

**First 3 Year Cluster:
466 Women**

2009-2010: +26
(↑17.5%)

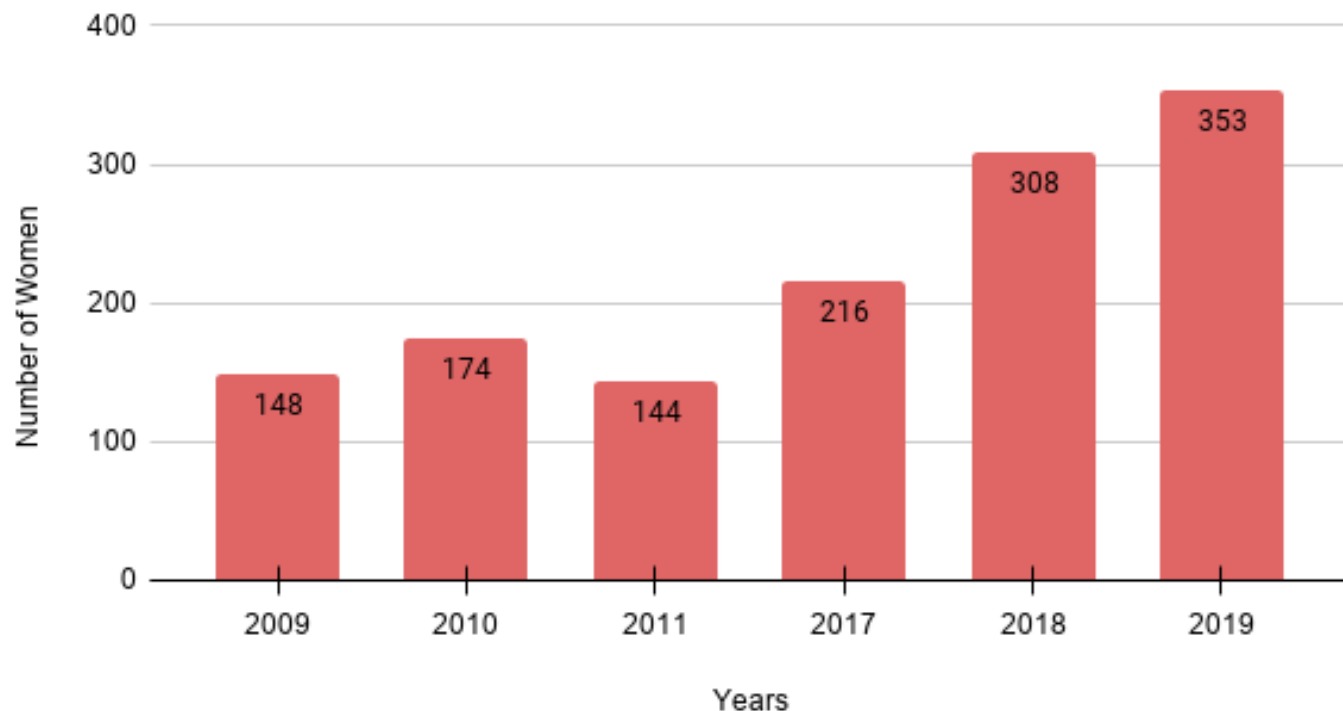
2010-2011: -30
(↓17.2%)

**Second 3 Year
Cluster:
877 Women**

2017-2018: +92
(↑42.6%)

2018-2019: +45
(↑14.6%)

Women Who Sought & Received Treatment in Guam



WOMEN WHO SOUGHT TREATMENT AND RECEIVED TREATMENT ON GUAM

2009

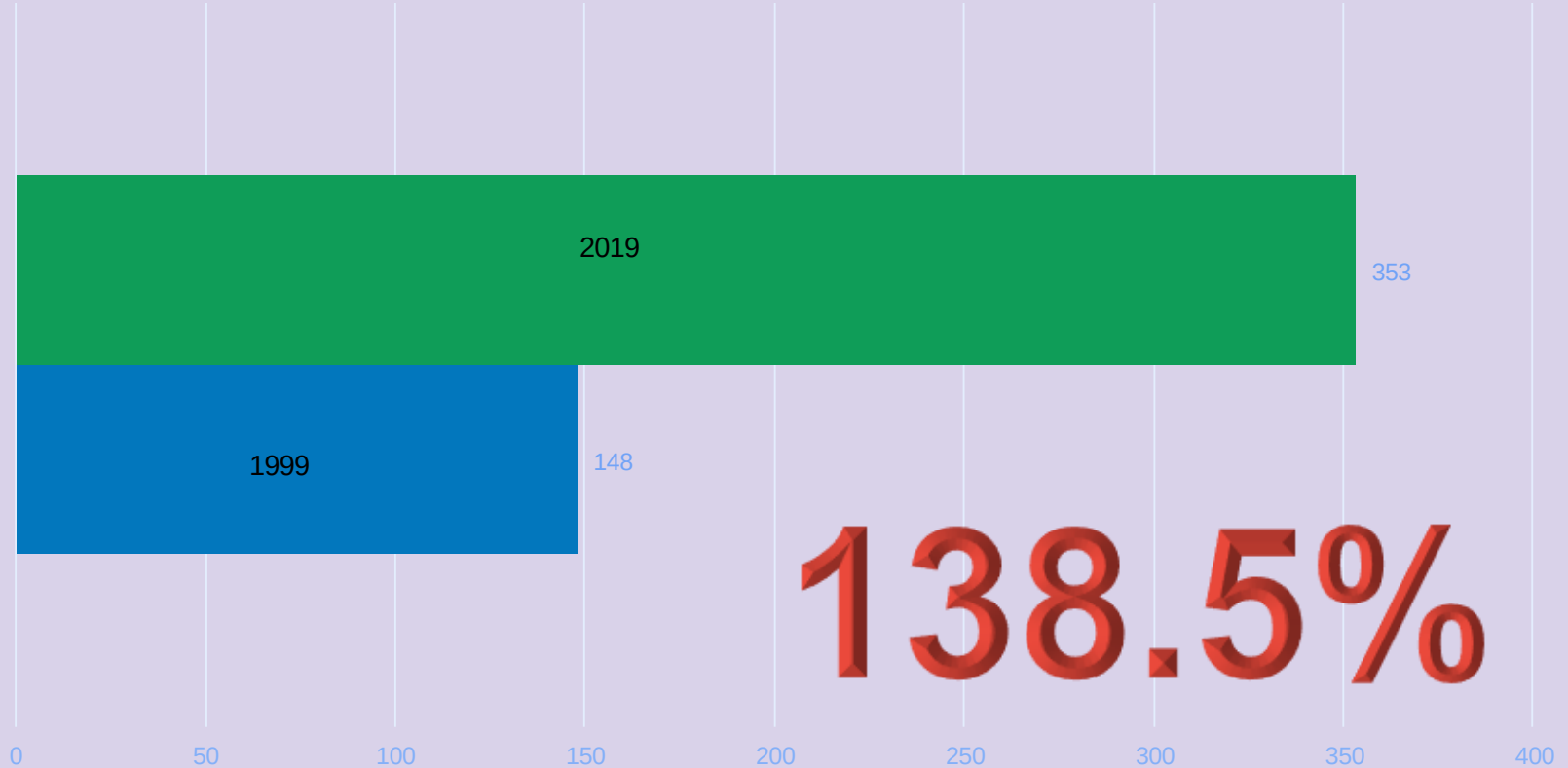
2019

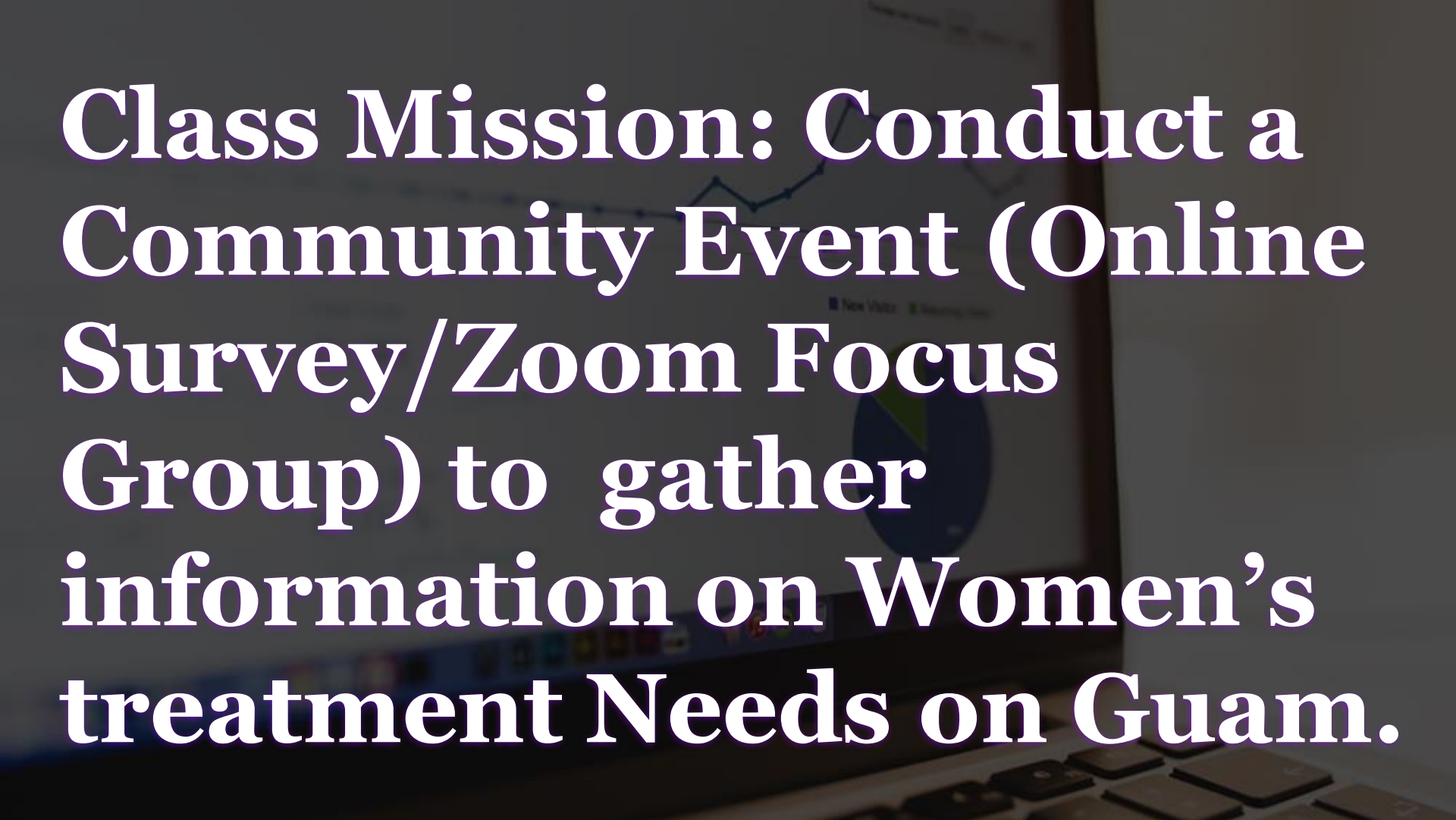
148



353

In a 10 year span admissions Increased



The background of the slide is a dark, semi-transparent image of a laptop screen. On the screen, there is a line graph with a blue line showing an upward trend, and a pie chart with a green slice. The text is overlaid on this background in a large, white, serif font.

Class Mission: Conduct a Community Event (Online Survey/Zoom Focus Group) to gather information on Women's treatment Needs on Guam.

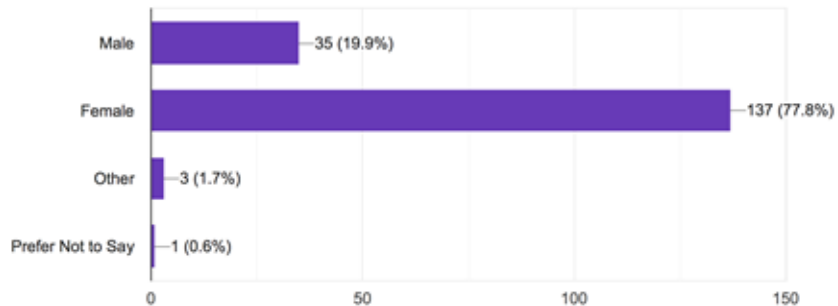
“Join the Voices for Recovery!”

Online Survey by SW332-01 Generalist SW Practice Methods III
Instructor: Valerie Reyes

Demographics

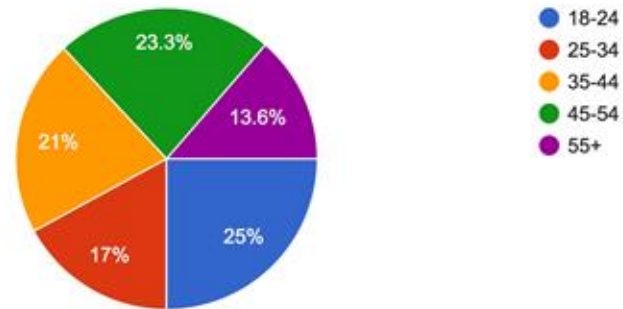
What is your gender?

176 responses



Which age category do you place in?

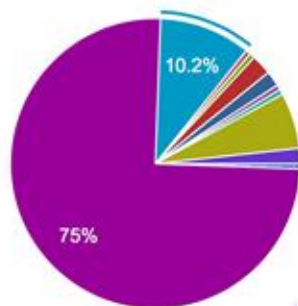
176 responses



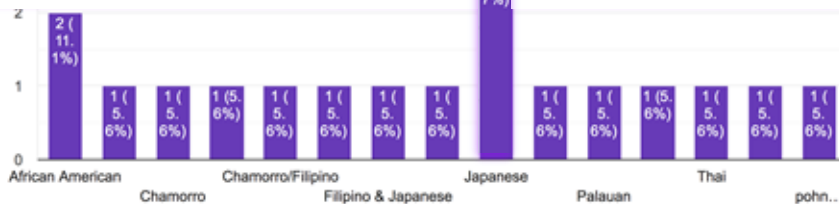
Demographics Continued

Choose the ethnicity that best applies to you:

176 responses

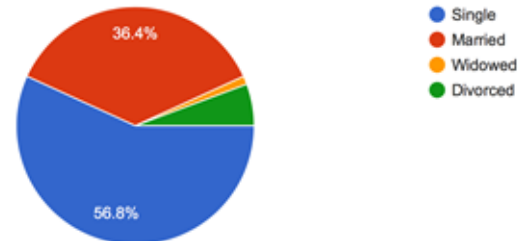


- Chuukese
- Yapese
- Pohnpeian
- Kosraean
- CHamoru
- Filipino
- Japanese
- Korean
- Chinese
- White
- African American
- Hispanic or Latino
- Mixed
- Other



Marital Status?

176 responses

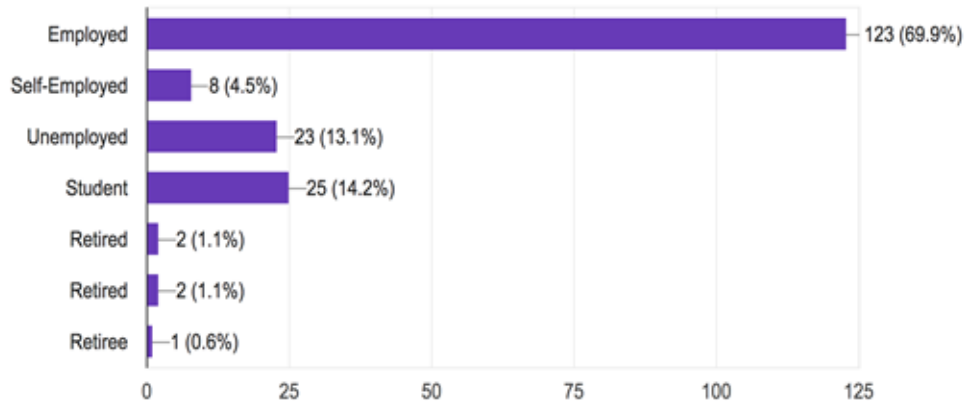


- Single
- Married
- Widowed
- Divorced

Demographics Continued

Employment Status?

176 responses



What village do you reside in?

1. Dededo - 30
2. Yigo - 17
3. Mangilao - 19

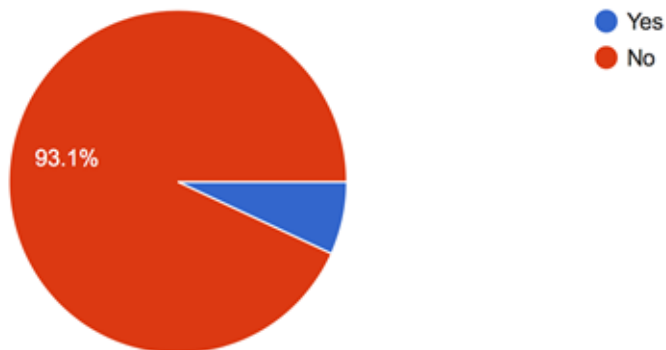
Outliers:

1. Washington - 1
2. Saipan - 2

Questionnaire

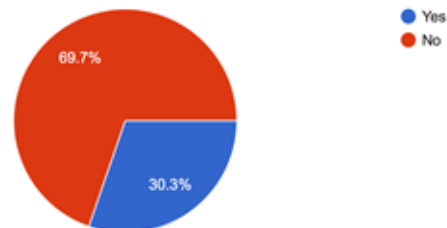
1. Are you having problems with current drug or alcohol use?

175 responses



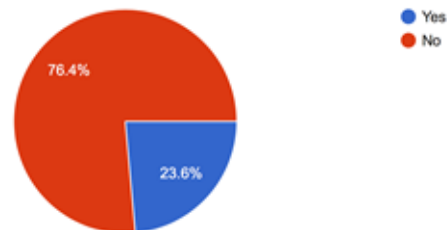
2. Have you ever attempted or are attempting to address problem substance use?

175 responses



3. Have you ever participated in or sought services through substance abuse prevention/ intervention programs?

174 responses



☐ **Services Utilized:**

- Rehabilitation/Treatment Center (85.4%)
- Community Events (17.1%)
- Counseling, Therapy Sessions, AA, 12 Step Program

☐ **Wait Time to Receive Services:**

- 0-30 Days (75.6%)
- 1-3 Months (19.5%)

☐ **Accessibility of Services**

- Very Easy (2.4%)
- Easy (4.9%)
- Fairly accessible (43.9%)
- Easy (24.4%)
- Very Easy (24.4%)

☐ **Payment For Services**

- Free Services (87.2%)
- Self-pay (7.7%)

Waitlist

- NO (61%)
- YES (39%)

How Long Waitlisted

- 0-30 Days (68.4%)
- 1-3 Months (15.8%)
- 3-6 Months (5.3%)
- 6-12 Months (10.5%)

Did Treatment Program Connect with other Agencies

- Yes (27 individuals)
- No (7 Individuals)

What Agencies did you connect with?

- Public Health
- GBHWC
- Other Treatment Facilities
- AA. NA
- GHURA
- DMV

☐ **Overall Experience at treatment program/center was excellent.**

- Strongly agree (53.7%)
- Neutral (44%)
- Strongly disagree (2.4%)

☐ **Did not wait long to receive services.**

- Strongly agree (46.2%)
- Neutral (46.1%)
- Strongly disagree (7.7%)

☐ **Services were conducted in a timely manner.**

- Strongly agree (51.3%)
- Neutral (43.6%)
- Strongly disagree (5.1%)

☐ **Treatment/services received were HELPFUL**

- Strongly agree (61.5%)
- Neutral (33.4%)
- Strongly disagree (5.1%)

How were treatments/services helpful?

- Connected individuals to other programs and agencies
- Provided structure and supportive environment
- Educated individuals on their weaknesses and triggers
- Provided tools to stay clean

How were treatments/services not helpful?

- Not enough beds to accommodate
- Need larger facility to accommodate more individuals
- Staff can be more welcoming and encouraging to individuals coming in
- Need more group rooms

☐ **What are some women centered rehabilitation programs / centers on Guam that you know of?**

- Oasis Empowerment Center
- New Beginnings

☐ **Do you feel there is a need for more treatment options regarding substance abuse on Guam?**

- 92.6% Yes
- 7.4% No

☐ **What kind of services do you think Guam is in need of?**

1. Inpatient and aftercare facilities
2. More residential treatment centers for women
3. Treatments
4. More rehabilitation and more programs
5. Community / cultural awareness outreach programs

☐ **Are you aware of some women-centered rehabilitation programs/centers on Guam?**

- 45.7% No
- 54.3% Yes

How do you think treatment services can be improved on Guam?

1. Funding
2. More awareness / support from the government
3. More counselors with lived in experience in recovery / another residential treatment center
4. Having more facilities
5. Available classes open to the public

Do you think there is a need for a women's rehabilitation center?

- 96.6% Yes
- 3.4% No

Do you know of a female seeking treatment/services?

- 54.3% No
- 39.9% Yes
- 5.8% Prefer not to say

Comments

Need to increase the number of licenses substance abuse counselors; need to **ensure the services are provided for free** to those in recovery or in need of help; need more outreach on types services provided in Guam.

We **need more treatment centers**.

Substance abuse is a public health concern yet it is often only looked at as a criminal act.

I think there is a **need for adequate facility and staff**.

We are **losing another generation** to the National health epidemic of Addiction.

Growing number of drug abuse amongst the different age groups , genders , race & walks of life is evident and astounding. Prevalence of Illegal drugs & drug dealers **must be addressed**.

There are many people who are battling drug abuse on Guam. **We need more people that are able to help especially with families**.

Guam is behind the power curve in substance abuse and education on substance abuse.

Guam should look at other facilities and **one stop centers off island**.

Is there any **residential treatment** for those who have criminal sexual conduct charges who were under the influence at the time ?

My concern is for the minor children who are **greatly impacted** by their mothers' bad choices.

“Celebrating Connections!”

Online Focus Group by SW332-01 Generalist SW Practice Methods III
Instructor: Valerie Reyes

Number of Participants:

24

Participants Included:

- Individuals In Recovery
- Treatment Providers

Treatment Barriers that Women Experience

1) Child Care

- a) Especially when entering a residential program

2) Limited Bed Space

- a) Only 12 residential beds at Oasis Empowerment Center

3) Reliable Transportation

4) Lack of Support At Home

5) Education

- a) Do not know what treatments are available to them

6) Testing & Identification

- a) Must obtain a skin test, TB test, identification first
- b) Some are unable to pay or do not own forms of identification

How Can These Barriers Be Addressed?

- Treatment centers can provide vouchers for testing and provide assistance with acquiring identification
 - Offered at Guam Behavioral Health & Wellness Center's New Beginnings but funding is very limited
- Another residential care center
- Hiring more certified female peer specialists
 - Would help give a woman's perspective on the process of treatment
- group residential home for families (women with children)
 - day care component

What available services do women feel work best? What improvements can be made?

- Treatment that provides “Holistic Approach”
 - Working with not just drugs and alcohol issues
 - Working with spirituality
 - Working with drama
 - Working with case management
 - Lacking resources

What are some things that prevent women from seeking treatment?

- Inadequate childcare
- Fear of family telling their business to everyone
- Lack of a support system
- Emotional abuse from partner
 - Relationship where partner is controlling
 - Partner has negative impact on their self-esteem
- Women are held to a higher standard by society than men (ex. children are solely the woman's responsibility)
- Parents/family (of daughters) prevent them from going to treatment. They do not want the family name to look "bad"

Are there any influences that prevent women from seeking treatment?

- Family image may be of more importance
- The environment they're in and the homes
- No childcare centers for their children to go, because it may be costly
- Feel pressure from family and society due to society's expectations of a mother
- Abusive relationships could have a negative impact on self-esteem
- Stereotypes regarding women who seek treatment

What stigmas do women experience in the community?

- Assumed that women trade sex for drugs, women are belittled and labeled as “chronic” when impacted by drugs/alcohol
- “Women should not be addicted to drugs, only men”

What may be major differences in treatment between women and men?

- Women have underlying issues that made them use in the first place
- Women are held to a higher standard because men can't show weakness
- Going into treatment can be perceived as weakness
- A relationship where both are doing drugs/alcohol can be a little difficult when one person wants to recover sooner than the other.
- One person believes that recovery is harder for women because they're more emotional, however men can be just as emotional as women.
- Coed group can be difficult because the emotions may make the opposite genders feel uncomfortable.

Does Guam have adequate access to services?

- Services are adequate quality wise but not quantity wise
- More women are wanting to access treatment
- Always room for Improvement and more that women can benefit from
- Many qualified service providers but not enough services
- No stable transportation hinders adequate access to services

What Keeps Women Motivated to Continue or Stay In Treatment?

- Admitting that there's a problem
- The "WHY"
- Recognizing that they're in treatment for themselves
- *For Mothers* The children
- Living life beyond addiction
- "Recovery is awesome, it takes a lot of work, but it's possible"
- Support
- Hearing other's success stories
- The wins
- It helps them cope with ongoing issues in their personal lives

Participant

"Recovery works."

"I'm going to graduate, I'm going to continue my education because treatment works."

"Being in treatment helped me clear my head and realize what was important."

Conclusion

- ❖ We social work students hope that the valuable information obtained from our research will generate funding for future grants and improve and expand services for the women of Guam

Questions

**On Behalf of the Social Work
Macro Practice Class we
want to Thank all of those
who contributed**