Mile High Behavioral Healthcare

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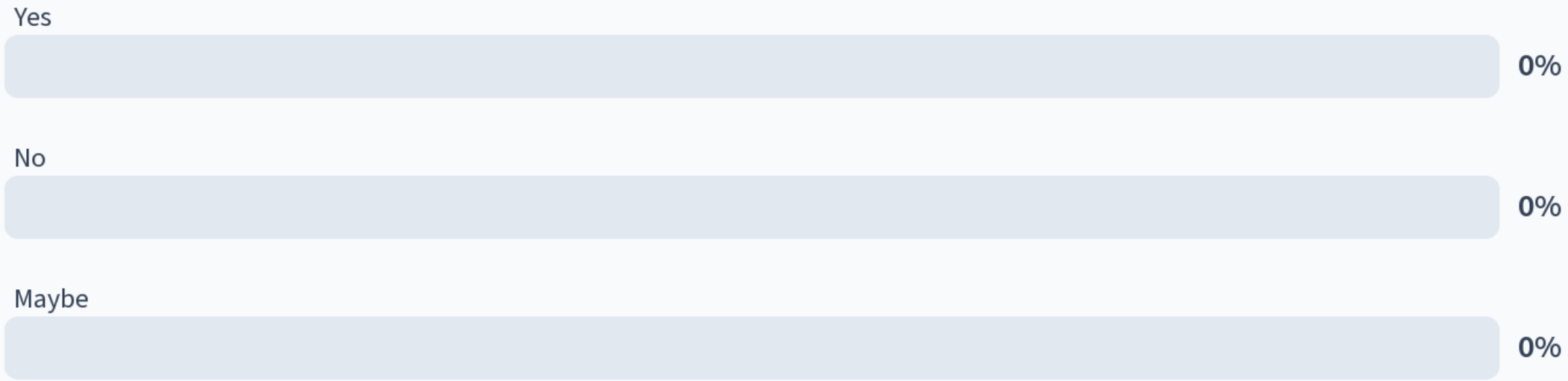
Disclosures

No conflict(s) of interest to report

No financial relationships to report

Have you ever been to a drag show?



Process of Engaging PWUD

- Leveraged the existing Harm Reduction Advisory Committee to discuss the program. The HRAC includes:
  - Staff
  - People with lived experience (PWUD/PWID)
  - People with living experience
  - Queer community members
  - Partner organizations
  - Grassroots harm reductionists

- Determined an **intentional program for LGBTQ+ nightlife harm reduction was necessary.**

Process of Engaging Drag Artists

- Preliminary research of **Colorado drag artists** and their interest in harm reduction.

- **17 drag queens, kings and 'monsters'** indicated a high willingness to **participate and incorporate harm reduction messaging** into the work they do.

- **Agreement** with the statement, *"I am someone involved in the drag/nightlife entertainment community and I want to be involved in public health projects,"* was very high ($M_{out\ of\ 10}$ = 8.7)

Developing Key Messages

- The majority of drag artists are **not public health experts.**
- They are, however, **experts in their local Queer nightlife and entertainment scene.**
- Wanted **Key Messages to directly align with skills/resources.**
- Created a **Drag Artist Harm Reduction Toolkit** (scan QR– open access).
- Easy for artists to **pull up on their phone.**

Outcomes, Trends & Themes

Table 2. Familiarity with harm reduction among drag performers and their audiences

	Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Very	Extremely
Self					
Familiar with harm reduction concepts or strategies	5%	27%	41%	23%	5%
Familiar with harm reduction programs or policies in Colorado	27%	37%	37%	0%	0%
Audiences					
Familiar with harm reduction concepts or strategies	14%	41%	46%	0%	0%
Familiar with harm reduction programs or policies	14%	55%	32%	0%	0%

Table 3. Pre- and Post-Detailing Mean Scores on Harm Reduction Skill Items

	Mean Before (*SD*)	**Mean After (*SD*)**
I understand what harm reduction is.	6.22 (2.1)	8.82 (0.4)
I can explain why harm reduction is important to my community.	6.17 (1.9)	8.73 (0.5)
I feel comfortable using the language of harm reduction.	6.39 (2.0)	8.73 (0.5)
I am comfortable talking about STIs and sexual health harm reduction with others.	7.57 (1.8)	8.73 (0.5)
I am comfortable talking about overdose and substance use harm reduction with others.	7.26 (2.0)	8.73 (0.5)
I am comfortable explaining harm reduction principles to an audience.	6.78 (2.1)	8.55 (0.7)
I have effective techniques for talking to venues about harm reduction.	5.57 (2.6)	8.55 (0.7)
I have effective techniques for talking to an audience about harm reduction.	5.83 (2.4)	8.73 (0.5)
I know how to promote harm reduction ideas on social media.	6.09 (2.3)	8.73 (0.5)
I am able to serve as an effective ambassador for harm reduction in my community.	7.17 (2.0)	8.82 (0.4)
I am able to effectively link individuals to other harm reduction resources.	6.39 (2.1)	8.73 (0.5)
Scale ranged from a low of 1 to a high of 9.		

**statistically significant on all individual items*

Outcomes, Trends & Themes

- **N=19** (by 7/1/24)
- Significant **increase in harm reduction skills.**
- **Harm Reduction Acceptability Scores** were high prior to session, with **little change** post.
- Detailees self-reported the **sessions to be helpful, knowledgeable and help them change their behaviors** ($M_{out\ of\ 5} > 4.9$).

General Feedback & Themes

- Overall, an incredible **eagerness to begin implementing** this work.
- Requests for a **Social Media Toolkit** and a **Resources Toolkit** they can pick up and distribute at shows.
- **Nervousness regarding sharing wrong information** or 'messing up' when talking to venues.
- The idea of **drag artists being a part of public health interventions is promising**, with AD being a favorable option.

Next Steps

- **Complete follow-ups**: the original AD design included two follow-up sessions.
- **Increase participant number**: 40+ drag artists originally expressed interest.
- **Provide additional toolkits**: create toolkits for both social media and for resource distribution.
- **Continually evaluate**: determine efficacy and identify other areas for improvement.

Get in Touch!

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