



MARGARET'S
PLACE

Agenda

- Safe At Home Margaret's Place Program Overview
- The Impact of Witnessing DV on Boys
- Challenges: Engaging Young Men
- Young Men As Allies: Therapeutic Intervention
- Evaluation: Results

The Joe Torre Safe At Home Foundation History

- Background
- Why Margaret's Place
- Evolution



Margaret's Place Program Components

- Individual Counseling
- **Group Counseling**
- **Peer Leadership**
- Violence Prevention Curriculum
- Faculty/Parent/Community Outreach
- **School-Wide Campaigns**

Impact of Witnessing DV

Behavioral, Social, Emotional

- Higher levels of aggression, anger, hostility, oppositional behavior, and disobedience; fear, anxiety, withdrawal, and depression; poor peer, sibling, and social relationships; and low self-esteem.

Cognitive, Attitudinal

- Lower cognitive functioning, poor school performance, lack of conflict resolution skills, limited problem solving skills, pro-violence attitudes, and belief in rigid gender stereotypes and male privilege.

Impact of Witnessing DV

Long-Term Problems

- Higher levels of adult depression and trauma symptoms and increased tolerance for and use of violence in adult relationships



Impact of Witnessing DV Young Men

- Externalize
- Adolescent males attempt to intervene
- 85% of incarcerated men reported DV in homes
- **More likely to become perpetrators**

Focus on Boys

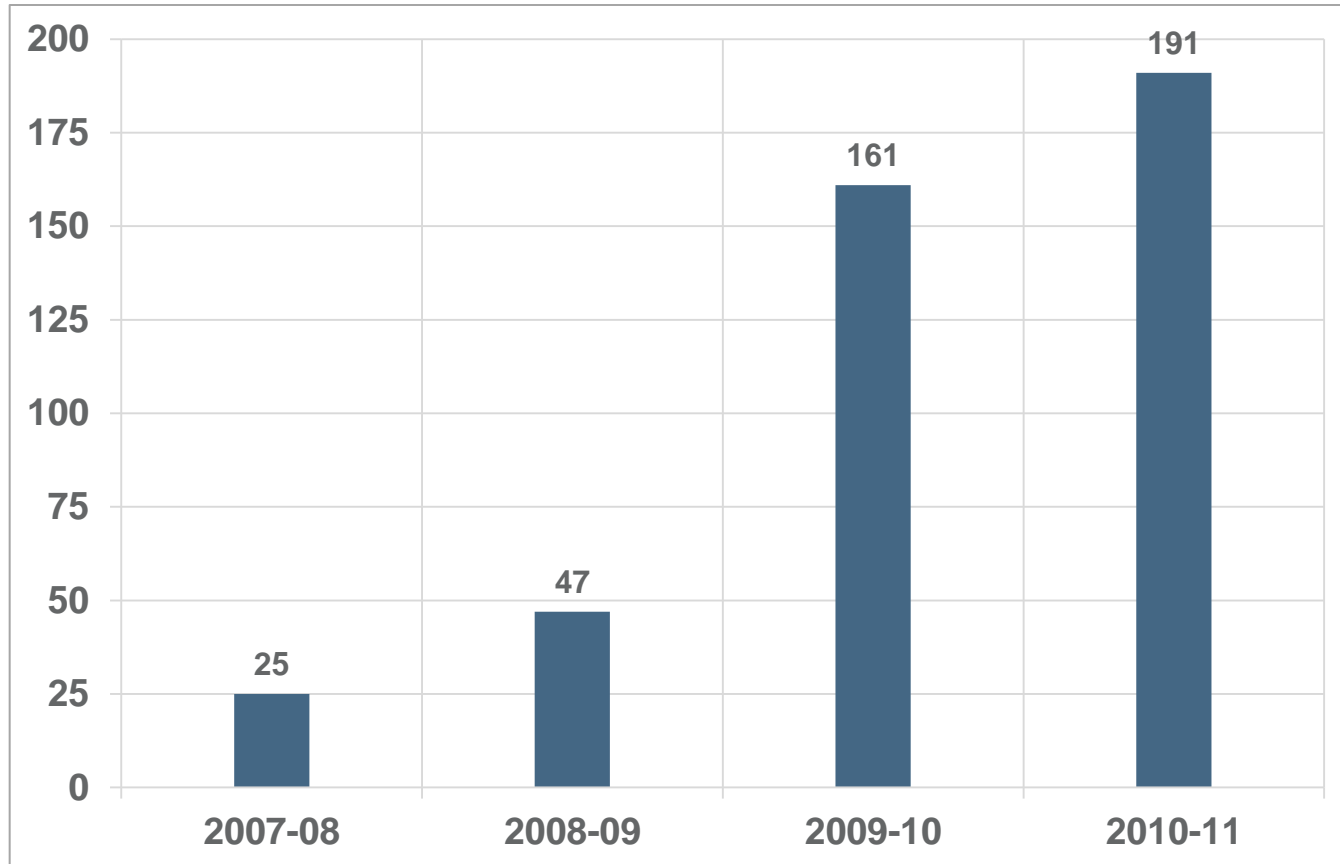
In the past 5 years, we have

- Worked directly with **1,674** boys in our Margaret's Place Program
- Provided **711** boys with individual counseling
- Conducted **2,664** counseling sessions with boys
- Run **485** boys groups and workshops

Engaging Young Men: Challenges

- Disclose less frequently
- Unwilling to participate in Individual Counseling
- “That’s for girls”
- Identify with batterer
- Embrace gender stereo-types (soft, pussy, bitch, chump, weak)
- Don’t want to be identified as “bad”
- Feel Powerless “this is just the way I am... I can’t help it.”
- Media/Societal Pressures

Our attention to *“males as advocates to women”* in the prevention of violence is evidenced by the increased number of counseling groups and workshops geared toward boys in our Margaret’s Place Program.



Engaging Young Men: Solutions

- Provide services that are not dependent on disclosure
- Alternative interventions: Groups, Leadership Opportunities, Psycho-Education
- Offer gender neutral/balanced space/programming
- Introduce positive male role models, explore gender roles and masculinity
- Carefully explain that just because most DV/TRA is perpetrated by males does not mean most men are perpetrators
- Engage in activities to end violence against women

Young Men As Allies

- Meet them where they are at
- Engage in discussions about gender norms and power and control
- Explore role models... who are they? What qualities would you want in a role model?
- Provide psycho-education
- Invite them to participate
- Bring in relevant materials

Helper's High Therapeutic Significance

- Increase sense of self-worth
- Offer sense of purpose
- Develop empathy
- Identify choices increasing sense of empowerment
- Buy-In (more engaged=increased belief)
- Balance/Replacement of internalized unhealthy messages re. violence, gender, relationships

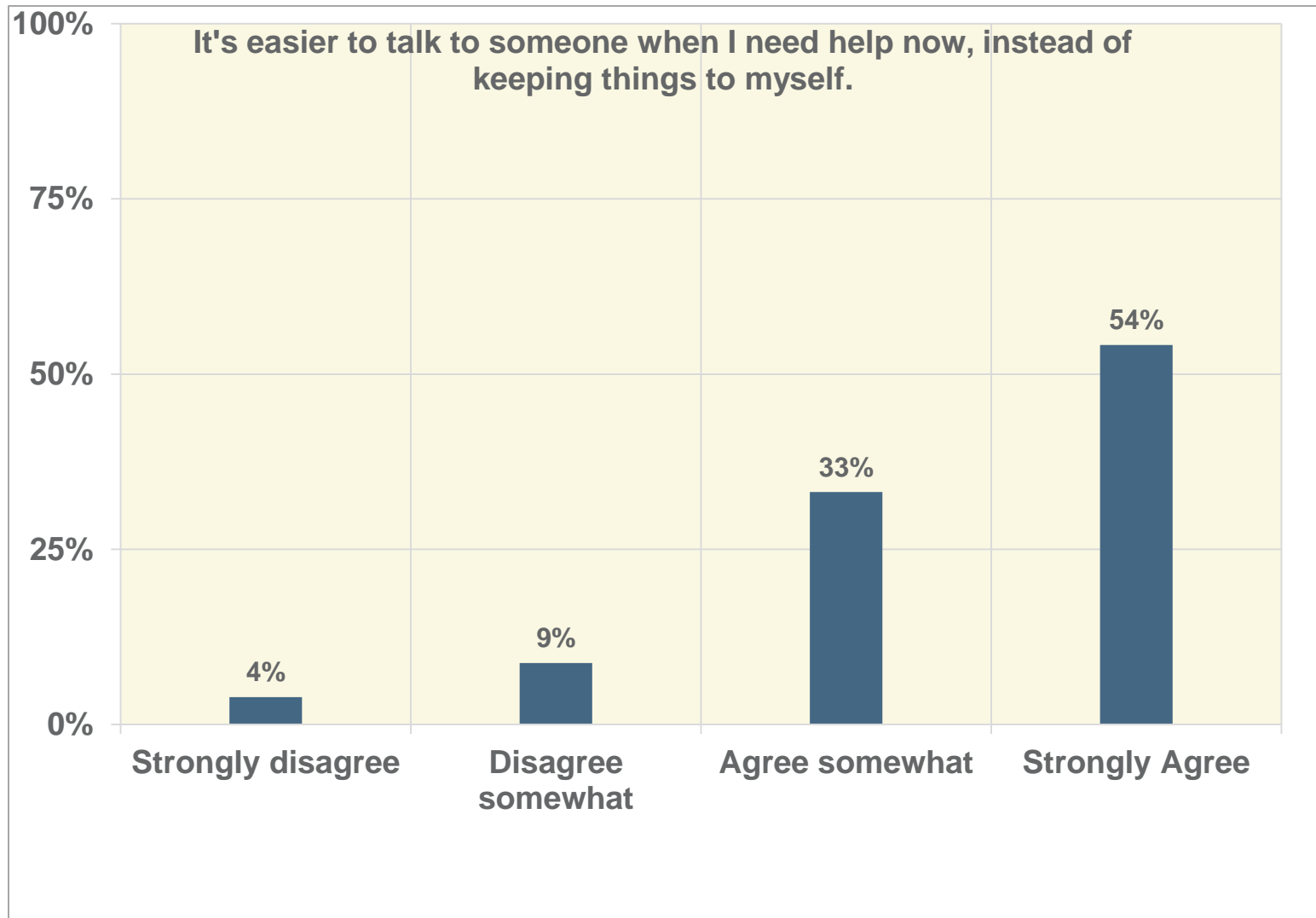
Recommended Materials

- Scenarios USA – www.scenariosusa.org
 - What's The Real Deal About Masculinity
 - What's The Real Deal About Gender, Power, and Relationships
- MOST – www.mencanstoprape.org
- Beyond Beats and Rhymes -
<http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/hiphop/>
<http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/classroom/hiphop.html>

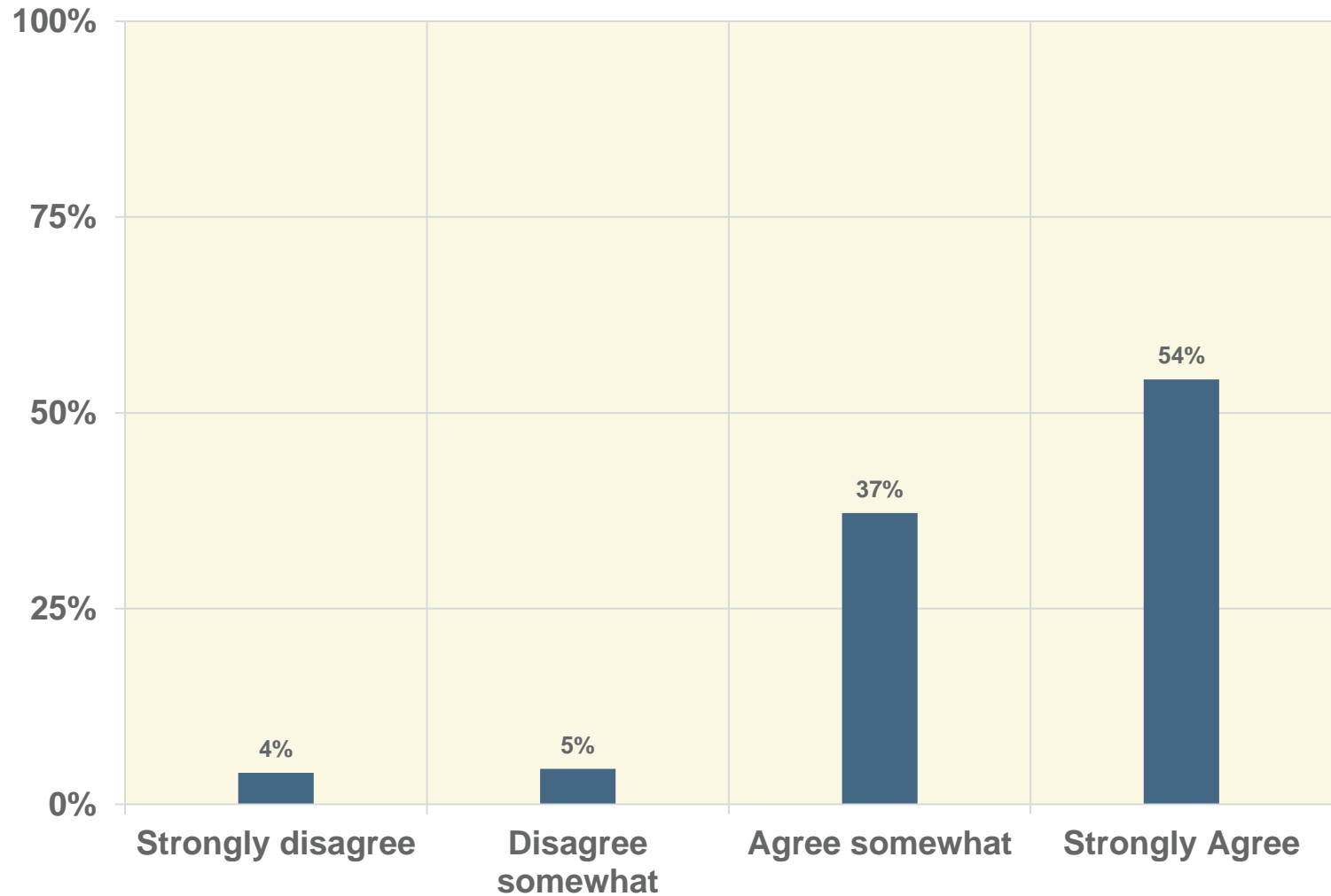
Evaluation Results

Young men who have received services through Margaret's Place report:

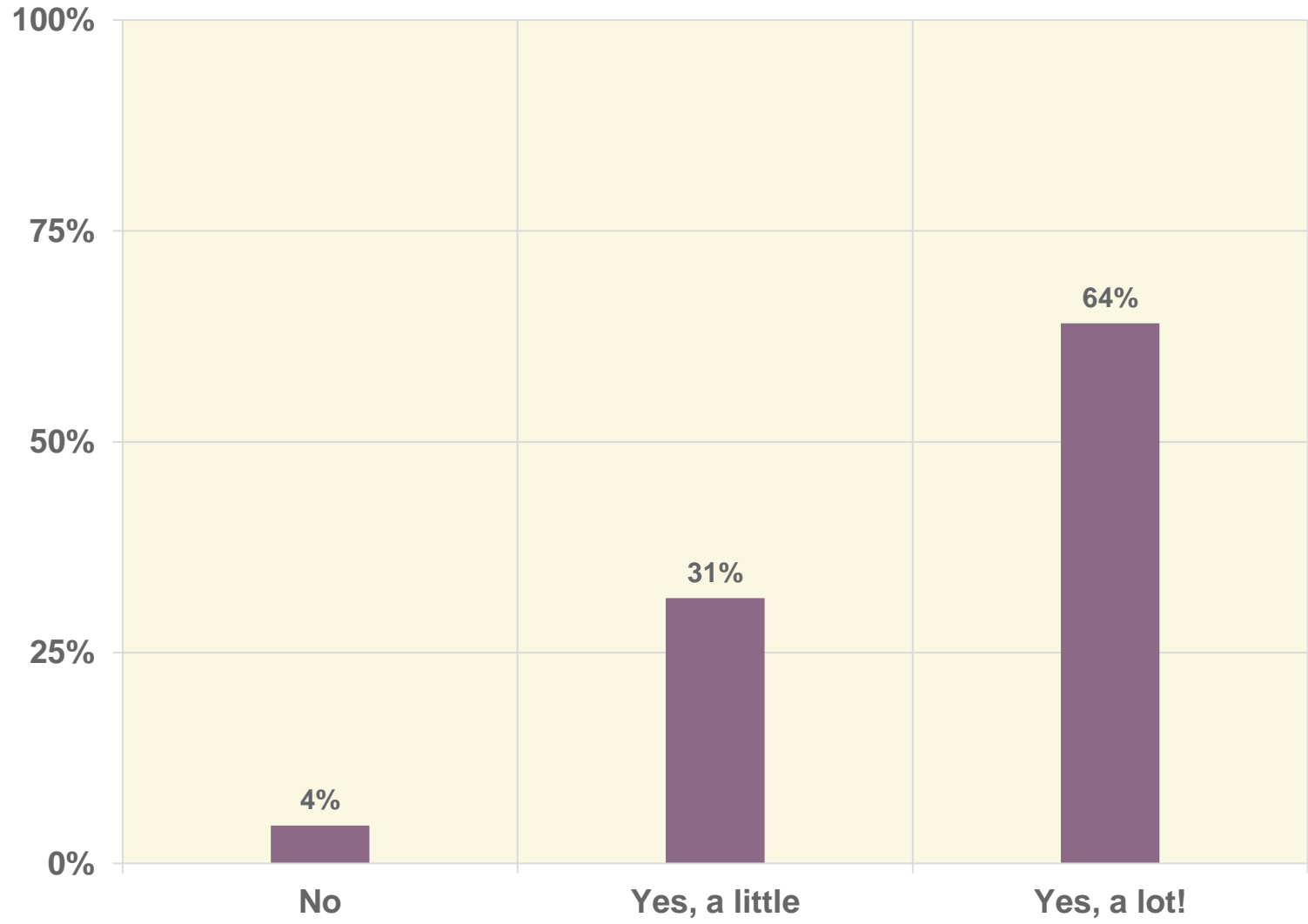
- It's easier to talk to someone when they need help
- They now know how to use more positive coping skills
- They are making smarter choices
- They are able to control their anger a little better



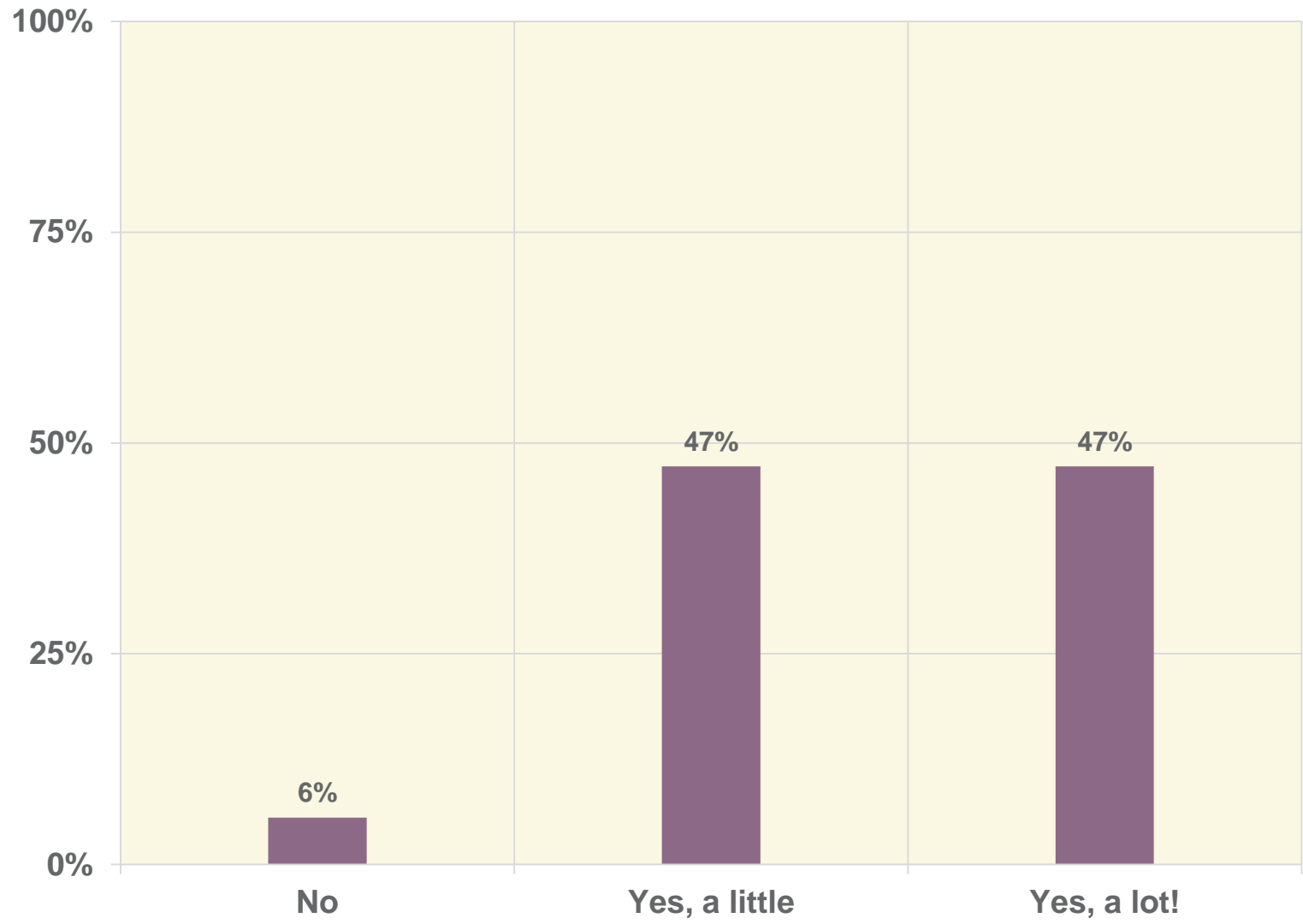
I now use much more positive coping skills than I used to (eg. listening to music, working out, drawing, playing sports etc.)



I am making smarter choices in my life.



I'm able to control my anger a little better.



Selected Findings: Young Men and Women

- **74%** of students said that the MP Program helped them learn about abusive relationships (Student Survey)
- **68%** of students said that the MP Program helped them speak up when they saw abusive or harassing behavior (Student Survey)
- **76%** of teachers across all sites felt that the Margaret's Place Program had increased respectful communication in the school (Teacher Survey)
- **91%** of students who received services indicated that, because of the counseling they received at Margaret's Place, *they were getting along better with people at school (SRS Survey)*
- **89%** of students who received services indicated that, because of the counseling they received at Margaret's Place, it was easier to talk to someone when they needed help, instead of keeping things to themselves (SRS Survey)

Q and A

www.joetorre.org

jessica@joetorre.org

Jessica Mischkot
Joe Torre Safe At Home
Program Director

Articles:

Baker, L. & Jaffe, P. (November, 2000). Preventing the next generation of violence through the early identification of children exposed to family violence. Paper presented at the Violence in the family: Plan of action for the 21st century Conference, Nicosia, Cyprus.

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Jaffe, P.G., Crooks, C.V., & Watson, L (2009). Creating Safe School Environments: From Small Steps to Sustainable Change. London, ON: Althouse Press.

Jaffe, P.G., Baker, L.L., & Cunningham, A. (Eds) (2004). Protecting children from domestic violence: Strategies for community intervention. New York, NY: Guilford Press.

Wolfe, D.A., Crooks, C.V., Chiodo, D. & Jaffe, P. (2009). Child maltreatment, bullying, gender-based harassment, and adolescent dating violence: Making the connections. Psychology of women Quarterly, 33, 21-24.

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Websites:

www.futureswithoutviolence.org

www.chilgrenaidsociety.org

www.justice.gov/defendingchildhood/

www.childwelfare.gov