



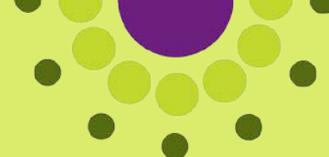
TEENWISE
MINNESOTA

The source on adolescent sexual health

Engaging Native Communities in Assessing Need for/Providing Culturally Relevant Sexuality Education in Northern Minnesota

**Judith A. Kahn, MSW/Teenwise Minnesota
Anna Goldtooth/Planned Parenthood of MN, ND, SD**

**Bridging the Gaps: Eliminating Disparities in Teen Pregnancy
and Sexual Health**
Washington, D.C.
June 4-6, 2014

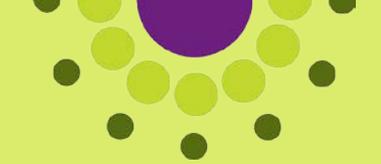


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Workshop Objectives

- **Objective 1:** At the conclusion of the workshop, participants will be able to describe the value of a community-informed process for assessing and responding to the sexual health needs of tribal youth.
- **Objective 2:** At the conclusion of the workshop, participants will be able to identify at least three strategies that American Indian tribes in Minnesota believe would improve their young people's sexual health.
- **Objective 3:** At the conclusion of the workshop, attendees will be able to describe the cultural underpinnings of the Ojibwe people and techniques for adapting programs for Native youth.

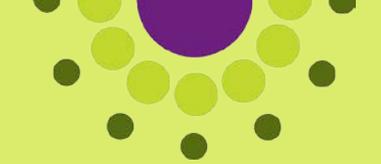


Teenwise Minnesota Vision/Mission

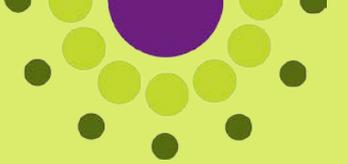
Vision: All young people are sexually healthy.

Mission: Teenwise promotes the sexual health of young people by strengthening the capacity to implement evidence-based practices, programs and policies.

Rural vs Urban: Racial and Geographical Disparities In MN



- MN teen *rural* birth rates nearly 3x higher than in the rest of the state¹
- Birth rate for American Indian teens in MN²:
 - nearly 2x U.S. rates for American Indian teens
 - nearly 3x higher than Minnesota white teens
- Rural and suburban MN counties account for over half of the chlamydia infections³

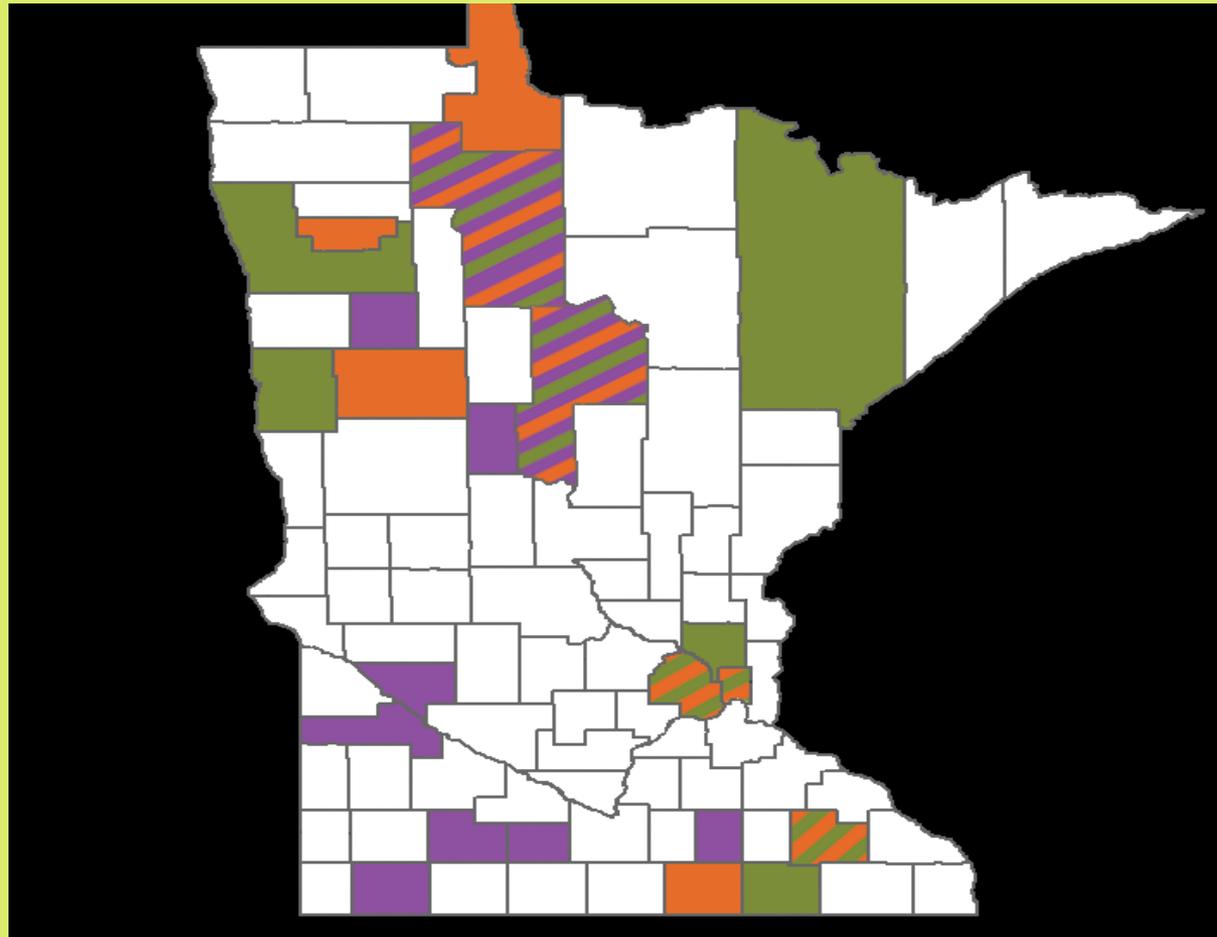


Top 10 MN Counties with Highest Rates Of:

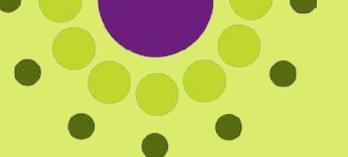
BIRTH

CHLAMYDIA

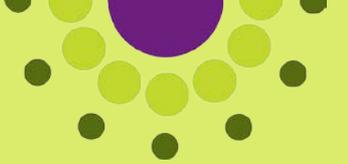
GONORRHEA ^{3,4}



Finding Story Underneath the Data



- Launched “listening sessions” in 3 counties and 3 Sovereign Nations in rural MN
- Formed partnerships with state and local entities to *accomplish* project
- Sought partnerships with 4 State Agencies to *leverage* project
 - State Adolescent Health Strategic Plan
 - CDC/DASH grant managed by State Dept. of Education

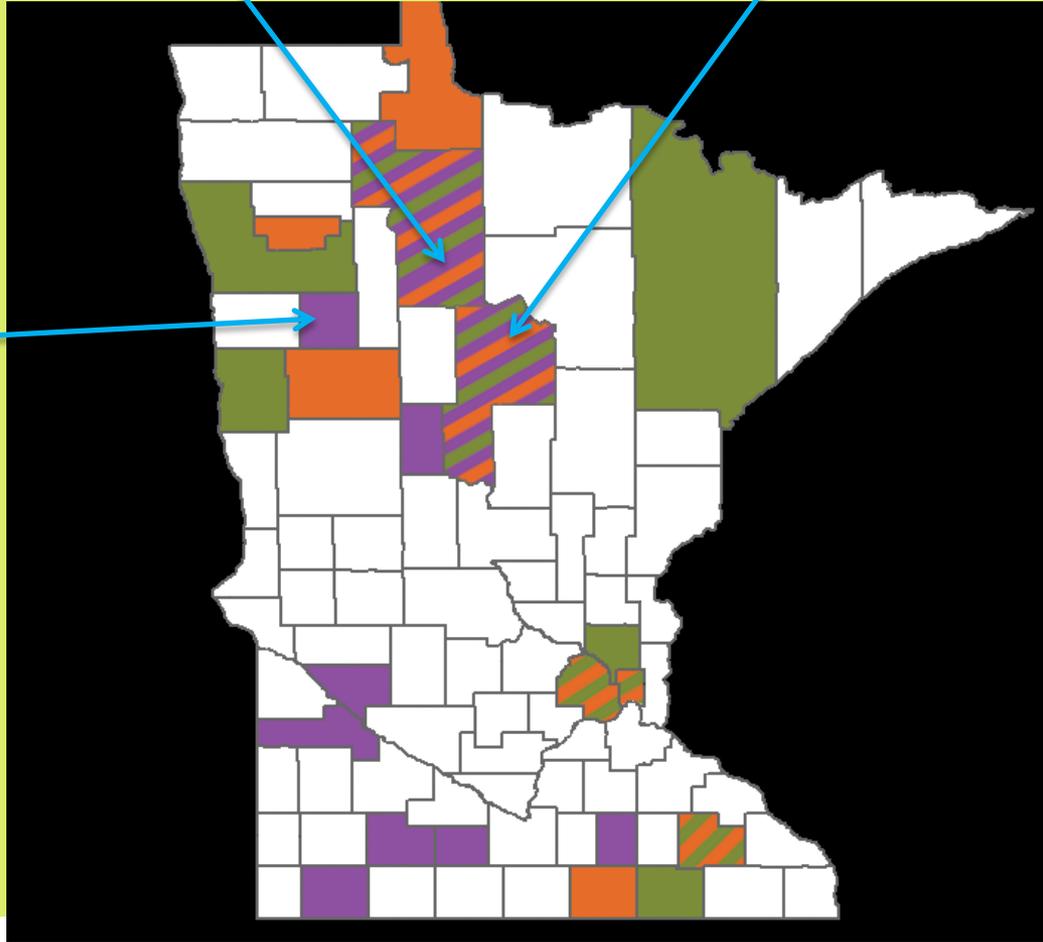


Red Lake Nation

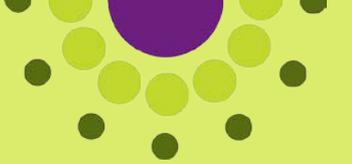
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe



White Earth Nation



Process and Protocols



- Advisory Committee: Outreach, survey development, leverage
- Tribal/Teenwise agreement: use of data
- Research process and protocols:
 - Participants reflected multiple disciplines serving youth
 - Research included: focus group, paper/pencil survey and follow-up phone interviews
 - Focus group co-facilitated by Division of Indian Work staff member

Themes from Listening session



- Three Listening Sessions, Total N= 44
- Questions inquired about:
 - Risk/protective factors for healthy sexual development
 - What's available/working to support sexual health
 - What are barriers
- Themes:
 - Parental support not available
 - Not enough role models in community
 - More engagement of youth in spirituality/culture

Themes from Paper/Pencil



- Paper/Pencil Survey N= 44
 - Determine specific needs for content education and skill building
- Themes
 - Abstinence only topic rated lowest importance
 - Values/decision making and pregnancy prevention rated in top two
 - 34% of respondents did not know where youth received sexual information

Themes from Phone Interviews

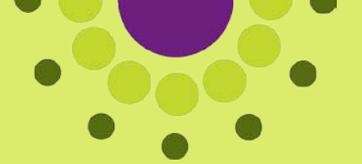


- Phone Interviews N= 20
 - Capture a deeper understanding of the need/ opportunities in each discipline represented at session
- Themes
 - Paternal involvement/lack of involvement seen as factor
 - Drug/alcohol use by youth influences condom use
 - Resources are probably available; lack coordination and linkages between various organizations.



Next Steps

- Community Meetings
- Action Planning
- Moving to Action:
 - Assess existing efforts, specific or correlated with sexual health
 - Community mobilization
 - Seek funding, as needed



References

1. MDH, Center for Health Statistics, 2012 Birth Data.
2. MDH, Center for Health Statistics. The Health and Well-Being of MN's Adolescents of Color: A Data Book, May 2012.
http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/chs/mss/specialreports/AdolescentsOfColor_REPORT_051412.pdf.
3. MDH, STD and HIV/AIDS Surveillance Systems, Surveillance Statistics 2013
4. MDH, Center for Health Statistics, 2012 Birth Data.



Contact and References

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ENGAGING NATIVE COMMUNITIES IN ASSESSING NEED FOR PROVIDING CULTURALLY RELEVANT SEXUALITY EDUCATION IN NORTHERN MINNESOTA

Anna Goldtooth and Judith Kahn



Planned Parenthood Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota

**Bridging the Gaps: Eliminating Disparities in Teen
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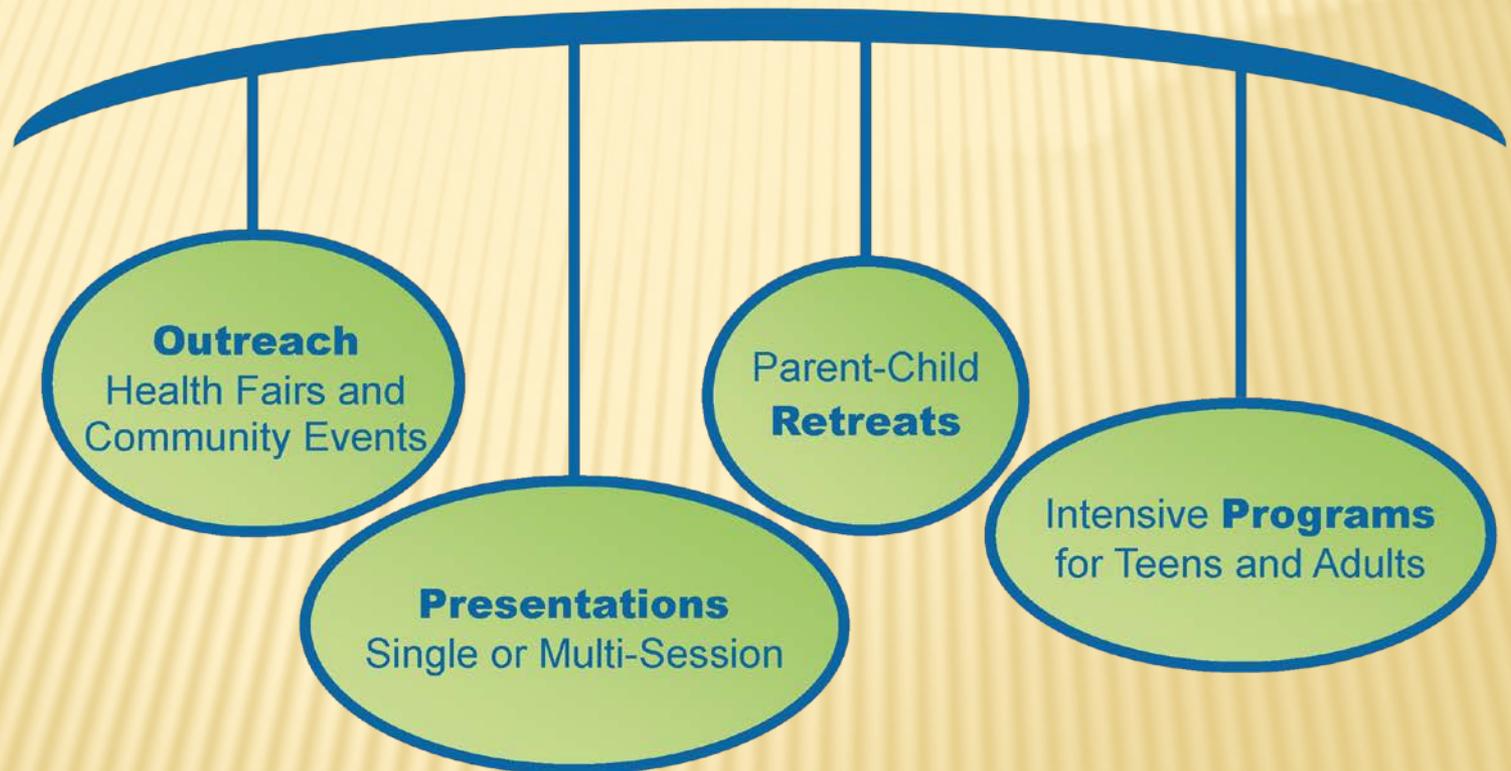
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Education & Outreach

at Planned Parenthood Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota

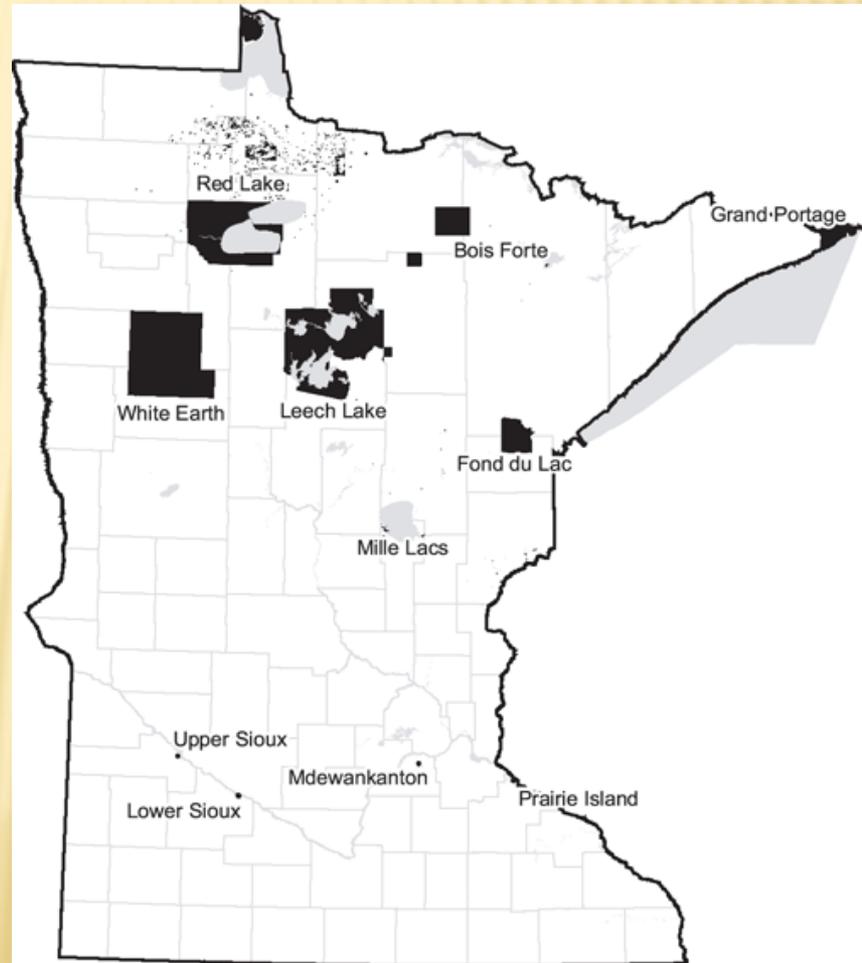
Spectrum of Community Engagement



In 2013, we reached 34,659 people through these varied education and outreach activities.

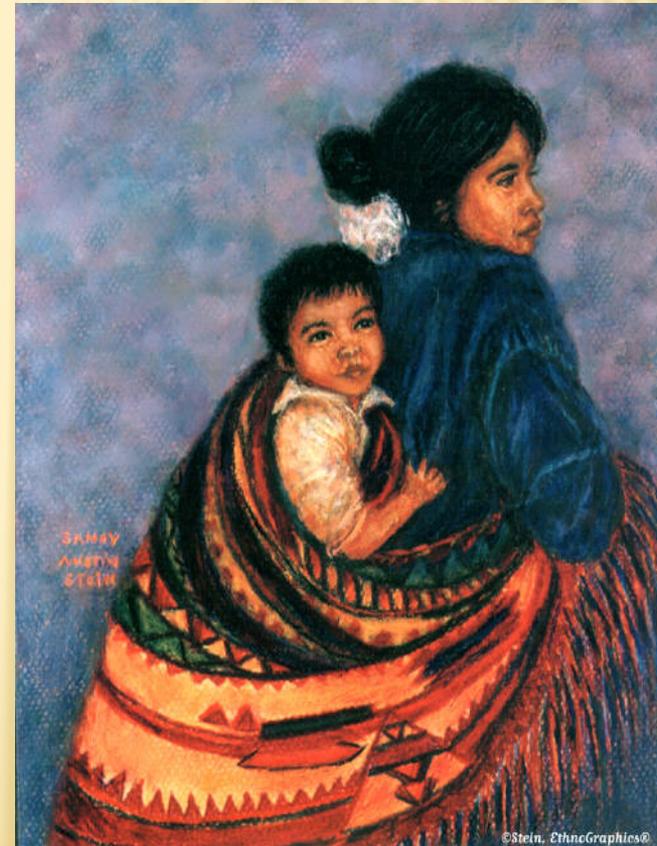
Where We Are From

- Duluth and Bemidji, Minnesota
- Bemidji is surrounded by the three largest Ojibwe reservations in Minnesota: Red Lake, Leech Lake, and White Earth
- Duluth borders the Fond du Lac Reservation



Barriers For Native Women and Girls

- Historical trauma
 - Sexual and intimate partner violence
 - Poverty
 - Substance use
- Access to adequate and relevant health care and sexual health information
- Stigma



Culturally Relevant Strategies

- Staff
- Curricula/language
- Culturally and gender responsive outreach
- HIV testing/clinical services
- Partnership and collaboration



PPMNS Education & Outreach Specialist Anna Goldtooth provides HIV outreach education at the Red Lake Health Fair.

TAKING SHAPE

- Comprehensive sexual health and prevention education
- Flexible delivery
- Topics include: anatomy, STI prevention, family planning, HIV/AIDS, healthy relationships and communication skills
- 970 people reached since program began

taking **SHAPE**



MOTHER- DAUGHTER RETREATS

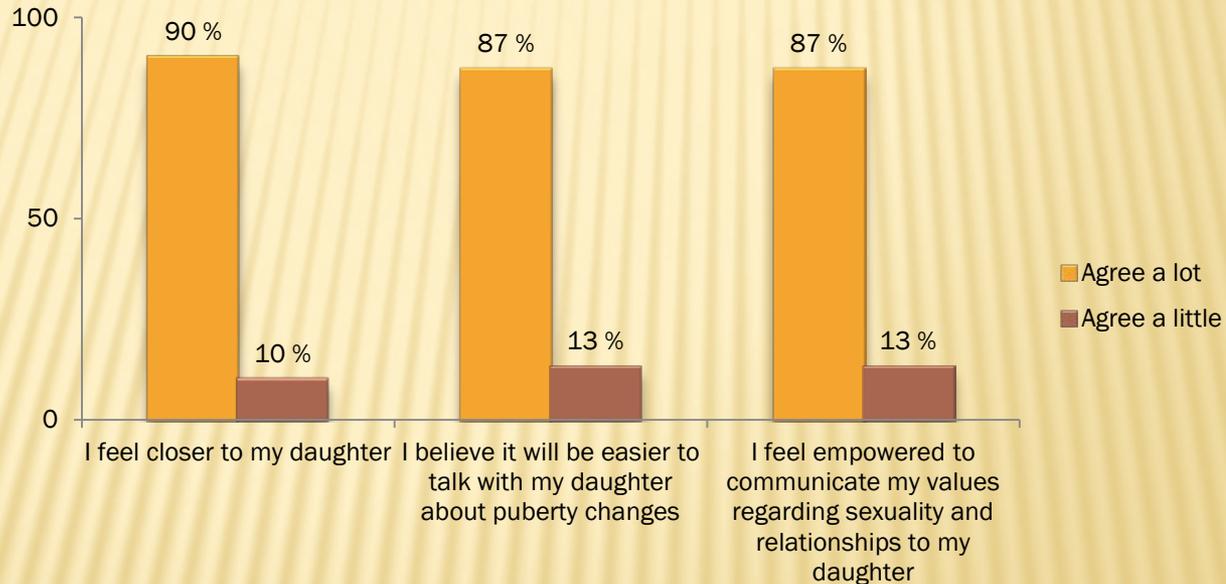
- Girls aged 10-12 and an older female mentor such as a grandmother, mother, aunt, sister, friend
- Celebration of the joys and strengths of being girls and women
- Cultural teachings regarding puberty by respected Elder in the community



Through trust-building exercises, mothers and daughters learn more about each other and enrich their relationship.

MOTHER-DAUGHTER RETREATS

Retreat Evaluation Results, Mothers: Because of today, ...



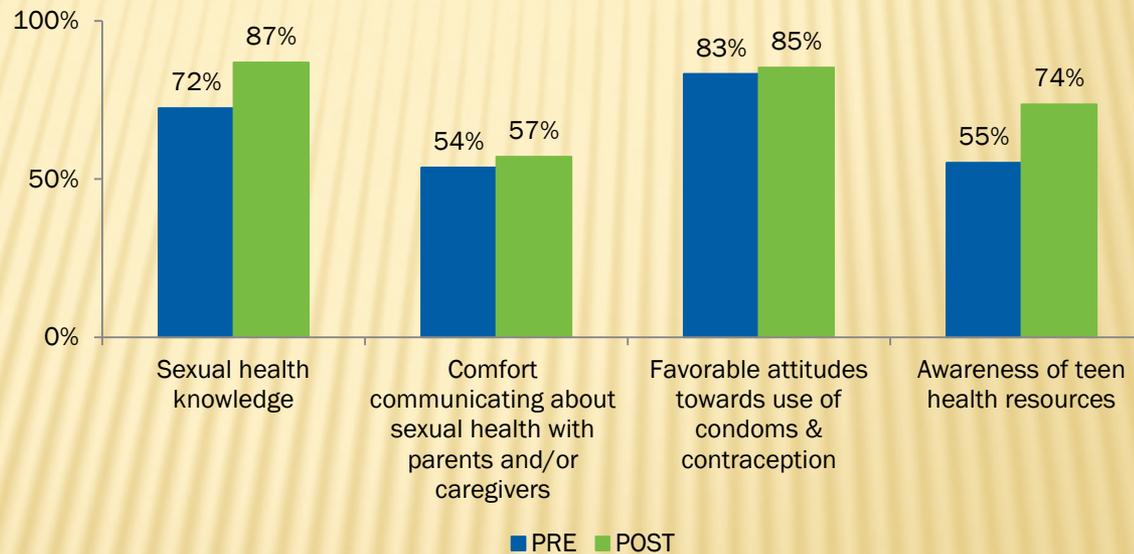
Native STAND

- Evidence-based
- Comprehensive risk reduction curriculum
- Culturally specific
- Community partnerships
- 300 peer education contacts made per program



Native STAND

Evaluation Results: Native STAND 2013



NIBWAAKAWIN GIDOOŃJI- MASHKAWAADIZIMIN. WISDOM IS OUR STRENGTH.



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“Miigwech” (Thank you)

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