

## Appendix C

### Summary

#### **Results from the Oklahoma Needs Assessment Survey: Resources for the Prevention of Sexual Violence**

The Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH), Injury Prevention Service (IPS), conducted a needs assessment survey to gather information on existing program activities of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (DVSA) programs in Oklahoma (both Rape Prevention Education (RPE) and non-RPE funded) aimed at preventing sexual violence. The information collected in the assessment was used to estimate the percentage of agencies conducting prevention activities including primary prevention activities, the types of prevention activities, and the areas of need.

The survey instrument and method was developed by the Injury Prevention Service (IPS) in collaboration with the statewide sexual violence prevention coordinator, the Oklahoma Coalition on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (OCADVSA), and the Southern Plains Inter-Tribal Epidemiology Center in Oklahoma City, OK. The survey instrument is included in Appendix 1. A total of 30 state-certified Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault programs and 17 tribally operated programs in Oklahoma were included in the survey. Survey data were collected through telephone interviews with DVSA program directors or their designees. The survey instrument was mailed to the directors in advance so they could consult with their staff beforehand or have staff available for the telephone interview with the information needed. An initial call was made to confirm receipt of the survey and to schedule a follow up phone call to conduct the interview. Follow up calls were made to schedule and complete the surveys. Each program was called 3 to 7 times to schedule an interview before attempts to contact were discontinued. In some cases initial contact was made and an interview was scheduled but we were not able to reach the director at the scheduled time. In these cases, 3 additional attempts were made to contact the director. Surveys were mailed to directors on December 2, 2008. Interviews were conducted from December 2008 through February 2009.

#### **Results**

Interviews were completed with 19 (63%) state-certified programs and 3 (18%) tribal programs. Due to the low response rate, data collected from the tribal programs were excluded from the results. Only the data collected from the 19 state-certified DVSA programs are included in the results.

Ten of the programs (53%) had client data available for 2008, 8 (42%) had data available for 2007, and one program (5%) had data available for 2006. Based on the programs' most recent client data, more than 31,000 service contacts were documented in a year including Crisis Hotline services. A total of 14,044 clients were served annually by the DVSA programs surveyed, including 10,203 women, 430 men, and 2,619 children (gender was unknown for 792 clients). Among those served, 12,050 (86%) were domestic violence clients, 1,202 (9%) were sexual violence clients, and the type of service was unknown for 792 (6%) clients. Ten programs had data available on the number of domestic violence clients that were also victims of sexual assault. A total of 1,357 primarily domestic violence clients also disclosed being victims of sexual violence, which increased the total number of clients who were victims of sexual assault to 2,559 (18%).

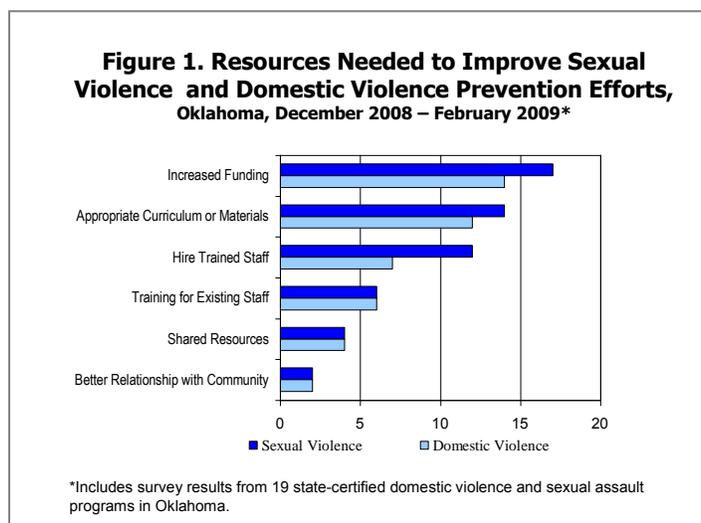
Among the programs that completed the survey, 42% had received Rape Prevention and Education (RPE) funds at some time. (At the time of the survey, only three programs were funded through RPE). Seventeen of the 19 programs (89%) had paid staff to conduct domestic violence or

sexual violence educational programs in the community; 10 programs had more than one paid staff educators. Programs that had “ever” received RPE funds were no more likely to have paid staff for prevention than programs that had never received RPE funds. The 17 programs had a total of 30 staff members conducting domestic and sexual violence educational activities. Four staff members worked 31-40 hours per week, 4 staff members worked 11-30 hours per week, and 22 staff members worked less than 10 hours per week conducting educational programs. Five of the 19 programs (26%) had a volunteer working less than 10 hours per week on educational programs.

When asked about the importance of sexual violence prevention, 42% of directors believed that conducting programs aimed at preventing sexual violence is very important to achieving their agency’s mission, and 58% believed it to be essential. When asked about the importance of domestic violence prevention, 32% of directors believed that conducting programs aimed at preventing domestic violence is very important to achieving their agency’s mission, and 68% believed it to be essential. Eighteen (95%) of the directors believed that their current sexual violence prevention activities were not adequate for the need in their community, and one director (5%) was not sure. When asked what resources would be necessary to have an adequate sexual violence prevention program, 17 of the 18 directors believed increased funding was needed for sexual violence prevention activities. The level of increased funding requested ranged from \$3,000 to \$200,000 per year, with a mean of \$41,867 and a median of \$30,000 per year. The mean level of increased funding requested was higher among programs that had received RPE funds at some time than among programs that had never received RPE funds, \$67,142 and \$19,750, respectively. More than three-fourths (78%) of directors requested appropriate curriculum and materials and 67% cited the need to hire trained staff (Figure 1). Ten of the 17 programs with paid staff for sexual violence prevention needed to hire additional staff.

For domestic violence, 14 (74%) directors believed that their current prevention activities were not adequate for the need in the community, 3 (16%) believed their current prevention activities were adequate, and 2 (11%) were not sure. All of the 14 directors who believed their current domestic violence prevention activities were not adequate cited the need for increased funding. The level of increased funding needed by individual programs for domestic violence prevention ranged from \$1,000 to \$200,000 per year, with a mean of \$42,077 and a median of \$30,000 per year. Among the 14 directors who believed that domestic violence prevention was inadequate, appropriate materials and/or appropriate curricula were needed by 12 (86%) of the directors, a need to hire trained staff was requested by 50% of directors, and education and training for existing staff was requested by 43% of directors.

Seven of the 19 programs (37%) surveyed conducted prevention activities aimed at preventing risk behaviors including alcohol and substance abuse and relapse prevention (4); tobacco (2); safety planning (2); parenting (1); anger management (1); and youth violence, bullying, and cyber predators (1). Only one of the programs conducting risk behavior prevention had ever received RPE funding. All of the 19 programs surveyed conducted activities aimed at preventing domestic violence (Figure 2). The most common type of domestic violence prevention among programs was domestic violence awareness and education in schools, with

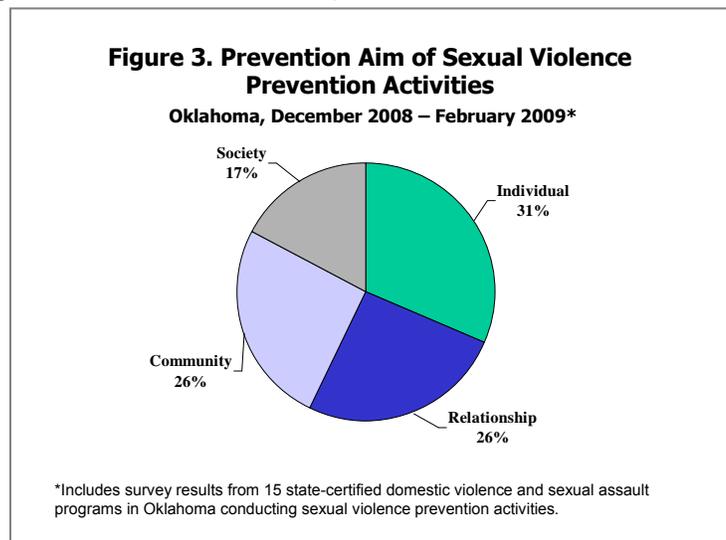
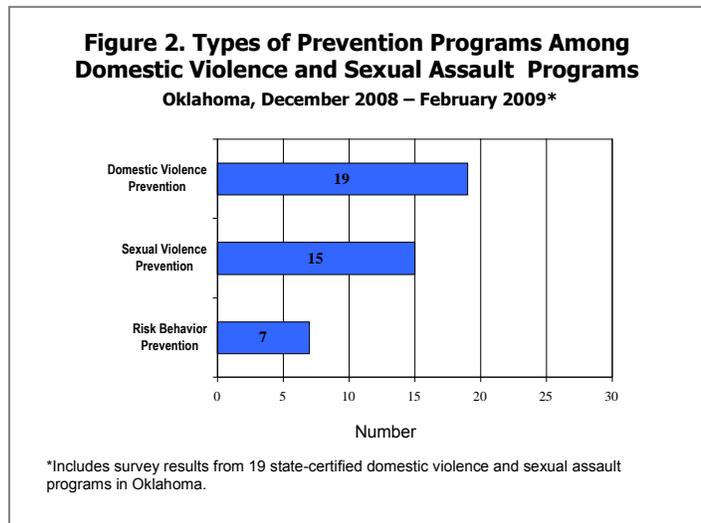


programs focusing on bullying in elementary school and healthy relationships and dating in middle schools and high schools. Program staff also made educational presentations at colleges, churches, civic groups, health fairs, and many other community engagements to spread domestic violence awareness and information. Several programs are involved in crisis intervention, safety, shelter, and advocacy, as well as training law enforcement and volunteers.

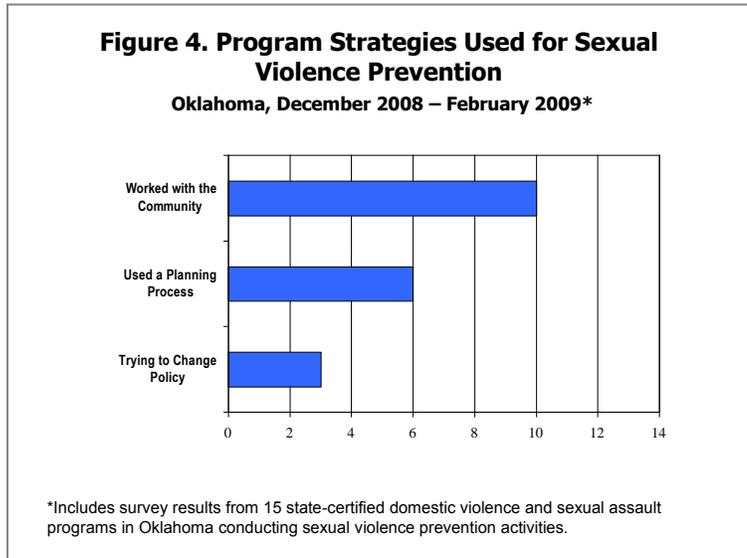
Fifteen of the 19 programs (79%) conducted activities aimed at preventing sexual violence. Six of the 15 programs had received RPE funding at some time. Two programs that had received RPE funds in the past were not conducting sexual violence prevention activities. The majority of sexual violence prevention activities consisted of educational presentations or classes for schools (7 programs) or community groups (3). Sexual violence prevention at schools was often paired with domestic violence prevention, and included education about healthy relationships and teen dating (6). Other prevention activities focused on cyber predators and bullying, and self-defense and risk reduction. Programs also provided sexual violence prevention education to law enforcement. Based on the social-ecological model, 11 of the 15 programs (73%) addressed the individual level, 9 programs (60%) targeted interpersonal relationships, 9 programs (60%) targeted the community, and 6 programs (33%) targeted larger societal factors to prevent sexual violence (Figure 3). Six (40%) of the programs said their prevention aim was to address all four of the levels (individual, relationship, community, and societal), six programs addressed only one level, one program addressed 2 and one program addressed 3 of levels. Fourteen of the directors believed their activities were primary prevention. However, only 13 of the programs were providing prevention for persons who had not become victims or perpetrators (i.e., primary prevention).

Funding for prevention activities came from a variety of sources. Nine (60%) programs were funded through multiple sources, 4 (27%) programs cited only one source of funding and 2 (13%) programs did not cite any source of funding for their sexual violence prevention activities. Sources of funding included RPE or grants (6), fundraising and private donations (4), United Way or foundation (5), Attorney General's Office and other sources (11).

Programs were asked about the types of strategies used for their sexual violence prevention activities. Six of the 15 programs (40%) used a planning process, 7 (47%) did not use a planning process, and 2 (11%) were not sure. The planning materials typically were gathered from what the directors had available and came from several different sources. Ten of the 15 programs (67%) enlisted the ideas or support of members

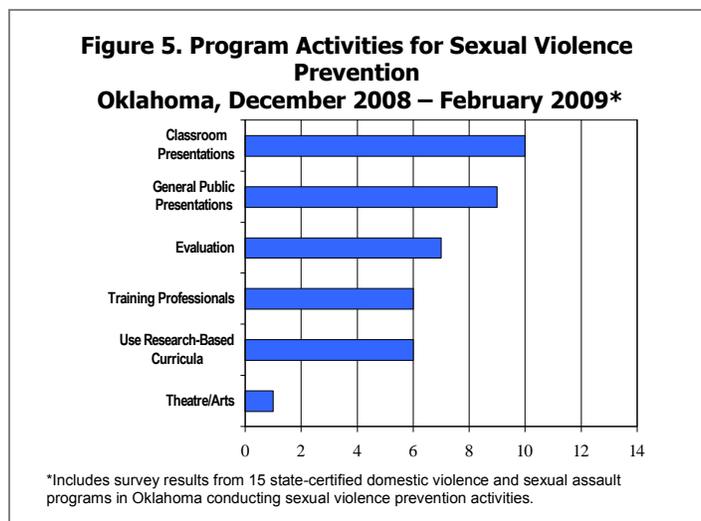


or groups in the community, including schools and universities, the OCADVSA, health and mental health programs, and advocacy groups. There were only 3 programs that were attempting to change public/organizational policy. One program was attempting to implement DVSA curriculum in schools, one program was attempting to implement a plan for stalking for the workplace, and one program was in the planning stages for attempting a policy change (Figure 4).

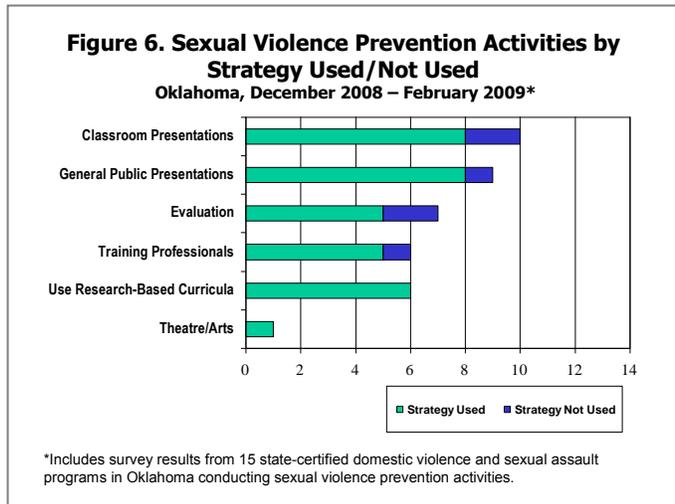


Nine out of 15 programs (60%) provided general public presentations in a large audience format, with topics that included domestic violence and sexual assault education, date rape, rape laws, sexual assault and stalking, safety, cyber predators, and bullying. The audiences included schools, churches, health departments, police departments, workplaces, and groups that request presentations. The general presentations were estimated to reach audiences from 150 to 2000 people per year per program with an estimated 10,000 individuals reached annually by all programs combined. Ten out of 15 programs (67%) provided classroom presentations with smaller audiences in schools on dating and sexual violence. The main audience was 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> grade through high school, with two programs targeting elementary school as well, and one program targeting college age students. Research based curricula were used by 6 of the 10 programs (60%) conducting classroom presentations, and included Safe Dates, Expect Respect, and Inside the Classroom. The curricula were typically used in middle schools or high schools. Half of the programs were conducting single session classroom presentations, 40% were conducting multiple session classroom presentations, and 10% did not indicate the number of sessions conducted. An estimated 100 to 2000 students were reached per year per program with an estimated 3,870 students reached annually by all programs combined. One program used theater arts in the form of a puppet show for elementary school students, which was performed at 7 different schools and reached over 400 students. Six of the 15 programs (40%) conduct trainings for professionals, including hospitals, law enforcement, youth organizations, faith leaders, and teachers (Figure 5). The majority (80%) of programs used strategies such as a planning process, community involvement, or changing policy with their activities (Figure 6).

Nine of the programs conducted prevention aimed at first time perpetration, and 11 programs focused on first time victimization. Ten of the programs had activities aimed at everyone regardless of risk for perpetration or victimization, and 2 programs had activities aimed at a special risk group, none of the programs cited prevention activities aimed at persons who had already become victims or perpetrators.



Eleven programs (73%) indicated their staff members received training to carry out the prevention activities. The types of training included employee training, annual certification training, RPE sponsored PREVENT training, intensive sexual assault/abuse training, monthly staff trainings, rape exam training, and Coalition training. Seven of the programs reported that they conduct evaluations of their sexual assault prevention activities primarily consisting of pre- and post-tests for participants and speaker/trainer evaluations. Among the seven programs that did not conduct evaluations, 4 (57%) cited a lack funding, time and staffing as the reason. Six of the programs used their evaluation data. Programs used their evaluation to plan for future trainings/presentations or activities, provide to community coalitions, and look for positive results.



Twelve program directors cited weaknesses of their sexual violence prevention activities. Weaknesses cited by the directors included not having available curricula or funds to purchase curricula and materials including handouts for children, needing evaluation and feedback, needing technical assistance, not enough time and staff available, and not enough community involvement.

Thirteen program directors cited strengths of their sexual violence prevention activities. Strengths cited by directors included the high quality of the presentations and speakers, teaching many different people about domestic violence and sexual assault, the interaction between the speakers and the audience, getting feedback from the audience that the messages were heard and understood, audience is interested and makes a connection, audience appreciates the information, doing well with what little they have, the number of people that are reached, and creating a change in base knowledge.

## Discussion

The data collected demonstrates that there are many different types of sexual violence prevention activities throughout the state and often these activities are coupled with domestic violence prevention. The low response rate (63%) clearly limits the usefulness of the data to estimate overall capacity of the programs for sexual violence prevention. It was difficult to establish contact with some of the state program directors and even more difficult to establish contact with the tribal program directors for several reasons. The surveys were initially mailed in early December, which meant the holidays created difficulty for scheduling interviews. A few of the state program directors and many of the tribal programs never received the mailed survey, so the survey was then emailed to the directors. A phone call was made to the tribal program before the surveys were mailed to get the name of the program director for the domestic violence program. However, when the interviewer called to schedule an interview, it was difficult to locate the person responsible for the tribal domestic violence program and arrange an interview. The tribal programs often could not connect the interviewer with a specific director for the domestic violence program, or the domestic violence program was housed within another program.

The original intent of the survey was to collect the data by phone interview. However, five of the directors did not have time to schedule and complete an interview by phone and mailed or faxed the written completed survey. We believe using phone interviews to collect the data worked best. The phone interviews allowed for more discussion about the prevention activities. The written

responses were sometimes not as thorough, but provided sufficient information to be included in the results. Mailing the surveys in advance allowed the directors to have all of the information they needed to complete the interview.

The program directors gave similar responses to many of the questions regarding the importance of domestic violence and sexual violence prevention and the limitations they face. Most program directors would like more funding to be able to provide more education, awareness, and trainings, and the programs are in need of more materials and curriculum. The majority of directors understood which activities were considered primary, although some believed they were conducting primary prevention activities when they were providing prevention to victims. One director considered the prevention activities for victims to be primary prevention because it is “all they have.”

The results demonstrate that although there are a number of primary prevention activities being conducted throughout the state, the majority of program directors felt there was a need for more. Directors would like to expand their prevention efforts to include more age groups at schools, more comprehensive curriculum, and the addition of presentations to different groups in the communities. Many directors spoke of plans for additional prevention activities that will target the community as well as societal factors, but presently are utilizing the resources they have available to them to provide as much awareness and education that time will allow. All program directors agreed that domestic violence and sexual violence prevention is very important, if not essential, to their organization’s mission and to reducing the domestic violence and sexual violence burden throughout the state.