



HIDDEN WOUNDS



Using In-Depth Assessments of Long-Term TANF Recipients to Inform Policy and Programs

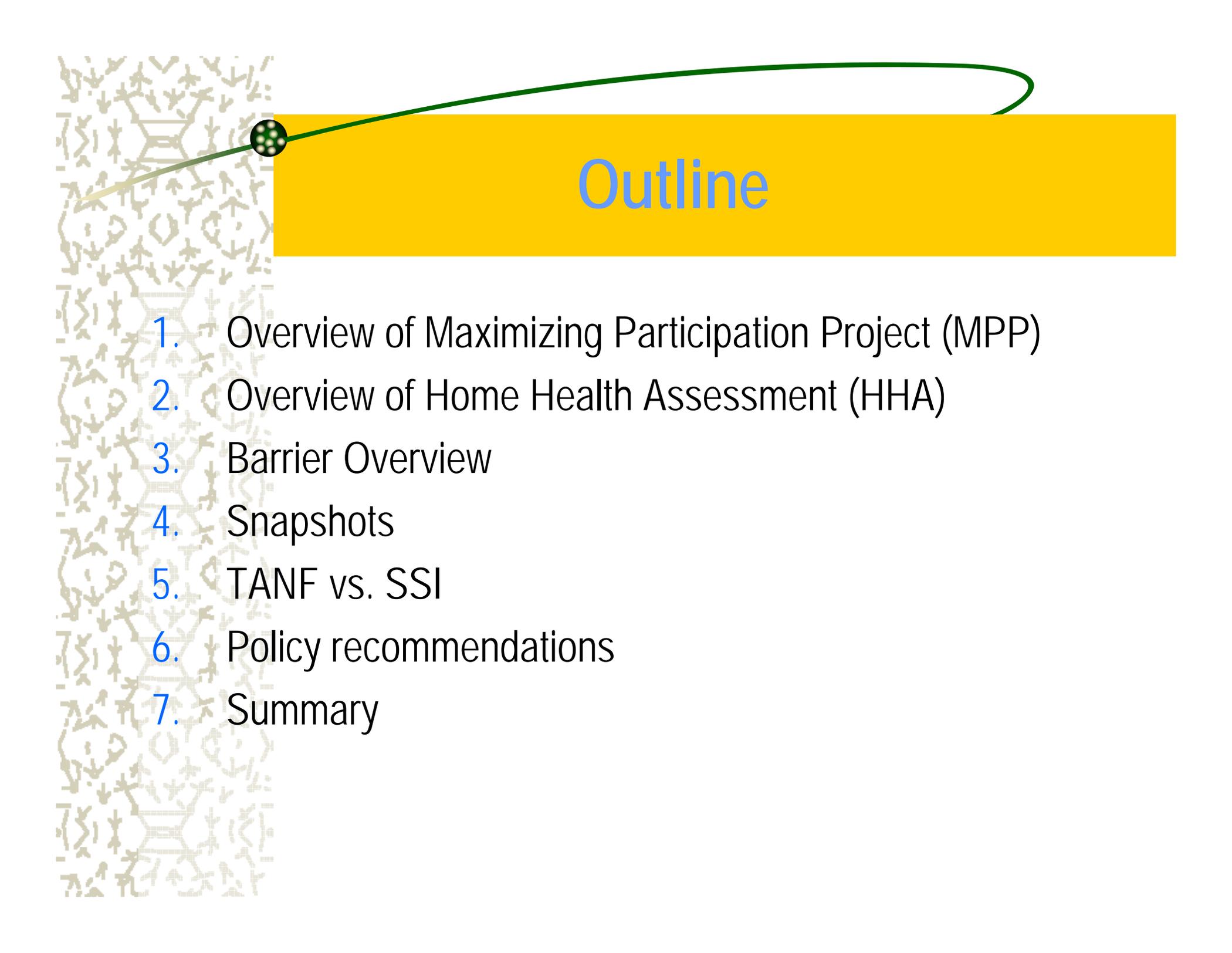
ELEVENTH ANNUAL WELFARE RESEARCH AND
EVALUATION CONFERENCE

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Philadelphia Health Management Corporation

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



Outline

1. Overview of Maximizing Participation Project (MPP)
2. Overview of Home Health Assessment (HHA)
3. Barrier Overview
4. Snapshots
5. TANF vs. SSI
6. Policy recommendations
7. Summary

Maximizing Participation Project

(Research Period: 3/30/07-3/30/08)



Department of Public Welfare

Philadelphia Health
Management Corporation

Jewish Employment and
Vocational Service

Philadelphia Mental
Health Care Corporation





● Maximizing Participation Project – Program Description

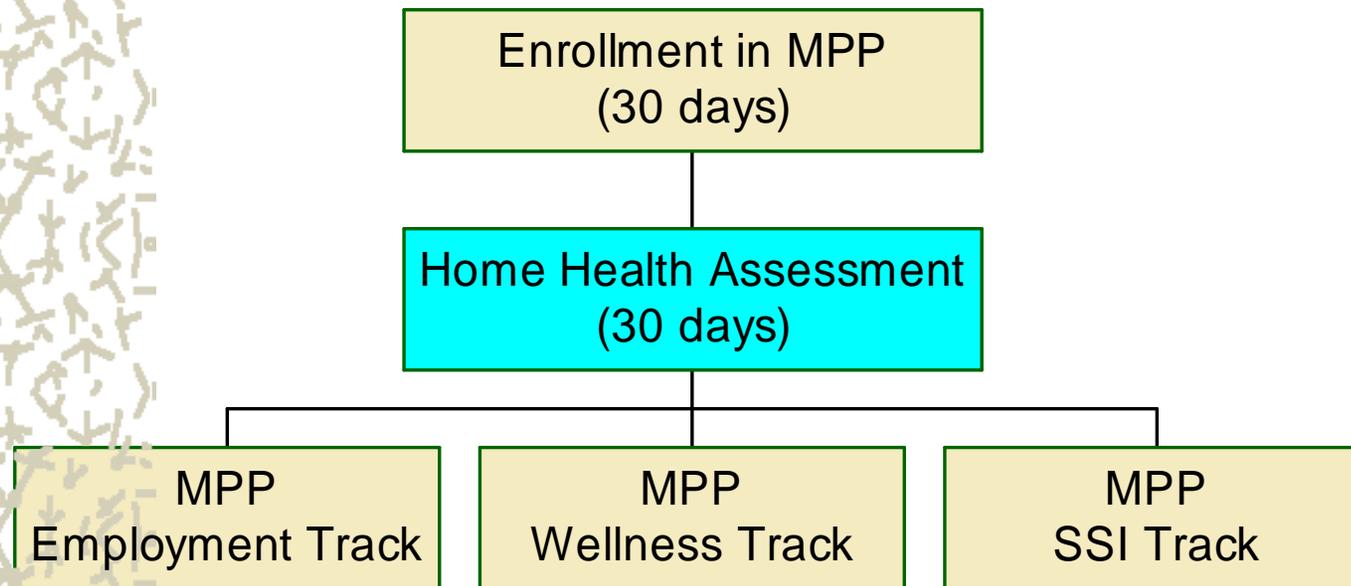
Targets TANF recipients who are reaching or have passed the 5-year limit and have documented physical/behavioral health problems.

Program goal: to identify and resolve barriers so that participants can move toward self-sufficiency

Client referrals – from PA County Assistance Office only

Assessment and case management

Home Health Assessment



24 Months Total in MPP

Home Health Assessment Model

Home based

Fast

Cost effective

Staffing:

-Nurse Practitioners

-Licensed SW's

-Appointments Coordinator

-Records & Data Coordinators

✦ Assessment Types:

-Medical

-Behavioral

-Records Review

✦ Assessment Features:

-History

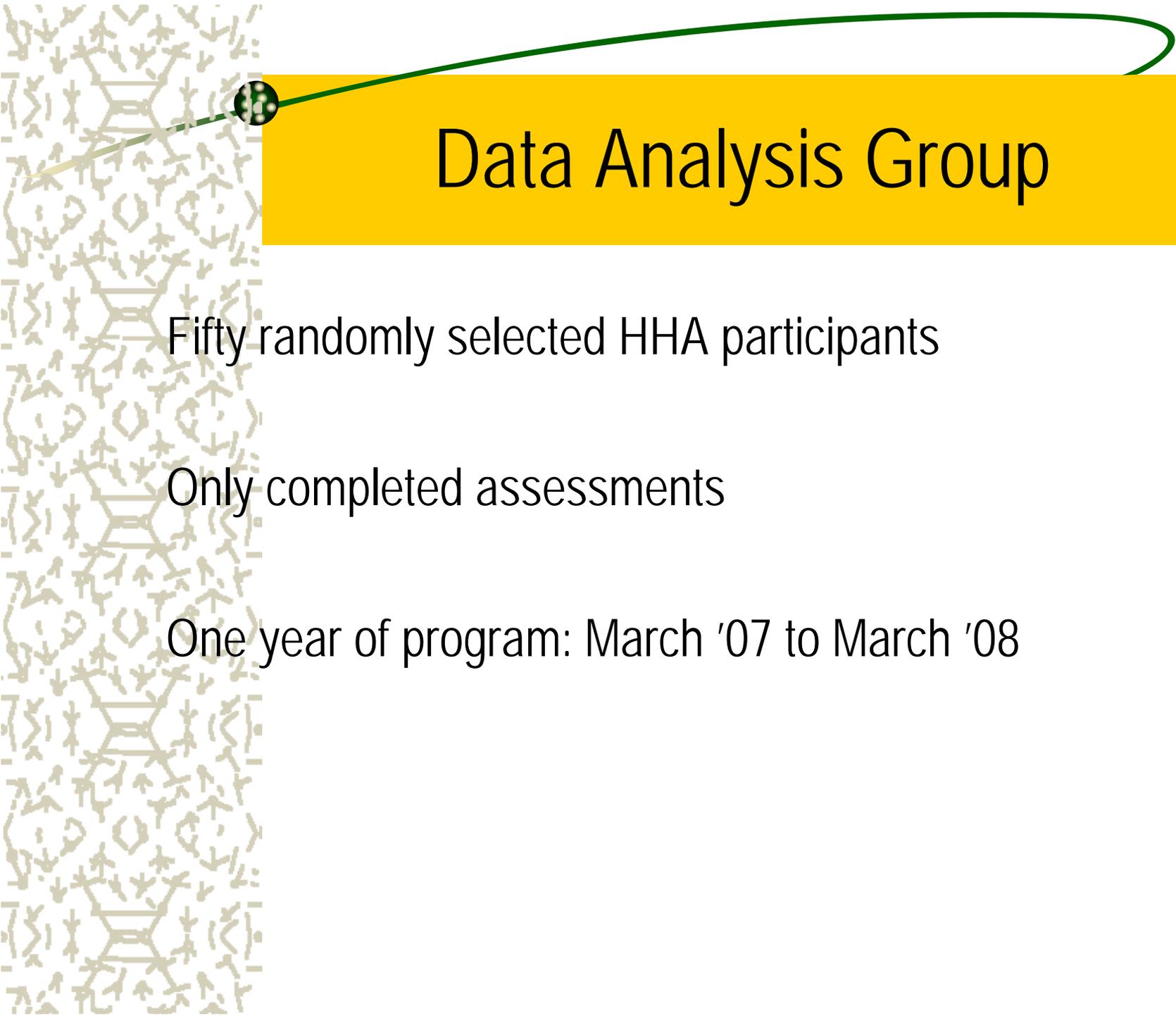
-Barriers

-Diagnosis

-Recommendations

-MPP Track

(Employment, Wellness,
SSI)



Data Analysis Group

Fifty randomly selected HHA participants

Only completed assessments

One year of program: March '07 to March '08

Demographics

(N=50)

✦ Average Age: 38

– Range: 24-58

✦ Race:

-52% African American, 24% Hispanic, 18% Caucasian, 4% Asian

Gender:

– 96% Female, 4% Male

✦ Average Age at first child: 21

- Range: 13-34

✦ Children

– Average number per family = 3.3

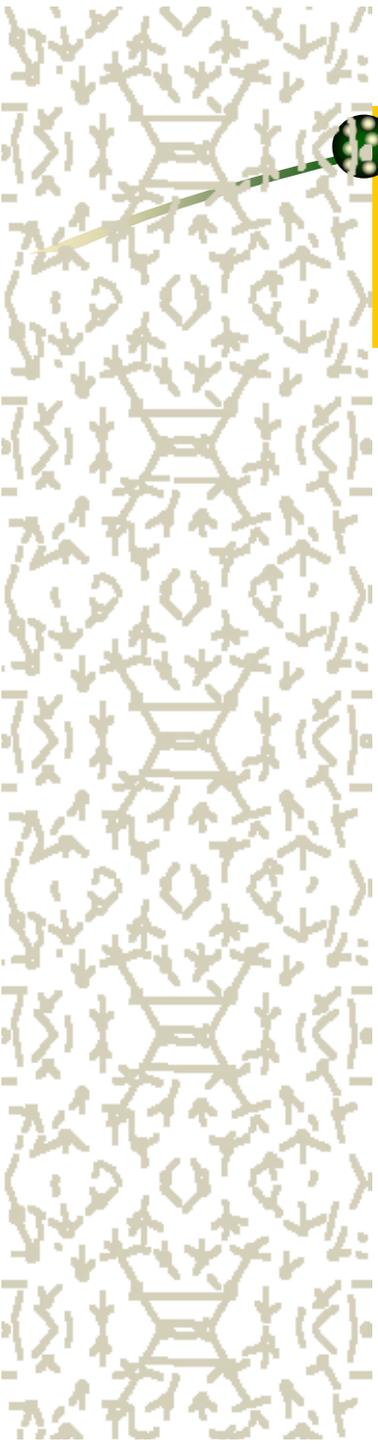
– Range = ages 1 to 9

– Average age of youngest child = 9

BARRIERS – Physical Health

Identified by HHA Clinicians

Barrier	Number	Percent
Arthritis/Chronic Pain	23	46%
Asthma/Allergies	12	24%
Migraines	12	24%
Obesity	11	22%
Gait Abnormality	10	20%
Hypertension	9	18%



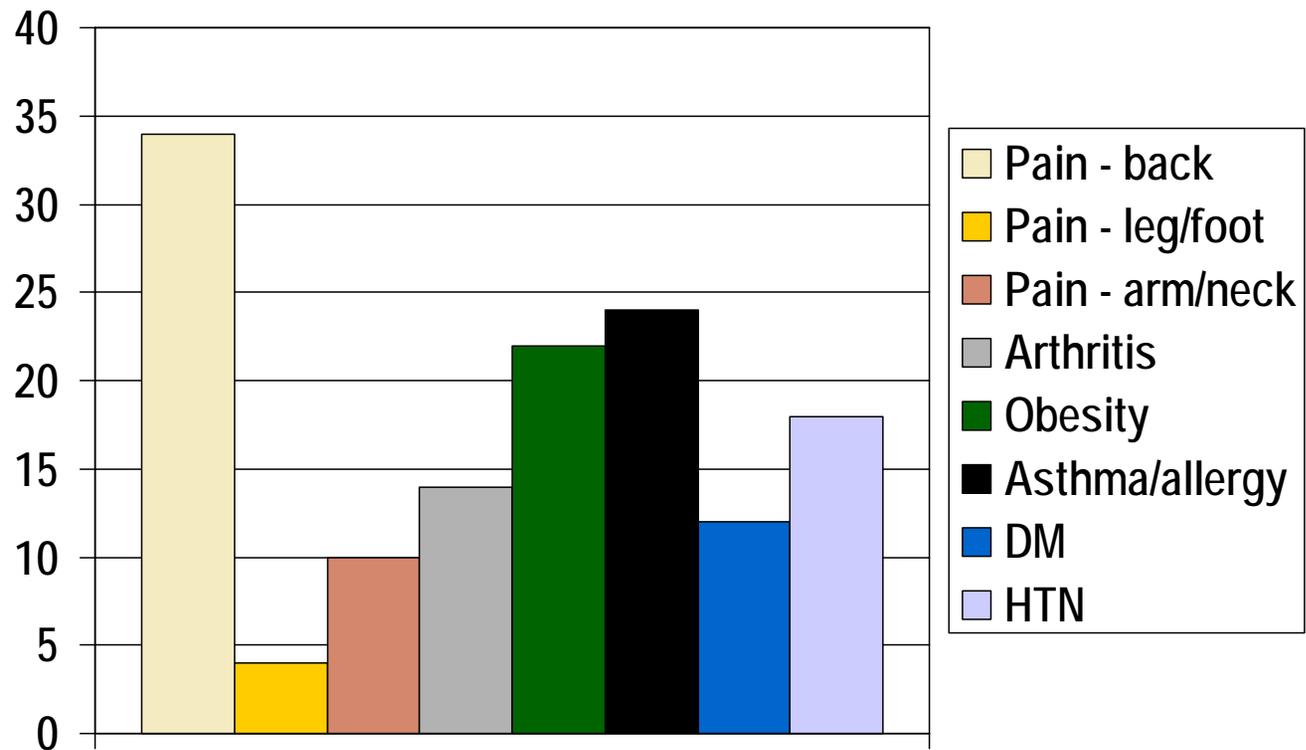
BARRIERS – Physical Health

Barrier	Number	Percent
Neurological	5	10%
Ob/Gyn	3	6%
Diabetes	6	12%
Gastrointestinal	6	12%
Hepatitis	5	10%

BARRIERS – Behavioral Health

Barriers	Number Clients	Percent Clients
Mood Disorders (except bipolar)	30	60%
D & A (past or present)	18	36%
Bipolar Disorder	11	22%
Anxiety Disorders	11	22%
PTSD	6	12%
Panic with agoraphobia	6	12%
Other MH	4	8%

Snapshot: Chronic Pain/Chronic Health Barriers



Chronic Pain any type: 46%

Chronic Health any type: 58%



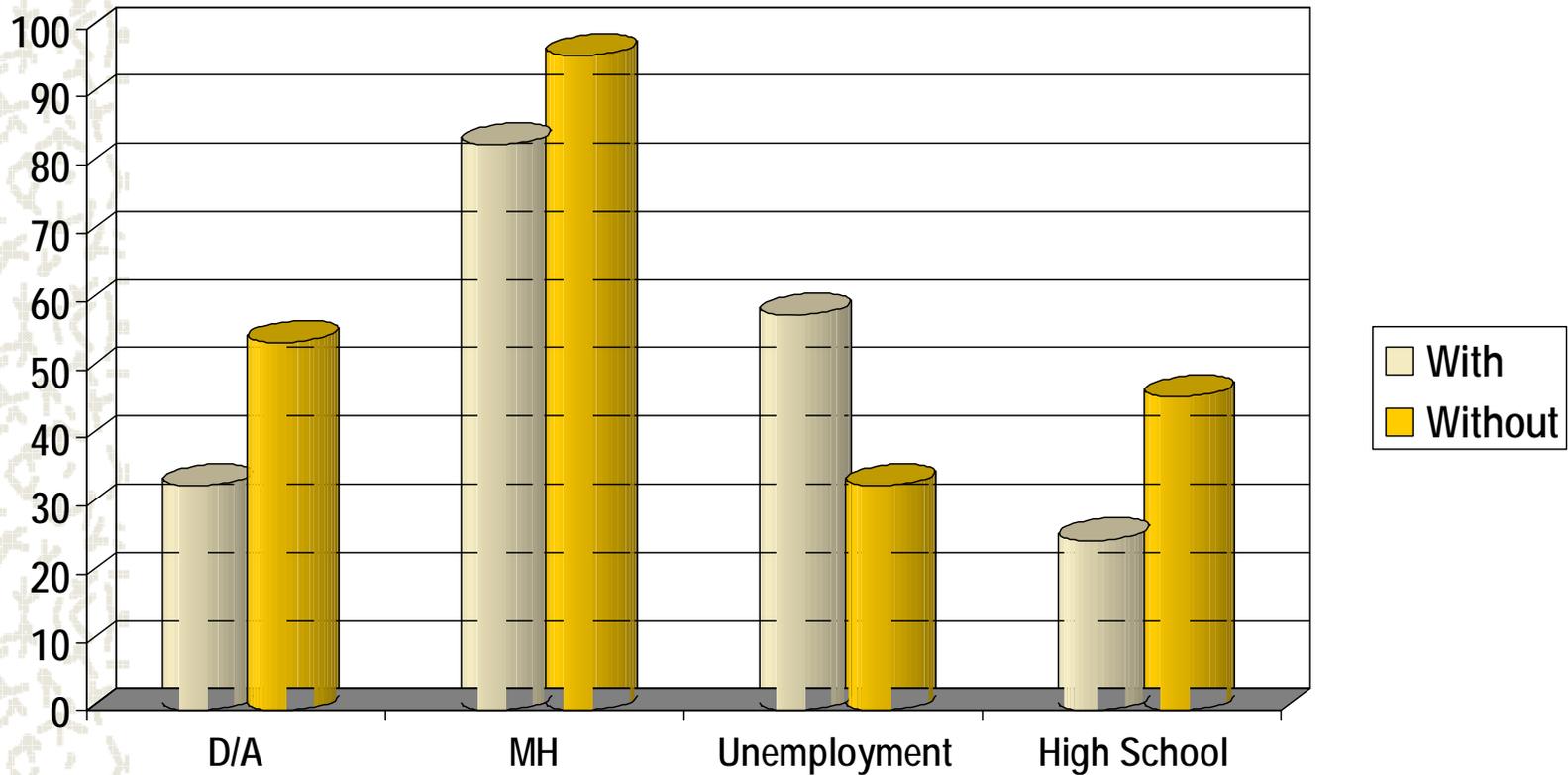
What is the difference between Acute and Chronic Medical Barriers?

✦ Recent & identifiable onset?

✦ Duration

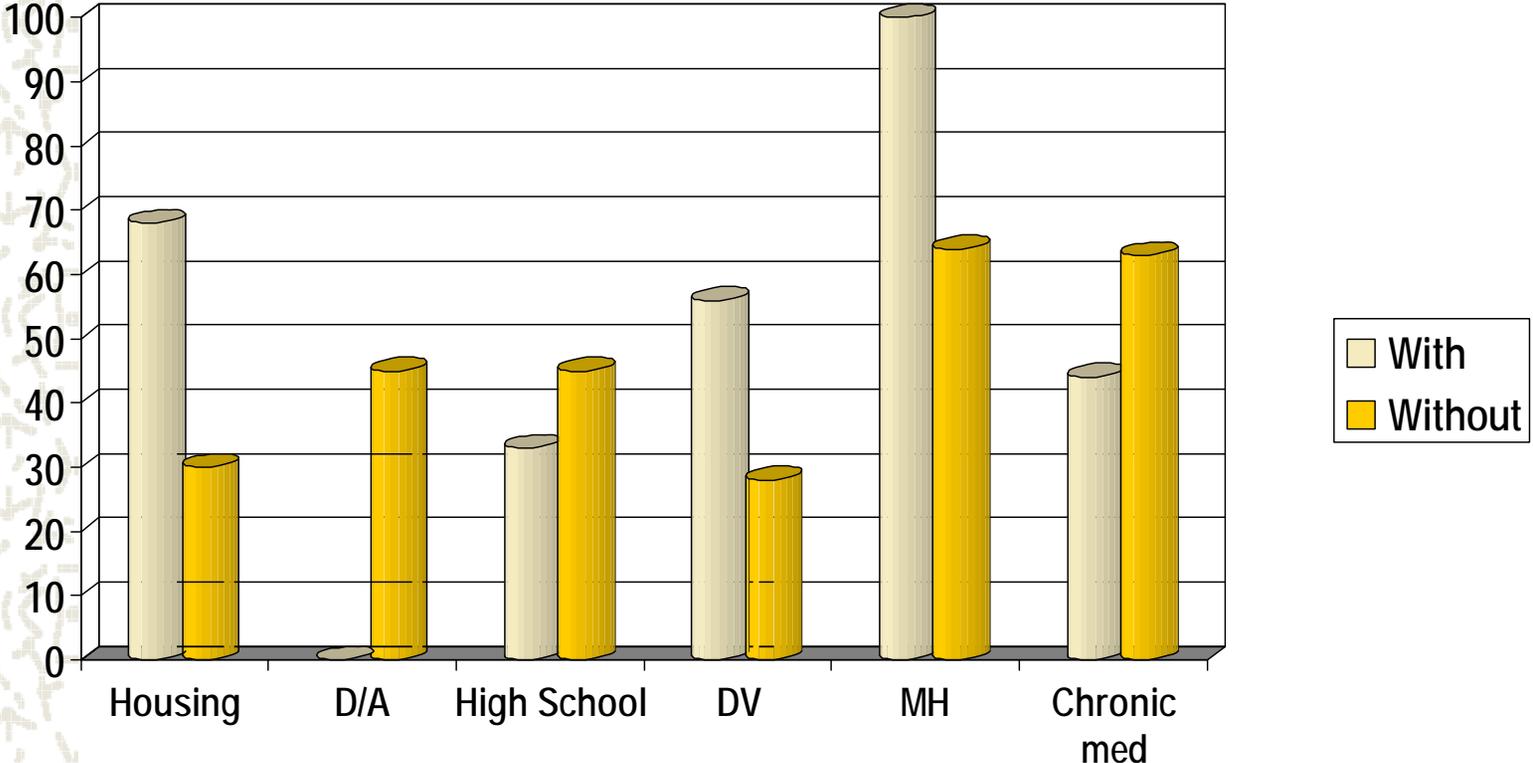
✦ Injury vs. Disease

Snapshot: Cognitive/Learning Needs



Total clients with at least one learning/cognitive barrier: 32%

Snapshot: Language Barrier



Total clients with language barrier: 18%



Snapshot: Trauma

Any Childhood Trauma: 50%

- ✂️ Physical abuse: 16%
- ✂️ Sexual abuse: 22%
- ✂️ Emotional abuse: 8%
- ✂️ Witness Domestic Violence: 12%

Any Adult Trauma: 36%

- ✂️ Domestic Violence 32%
- ✂️ Sexual assault 6%
- ✂️ Other adult trauma 18%

Risk Factors

Percentage of participants reporting the following:

Did not complete high school or get GED	60%
Did not complete primary school	8%
Children's issues	36%
Raising relatives' children	8%
Child welfare system as parent	16%
In foster care as child	14%
Housing issues	35%



Traditional Barriers to Employment

✂ Education

60% did not graduate high school/GED

✂ Child care

56% have children age 10 or under

✂ Work History

10% have never worked



Physical & Behavioral Health Barriers

Physical Barriers

78% had at least one

- ✖ 26% had one
- ✖ 16% had two
- ✖ 16% had three
- ✖ 12% had four
- ✖ 6% had five

Behavioral Barriers

82% had at least one

- 32% had one
- 42% had two
- 6% had three
- 2% had four

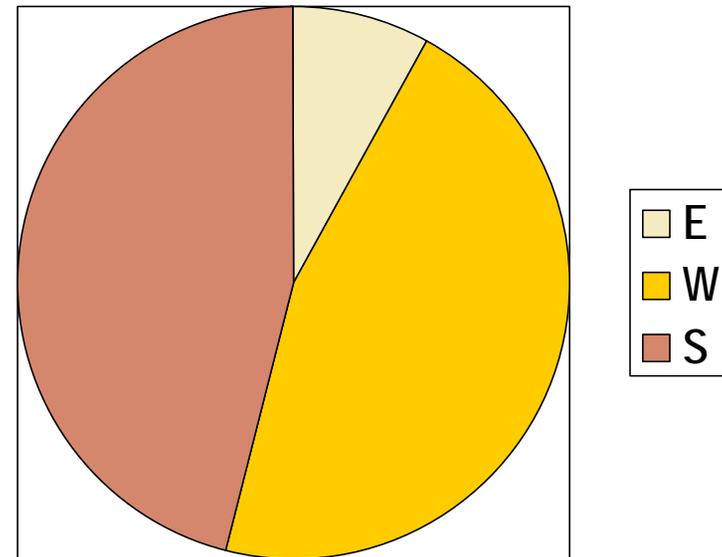
Most prevalent Physical Barriers: Chronic Pain, Asthma

Most prevalent Behavioral Barriers: Mood & Anxiety Disorders

Tracking from HHA

Tracking of Sample Group

Employment – 8%
Wellness - 46%
SSI -46%



SSI

Many clients on TANF
actually eligible for SSI

Need case management

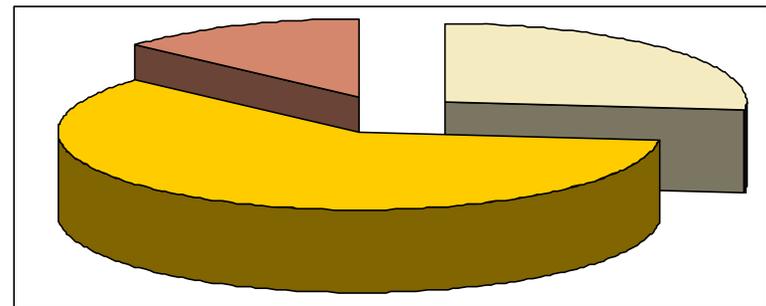
Initial application

Proper assessments

Extensive documentation

Subtle barriers

Ongoing treatment



Wellness (27%)
SSI (60%)
Incomplete (13%)

Home Health Assessment track
recommendations for PHMC
Case Management clients who
later are granted SSI



Additional Services Needed

- ✦ Parenting – preventing abuse, fatherhood
- ✦ Addressing long-term effects of abuse & trauma
- ✦ Learning needs assessment
- ✦ Services for immigrants
- ✦ Mental health services for MH needs
- ✦ Medical case management

CONCLUSIONS

- ✦ MPP participants present with multiple, complex barriers.
- ✦ Need effective assessment to guide progress towards independence from TANF benefits
- ✦ Many clients on TANF actually belong on SSI, moving them from state to federal funding
- ✦ Case management is effective in moving SSI eligible clients from TANF to SSI
- ✦ Remaining clients can be more effectively served when common risk factors, e.g. Cognitive Issues or Trauma, are taken into account





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