whereas the vast majority (28.70%) do not.**
  - Similarly, the 25-34 age group had a somewhat higher attendance rate, at 4.63%. In contrast, the 35-44 and 65+ age categories have extremely low attendance rates, with only 4.63% of respondents attending meetings.
- Overall, the vast majority of respondents from all age groups do not attend neighborhood associations' meetings.

Evaluation of the Findings

Figure 2

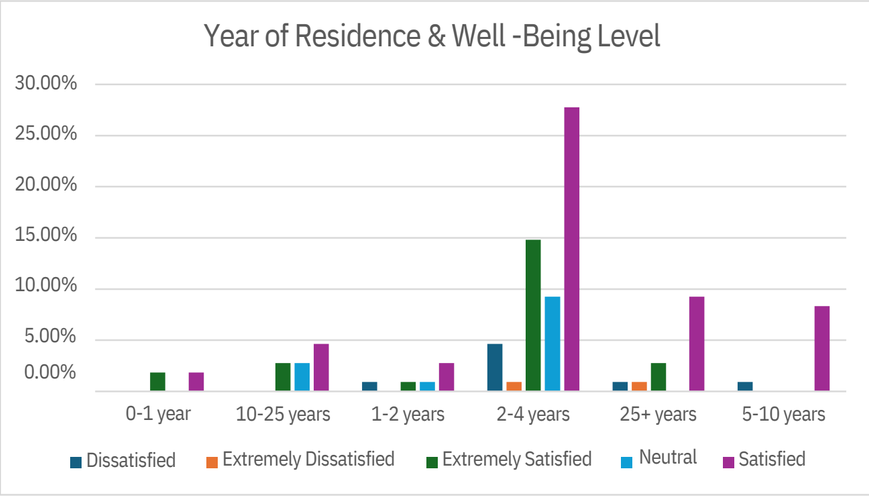


Say Attending Neighborhood Meetings	Feeling Emotionally Prepared			
Attending Neighborhood Meetings	Agree	Disagree	Neutral	Genel Toplam
No	33,33%	42,59%	16,67%	92,59%
Yes	0,93%	2,78%	3,70%	7,41%
Genel Toplam	34,26%	45,37%	20,37%	100,00%

- **Among respondents who do not attend meetings of neighborhood associations, 33.33% agree that they feel emotionally prepared, while 42.59% disagree**.
  - Conversely, among those who attend meetings, only 0.93% agree that they feel emotionally prepared, while 2.78% disagree.
- **These findings suggest a potential correlation between attending neighborhood meetings and feeling emotionally unprepared, highlighting the need to investigate measures to increase emotional preparation among community members, particularly those who do not attend neighborhood meetings.**

Evaluation of the Findings

Figure 3

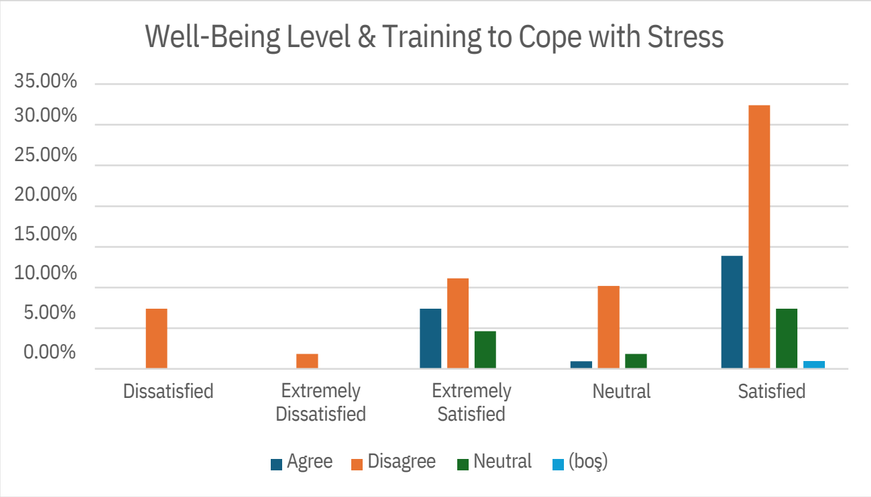


Say Year of Residence Year of Residence	Wellbeing Level Dissatisfied	Extremely Dissatisfied	Extremely Satisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Genel Toplam
0-1 year	0,00%	0,00%	1,85%	0,00%	1,85%	3,70%
10-25 years	0,00%	0,00%	2,78%	2,78%	4,63%	10,19%
1-2 years	0,93%	0,00%	0,93%	0,93%	2,78%	5,56%
2-4 years	4,63%	0,93%	14,81%	9,26%	27,78%	57,41%
25+ years	0,93%	0,93%	2,78%	0,00%	9,26%	13,89%
5-10 years	0,93%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	8,33%	9,26%
Genel Toplam	7,41%	1,85%	23,15%	12,96%	54,63%	100,00%

- **Among respondents living in the neighborhood for 2-4 years, 14.81% are extremely satisfied, 27.78% are satisfied, and 9.26% are neutral, making this the largest group at 57.41%.**
  - Residents of 5-10 years show 8.33% satisfaction, totaling 9.26%. For those residing 25+ years, 9.26% are satisfied and 2.78% are extremely satisfied.
- Overall, 54.63% of residents are satisfied, 23.15% are extremely satisfied, and 7.41% are dissatisfied.
  - **These findings show that longer-term residents tend to report higher levels of well-being.**

Evaluation of the Findings

Figure 4

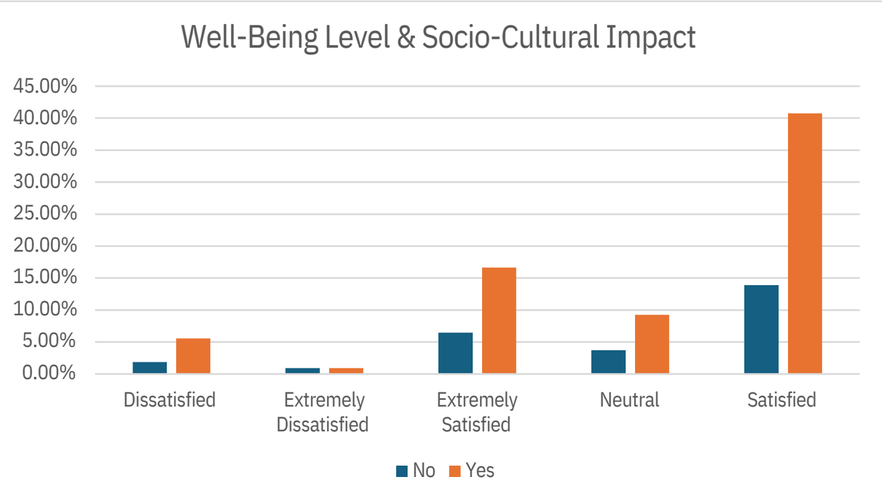


Say Wellbeing Level	Training to Cope with Stress				
Wellbeing Level	Agree	Disagree	(boş)	Neutral	Genel Toplam
Dissatisfied	0,00%	7,41%	0,00%	0,00%	7,41%
Extremely Dissatisfied	0,00%	1,85%	0,00%	0,00%	1,85%
Extremely Satisfied	7,41%	11,11%	0,00%	4,63%	23,15%
Neutral	0,93%	10,19%	0,00%	1,85%	12,96%
Satisfied	13,89%	32,41%	0,00%	7,41%	54,63%
Genel Toplam	22,22%	62,96%	13,89%	0,93%	100,00%

- Among respondents extremely satisfied with their well-being, 7.41% agree and 11.11% disagree about the need for stress-management training.
  - Among those satisfied with their well-being, 13.89% agree and 32.41% disagree with the need for training.
  - **Among those dissatisfied with their well-being, 7.41% disagree about the need for training.**
- **The most dissatisfied respondents have the lowest participation rate, with only 1.85% disagreeing about the value of training to cope with stress.**

Evaluation of the Findings

Figure 5

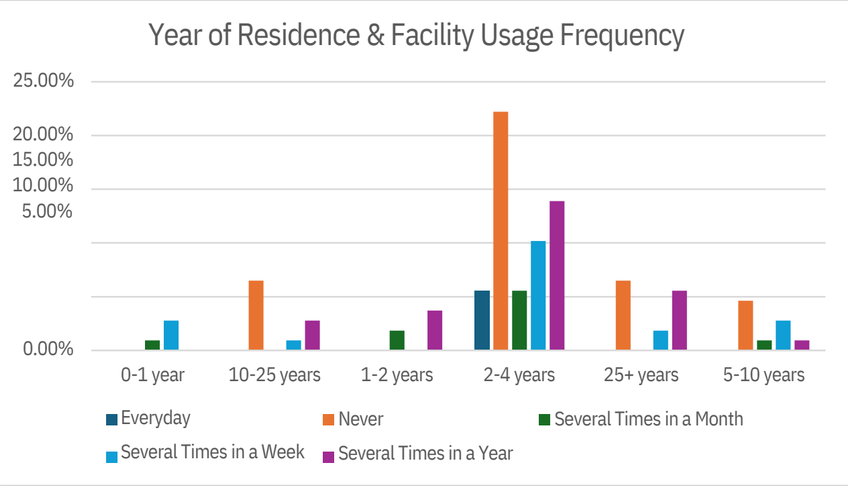


Say Wellbeing Level Wellbeing Level	Impact for Better Wellbeing: Socio-Cultural No	Yes	Genel Toplam
Dissatisfied	1,85%	5,56%	7,41%
Extremely Dissatisfied	0,93%	0,93%	1,85%
Extremely Satisfied	6,48%	16,67%	23,15%
Neutral	3,70%	9,26%	12,96%
Satisfied	13,89%	40,74%	54,63%
Genel Toplam	26,85%	73,15%	100,00%

- **Among those extremely satisfied with their well-being, 16.67% indicate positive effects on the socio-cultural aspects of increasing well-being**, while 6.48% do not.
  - Similarly, **a significant percentage (40.74%) of satisfied respondents claim positive effects on socio-cultural well-being**, compared to 13.89% who do not.
  - Dissatisfied and highly dissatisfied respondents have lower levels of participation, with only 5.56% and 0.93%.
  - Neutral respondents show moderate participation, with 9.26% indicating positive results.

Evaluation of the Findings

Figure 6

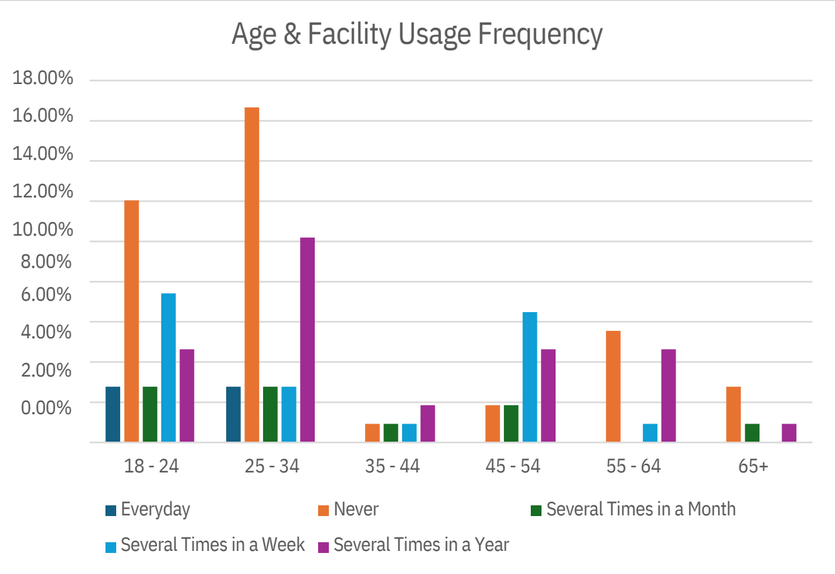


Say Year of Residence / Year of Residence	Facility Usage Frequency / Everyday	Never	Several Times in a Month	Several Times in a Week	Several Times in a Year	Genel Toplam
0-1 year	0,00%	0,00%	0,93%	2,78%	0,00%	3,70%
10-25 years	0,00%	6,48%	0,00%	0,93%	2,78%	10,19%
1-2 years	0,00%	0,00%	1,85%	0,00%	3,70%	5,56%
2-4 years	5,56%	22,22%	5,56%	10,19%	13,89%	57,41%
25+ years	0,00%	6,48%	0,00%	1,85%	5,56%	13,89%
5-10 years	0,00%	4,63%	0,93%	2,78%	0,93%	9,26%
Genel Toplam	5,56%	39,81%	9,26%	18,52%	26,85%	100,00%

- **Among respondents living in their neighborhood for 2-4 years, 22.22% never use the socio-cultural facilities, 5.56% use them daily, and 10.19% use them several times a week, making this the largest group at 57.41%.**
  - Among those residing for 25+ years, 6.48% do not use the facilities, while 5.56% use them several times a year.
  - Newer residents (0-1 year) show minimal usage, with 0.93% using the facilities several times a month and 2.78% several times a week.
- **Overall, 39.81% of residents never use the socio-cultural facilities, while 5.56% use them daily.**

Evaluation of the Findings

Figure 7

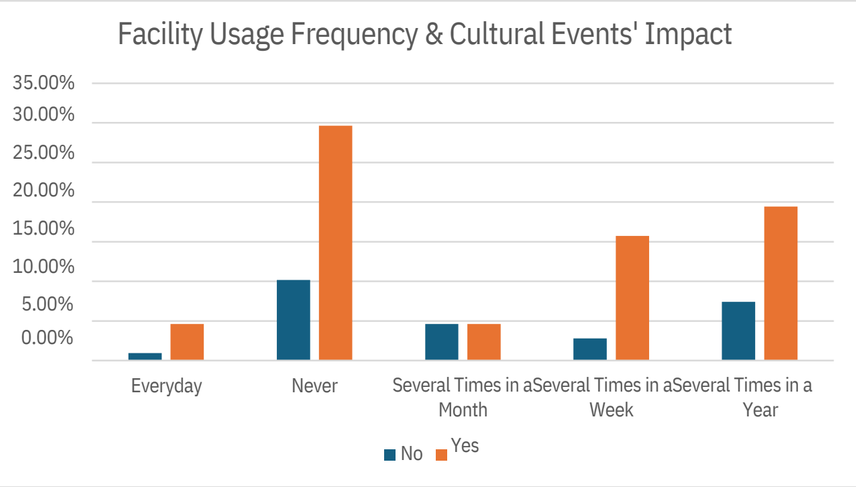


Say Age / Facility Usage Frequency	Everyday	Never	Several Times in a Month	Several Times in a Week	Several Times in a Year	Genel Toplam
Age						
18 - 24	2,78%	12,04%	2,78%	7,41%	4,63%	29,63%
25 - 34	2,78%	16,67%	2,78%	2,78%	10,19%	35,19%
35 - 44	0,00%	0,93%	0,93%	0,93%	1,85%	4,63%
45 - 54	0,00%	1,85%	1,85%	6,48%	4,63%	14,81%
55 - 64	0,00%	5,56%	0,00%	0,93%	4,63%	11,11%
65+	0,00%	2,78%	0,93%	0,00%	0,93%	4,63%
Genel Toplam	5,56%	39,81%	9,26%	18,52%	26,85%	100,00%

- Among respondents aged 18-24, 12.04% never use the socio-cultural facilities, while 7.41% use them several times a week, and 2.78% use them every day.
  - **The 25-34 age group has the highest non-usage rate at 16.67%, with 10.19% using facilities several times a year.**
  - Respondents aged **35-44 have minimal facility usage**, with 0.93% using facilities several times a month and a week.
- **Overall, 39.81% of respondents never use the socio-cultural facilities, while only 5.56% use them every day.**

Evaluation of the Findings

Figure 8

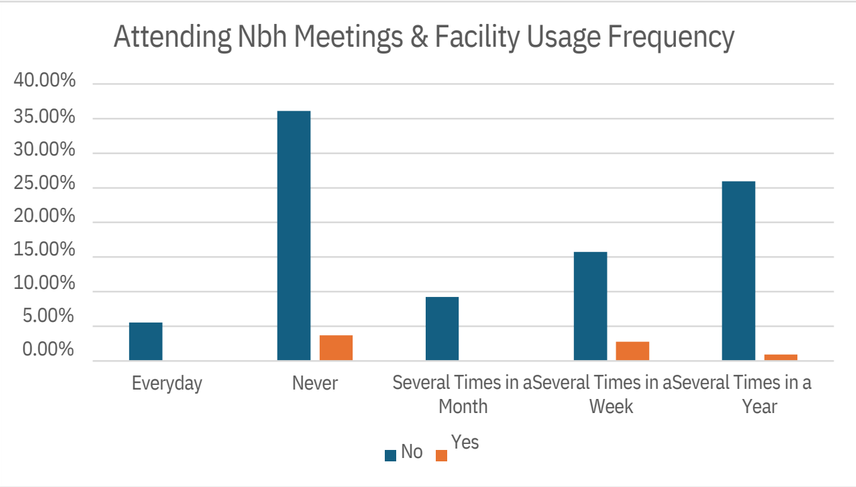


Say Facility Usage Frequency	Impact for Better Wellbeing: Cultural Events		
Facility Usage Frequency	No	Yes	Genel Toplam
Everyday	0,93%	4,63%	5,56%
Never	10,19%	29,63%	39,81%
Several Times in a Month	4,63%	4,63%	9,26%
Several Times in a Week	2,78%	15,74%	18,52%
Several Times in a Year	7,41%	19,44%	26,85%
Genel Toplam	25,93%	74,07%	100,00%

- **Respondents who use socio-cultural facilities every day and never attend cultural events account for 0.93% and 10.19%.**
  - In contrast, 4.63% of respondents use facilities on a daily basis and attend cultural events, demonstrating a favorable relationship between regular facility usage and involvement in cultural events.
- **Among those who utilize socio-cultural facilities several times per week, 15.74% agree on cultural events' impact to raise well-being, indicating that this group is more likely to engage in cultural activities.**

Evaluation of the Findings

Figure 9

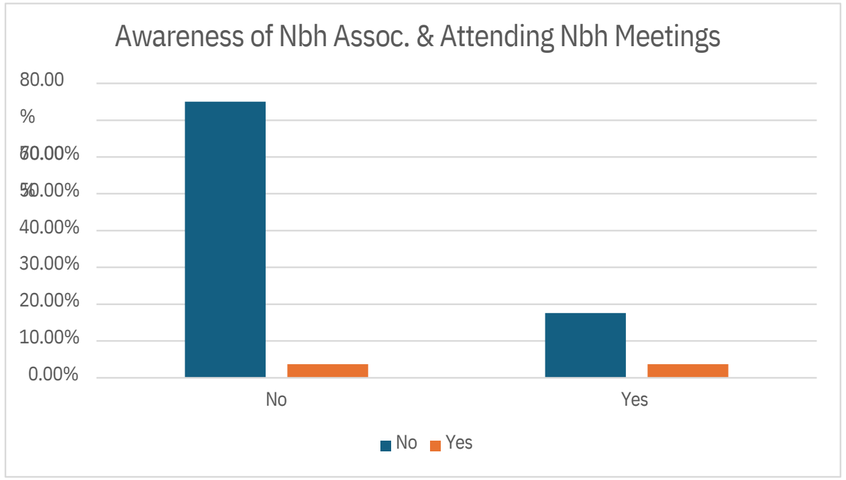


Say Facility Usage Frequency	Attending Neighborhood Meetings		
Facility Usage Frequency	No	Yes	Genel Toplam
Everyday	5,56%	0,00%	5,56%
Never	36,11%	3,70%	39,81%
Several Times in a Month	9,26%	0,00%	9,26%
Several Times in a Week	15,74%	2,78%	18,52%
Several Times in a Year	25,93%	0,93%	26,85%
Genel Toplam	92,59%	7,41%	100,00%

- Merely 7.41% of respondents attend neighborhood associations' meetings, while 92.59% do not.
  - Among non-attendees, 36.11% never use the socio-cultural facilities such as Çankaya Evi, while 25.93% utilize them several times a year.
- **Participants in associations' meeting had relatively low socio-cultural facility utilization rates, implying regular facility users are less likely to attend meetings.**

Evaluation of the Findings

Figure 10

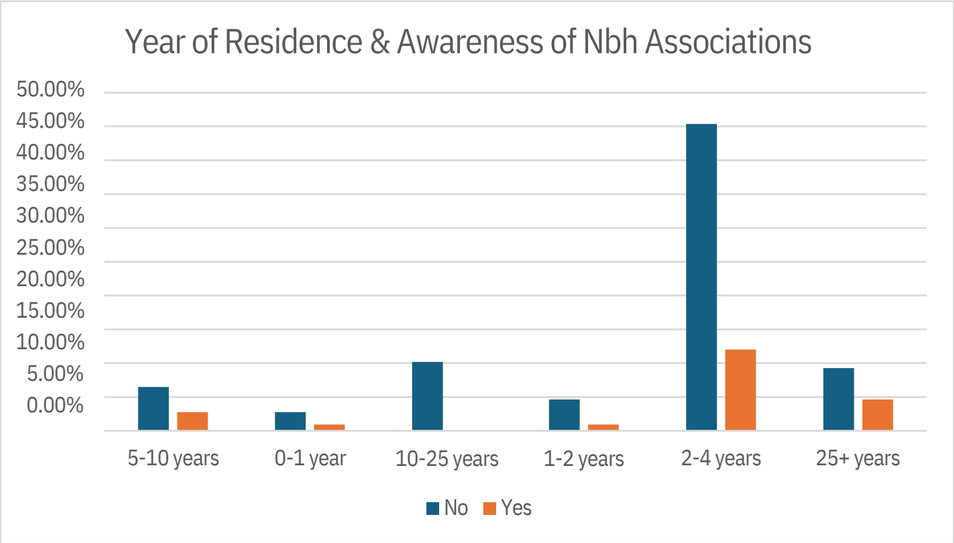


Say Awareness of Neighborhood Associations	Attending Neighborhood Meetings		
Awareness of Neighborhood Associations	No	Yes	Genel Toplam
No	75,00%	3,70%	78,70%
Yes	17,59%	3,70%	21,30%
Genel Toplam	92,59%	7,41%	100,00%

- 78.70% of respondents are unaware of neighborhood associations, while 21.30% know about them.
  - Despite this, attending meetings of neighborhood associations remained low in both categories, with **only 3.70% of respondents attending meetings regardless of knowledge level.**
- This suggests that **awareness of neighborhood associations has no major effect on meeting attendance, which currently stands at 7.41% overall.**

Evaluation of the Findings

Figure 11

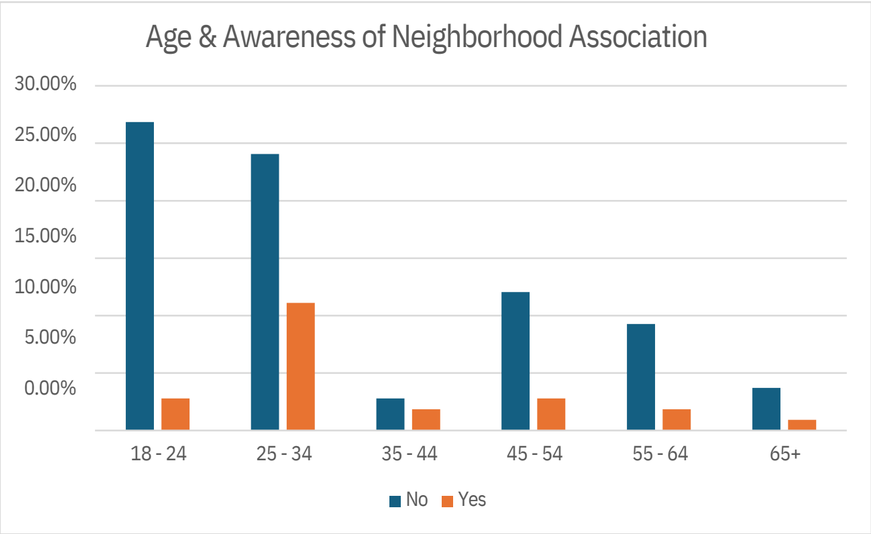


Say Year of Residence	Awareness of Neighborhood Associations		
Year of Residence	No	Yes	Genel Toplam
5-10 years	6,48%	2,78%	9,26%
0-1 year	2,78%	0,93%	3,70%
10-25 years	10,19%	0,00%	10,19%
1-2 years	4,63%	0,93%	5,56%
2-4 years	45,37%	12,04%	57,41%
25+ years	9,26%	4,63%	13,89%
Genel Toplam	78,70%	21,30%	100,00%

- **Among respondents living in their neighborhood for 2-4 years, 45.37% are unaware of neighborhood associations, while 12.04% are aware, making this the largest group at 57.41%.**
  - Long-term residents (25+ years) include 9.26% unaware and 4.63% aware, making up 13.89%.
- Overall, **78.70% of respondents are unaware of neighborhood associations**, compared to 21.30% who are aware, indicating a **need for better communication and involvement**, especially among 2-4 year residents.

Evaluation of the Findings

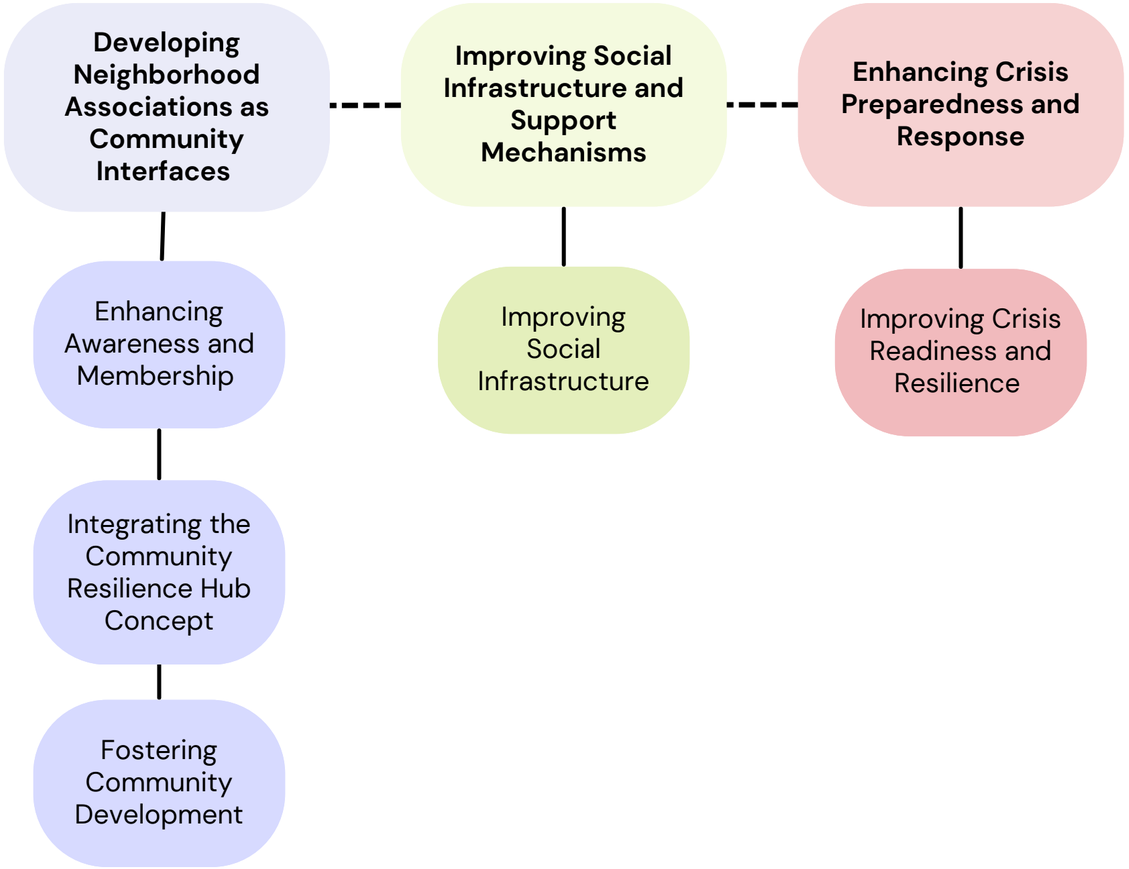
Figure 12



Say Age Age	Awareness of Neighborhood Associations No	Yes	Genel Toplam
18 - 24	26,85%	2,78%	29,63%
25 - 34	24,07%	11,11%	35,19%
35 - 44	2,78%	1,85%	4,63%
45 - 54	12,04%	2,78%	14,81%
55 - 64	9,26%	1,85%	11,11%
65+	3,70%	0,93%	4,63%
Genel Toplam	78,70%	21,30%	100,00%

- Among respondents aged 18-24, 26.85% are unaware of neighborhood associations, while 2.78% are aware.
  - **In the 25-34 age group, 24.07% are unaware, and 11.11% are aware, making this the largest group at 35.19%.**
  - For ages 35-44, 2.78% are unaware, and 1.85% are aware. In the 45-54 age group, 12.04% are unaware, and 2.78% are aware.
  - Among those aged 55-64, 9.26% are unaware, and 1.85% are aware. For ages 65 and above, 3.70% are unaware, and 0.93% are aware.
- These findings highlight the **need to raise awareness, particularly among younger and intermediate age groups.**

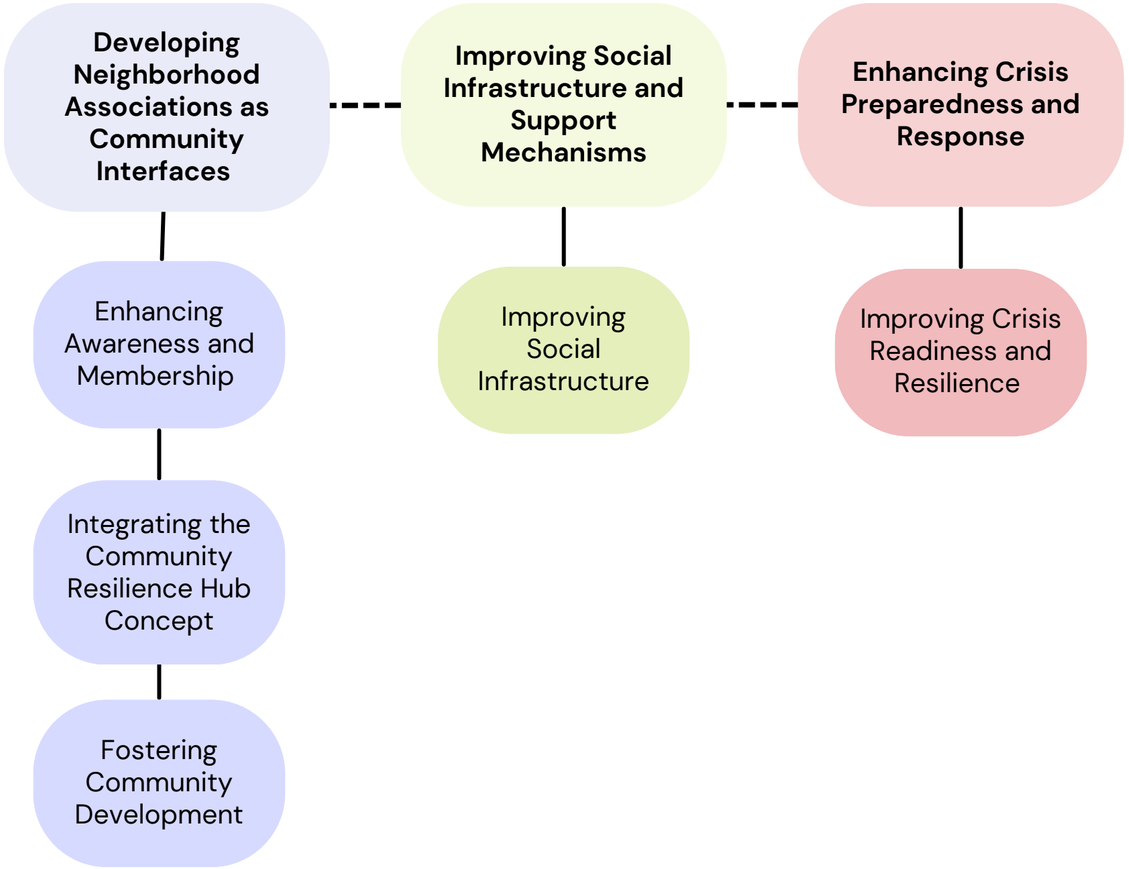
Policy Recommendations



Enhancing Awareness and Membership

- **Outreach Programs:**
  - Hosting informational seminars to introduce neighborhood associations to new and existing residents, highlighting their role in community development and resilience.
- **Communication Campaigns:**
  - Launching awareness campaigns through social media, local media, and community events to inform residents about neighborhood associations and their benefits.
  - Adapting communication strategies to young and middle age groups with lower awareness levels.
- **Information Dissemination:**
  - Using channels such as Facebook, WhatsApp groups and local newsletters to keep people up to date about neighborhood association activities and events.

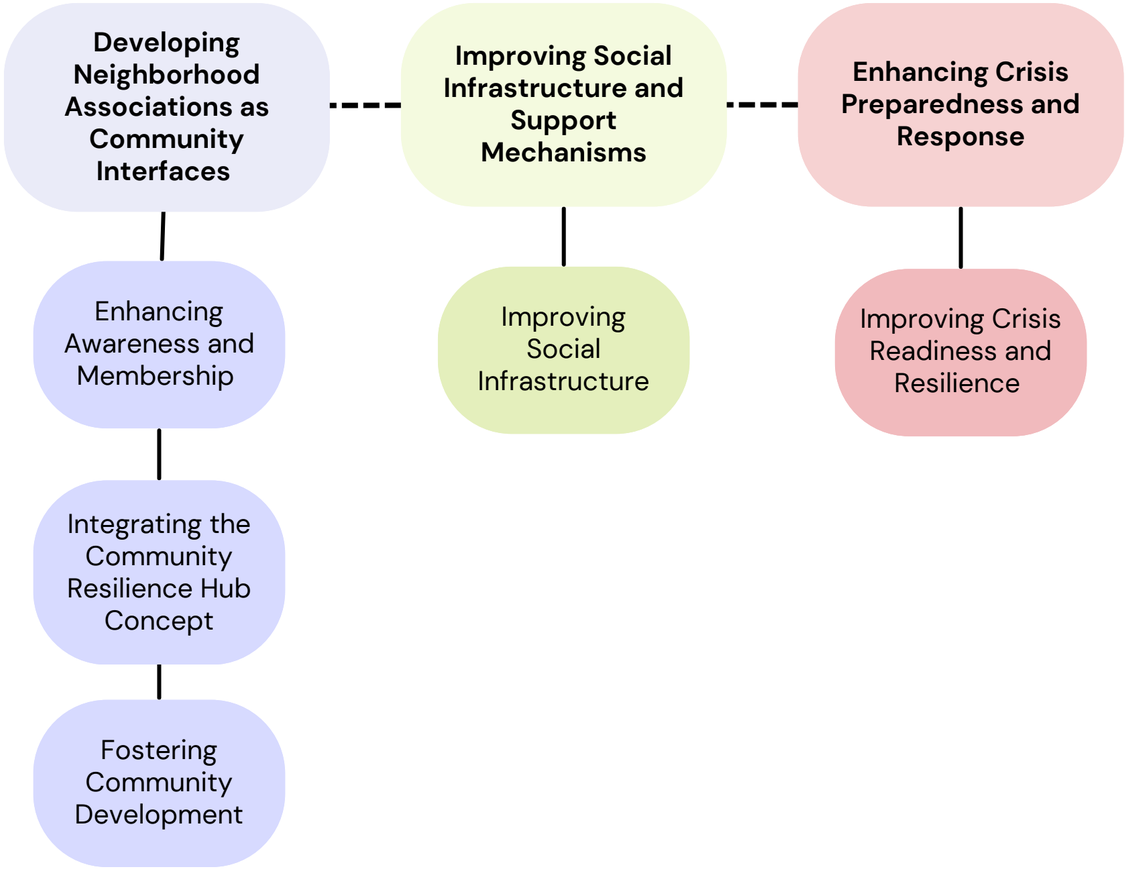
Policy Recommendations



Integrating the Community Resilience Hub Concept with Capacity Building Initiatives

- **Facility Utilization:**
  - Assisting the infrastructure of existing facilities, such as Çankaya Evi, into vibrant community hubs by offering diverse programs that provide various interests and needs (e.g., workshops, cultural events, social gatherings).
- **Inclusive Programming:**
  - Developing programs that encourage participation from all age groups and demographics, ensuring that the community hub addresses the social, educational, and recreational needs of the residents.
- **Partnerships:**
  - Collaborating with local organizations, businesses, and educational institutions to provide resources.

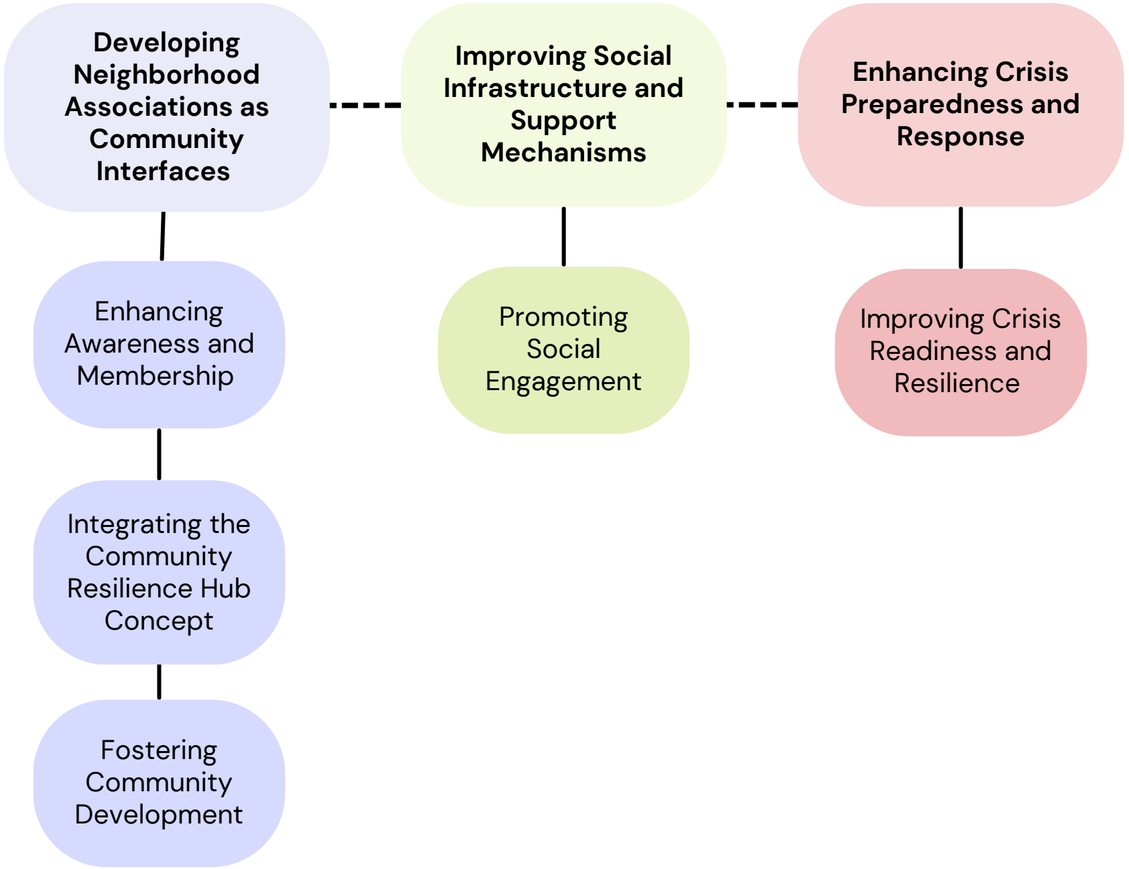
Policy Recommendations



Fostering Community Development

- **Solidarity and Collaboration:**
  - Promoting solidarity and collaboration by organizing inclusive meetings, and collaborative projects.
- **Community Engagement:**
  - Involving residents in the planning and decision-making processes.
  - Conducting regular meetings to gather input and feedback on community needs and priorities.
- **Feedback Mechanism:**
  - Ensuring that after gathering residents' opinions, they are kept informed about the process and outcomes, fostering transparency and trust.

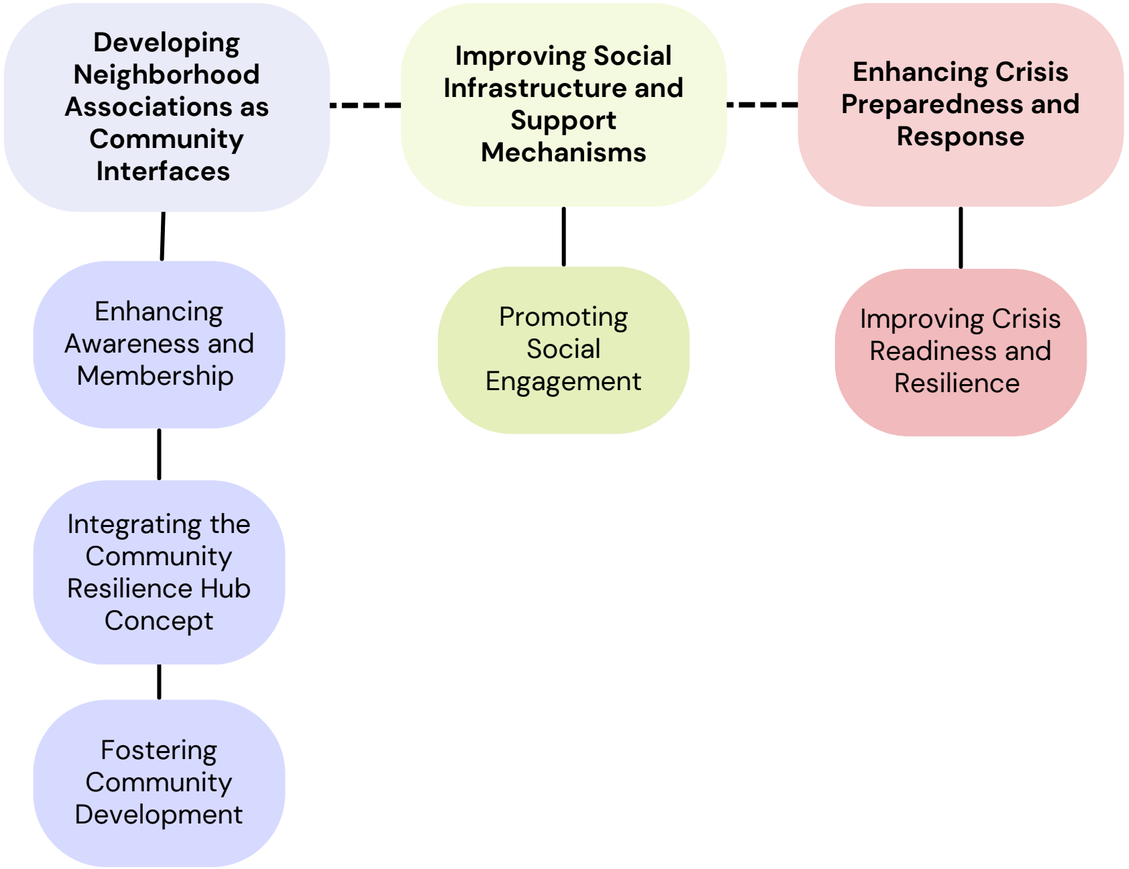
Policy Recommendations



Promoting Social Engagement through Capacity Building

- **Social Services:**
  - Providing timely aid to all residents.
  - Enhancing the availability and accessibility of social services, such as counseling, financial assistance, and support for vulnerable populations.
- **Educational Programs:**
  - Implementing educational programs that enhance neighborhood organization, foster social consciousness, and encourage civic participation.
- **Volunteer Programs:**
  - Creating volunteer programs that use residents' skills and abilities to help a variety of community efforts, including environmental cleanup.

Policy Recommendations



Improving Crisis Readiness and Resilience

- **Community Drills:**
  - Coordinating regular emergency drills and simulations with local authorities and emergency services to prepare communities for potential crises.
- **Training Programs:**
  - Providing stress management and crisis preparedness training to help residents increase their emotional resilience and ability to handle emergencies.

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