

BACKGROUND

Youth in residential treatment, in Ohio, for mental health are protected under the rights of *Disability Rights Ohio (2018)*.

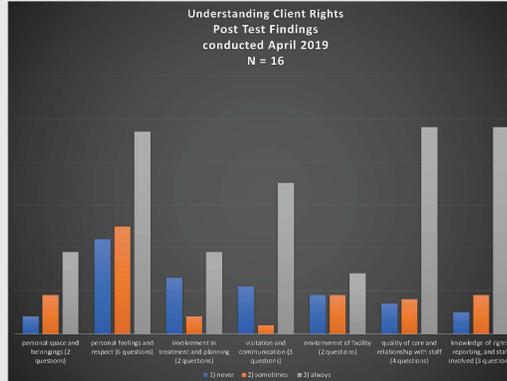
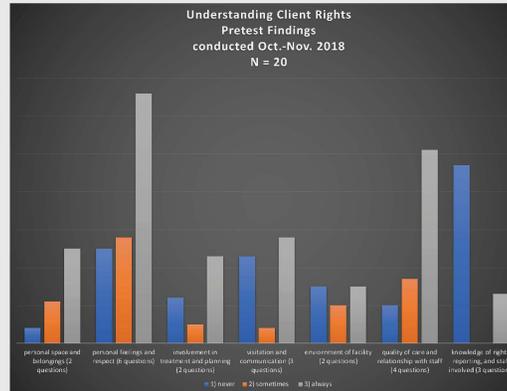
- 1 in 5 youth have a diagnosable mental health disorder, nationwide.
- Recovery and resilience can be compromised because of inadequate care.
- Residential facilities for psychiatric care are the most restrictive, most expensive, long-term care options for youth.

PURPOSE

- Mixed methods study
- Study focuses on finding a baseline of the understanding of client rights, education on rights, and visible implications of client rights established through *Disability Rights Ohio*
- After education, follow up to determine if there was a change in the previously collected baseline was administered
- Study is inductive, using a pre and post test, and included a deductive component formed off of observations
- Study utilized nominal measurements of gender, age, race, and unit number.
- Responses collected with ordinal measurements of never, sometimes, and always, represented by a 1-3 rating in response to pre and post test questions

METHODS

- **Participants:** co-ed youth, ages 5-16, clients of mental health residential treatment
- **Setting:** St. Joseph Orphanage, Altercrest, CSU in Cincinnati, Ohio
- **Sample Size** = 24
- **Instrument:** Pre and post test 26-item survey to assess understanding of client rights comprised of the same questions



LIMITATIONS

- Youth of the CSU come and go, subjects for the pre and post test may be different
- Youth at the CSU are also not always in a good place to participate and this off set the number of post test participants
- Time of the facilitator at the placement and determining the impact of the educational group
- Opposing opinions of staff involved potentially affected the results of the study
- Subject selection limited to the patients at St. Joseph's CSU

RESULTS/ CONCLUSIONS

1. **Do clients know their rights through Disability Rights Ohio?**
 - Before educational measures? Understanding was lacking
 - After? Clients understanding improved significantly
2. **Are the client rights being respected by staff and the program?**
 - For the most part, some negative reports and incidents did occur
3. **Will education of client rights effect the productivity and success of treatment?**
 - Per client report and observations, when their care and environment are meeting standards of their rights, better outcomes of treatment occurs
4. **Will clients benefit from education of rights and be more empowered to stand up for their rights?**
 - Based on findings and observation, empowerment and ability to stand up for themselves improved



REFERENCES

- Ohio Disability Rights Law and Policy Center, Inc. (2018). Who We Are. Retrieved from <http://www.disabilityrightsohio.org/llwbp>
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- Stagman, S., & Cooper, J. L. (2010, April 13). Children's Mental Health What Every Policymaker Should Know. Retrieved from http://www.nccp.org/publications/pub_929.html