



**COLORADO**  
Office of Behavioral Health  
Department of Human Services



Peer Assistance Services

Start believing.

# Adolescent Screening and Brief Intervention for Marijuana in Colorado

INEBRIA 2014

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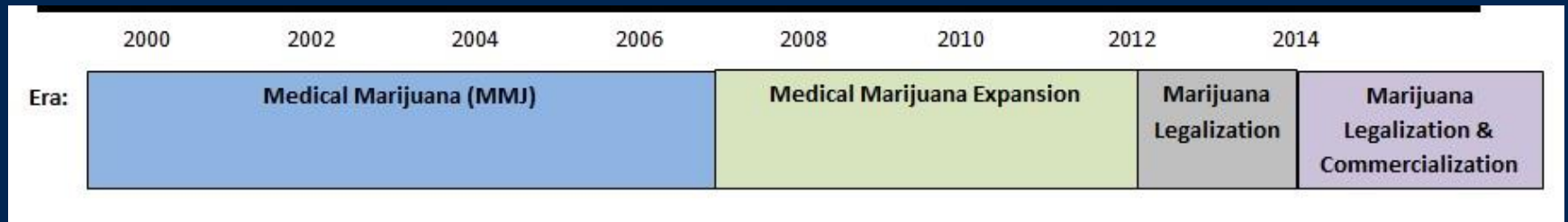
# Peer Assistance Services, Inc.

## Mission:

*Dedicated to quality, accessible prevention and intervention services in workplaces and communities, focusing on substance abuse and related issues.*

Incorporated in 1984

# Recent history of marijuana: Colorado, USA



*How will legalization and commercialization of marijuana in Colorado affect adolescent use?*

# Marijuana use: 12-17 year olds in Colorado

- Ranked in top five states (2009-2012) for:
  - First time use (Colorado had highest incidence)
  - Past-year and past-month use
- Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (2011):
  - ~40% of high school students had ever tried
  - 22% used in past 30 days
  - Marijuana and binge alcohol use associated

# Colorado Prevention Partnership for Success

- 5-year initiative
- Funding: Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (federal)
- Administered by : Office of Behavioral Health (state)
- Initial goals:
  - Decrease underage and binge alcohol use – especially targeted Latino youth
  - Reach high risk populations and geographic areas
  - Utilize evidence-based measurable, sustainable prevention strategies

# Colorado Prevention Partnership for Success- Expansion year

- *Exceeded 5-year targets by year 3. Awarded expansion funds.*
- State Epidemiological and Outcomes Workgroup recommended a focus on marijuana
- Goals:
  - Build upon underage drinking prevention efforts
  - Prevent under-age marijuana use
  - Implement SBI using the CRAFFT
  - Evaluate training and collect CRAFFT SBI data



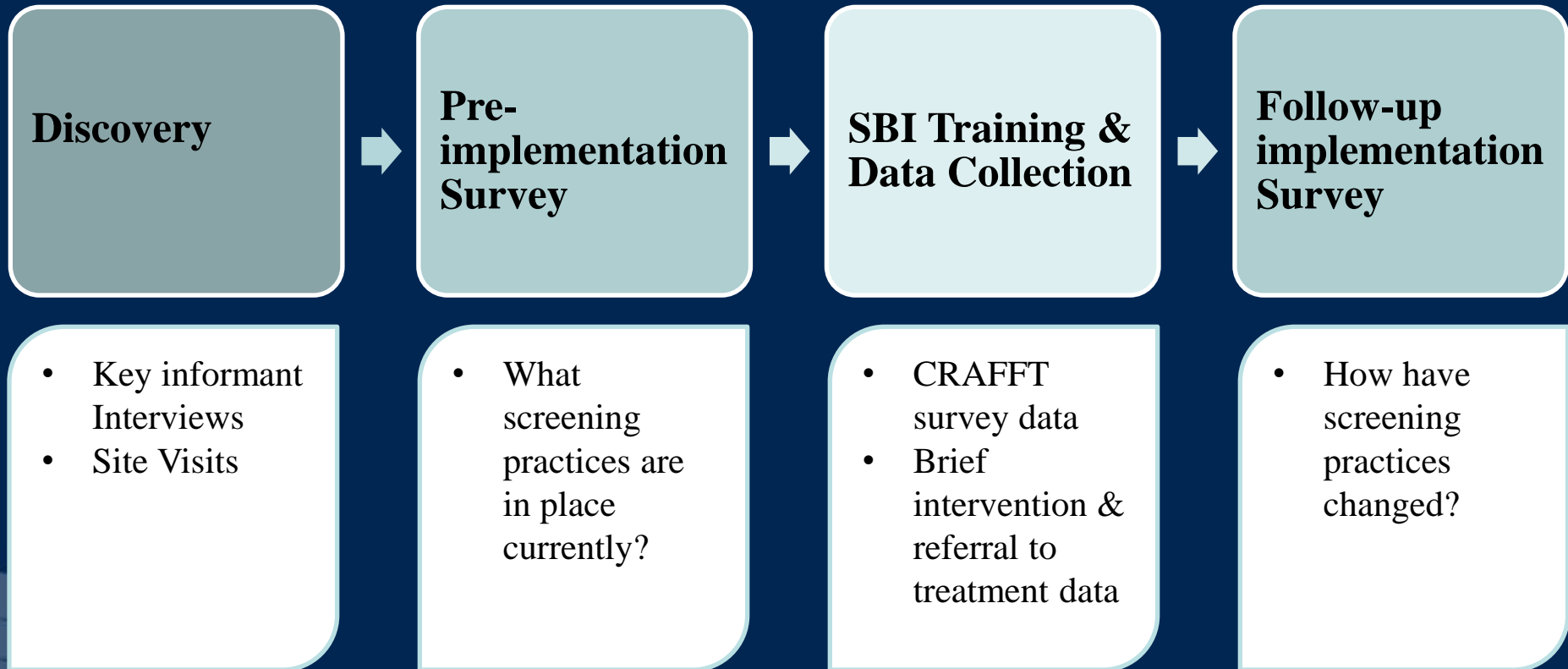
# Focus groups: Marijuana

- Adolescents and parents
- Overall perception of increased adolescent use
- Concern about more potent forms of marijuana
- Youth more familiar than parents about:
  - Range of marijuana products
  - Types of effects
  - Various methods of use
- Low perception of potential for dependence

# Screening and Brief Intervention

- Settings
  - School health centers
  - School mental health services
  - Juvenile probation settings
  - Primary care pediatric clinics
- Training- 2 hours
  - CRAFFT and SBI
  - Motivational interviewing
- Data collection and evaluation

# CRAFFT Data Collection



**Prescreen**

During the last 12 months, did you:

1. Drink any alcohol (more than a few sips)?
2. Use any marijuana or hashish?
3. Use anything else to get high?  
-- "Anything else" includes illegal drugs, over the counter and prescription drugs, and things that you sniff or huff.

Scoring: If "No" to all three questions, only ask question 1 on the CRAFFT. If "Yes" to any of the three prescreen questions, then ask the entire CRAFFT.

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**CRAFFT**

1. Have you ever ridden in a Car driven by someone (including yourself) who was high or had been using alcohol or drugs?
2. Do you ever use alcohol or drugs to Relax, feel better about yourself, or fit in?
3. Do you ever use alcohol or drugs while you are Alone?
4. Do you ever Forget things you did while using alcohol or drugs?
5. Do your Family or Friends ever tell you that you should cut down on your drinking or drug use?
6. Have you ever gotten into Trouble while you were using alcohol or drugs?

Scoring: 2 or more positive items indicates a need for further assessment.

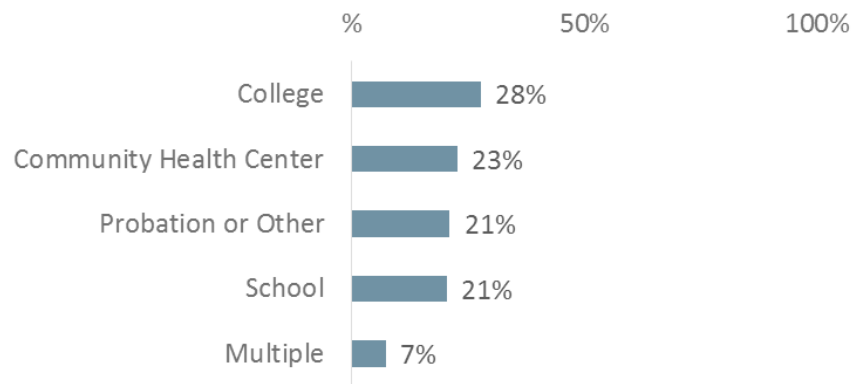
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The CRAFFT is intended specifically for adolescents.  
From: Knight JR, Sherritt L, Shrier LA, Harris SK, and Chang G. Validity of the CRAFFT substance abuse screening test among adolescent screening patients. *Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine*; 156(6): 607-614. 2002.  
Reprinted with permission from Center for Adolescent Substance Abuse Research at Children's Hospital Boston.

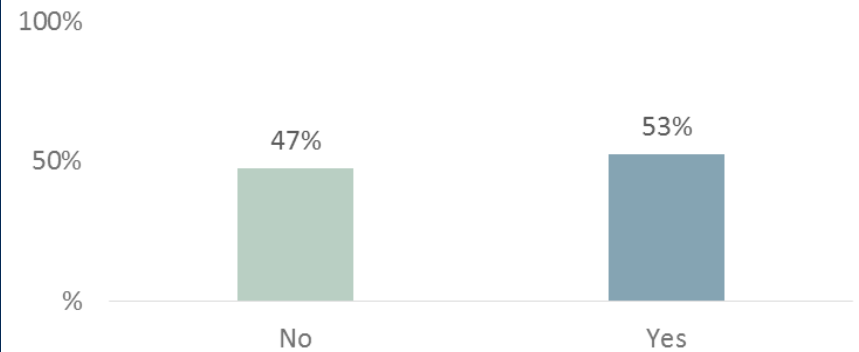
# Results

# Pre-training Participant Survey

In what type of facility do you currently serve youth? (N = 331)

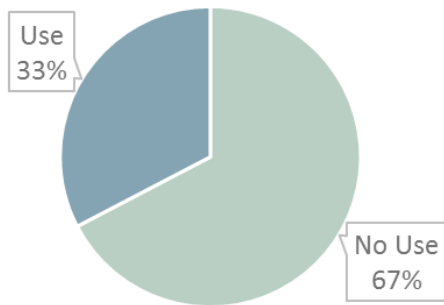


Do you feel you have the tools you need to screen for and treat (or refer to treatment) youth who have a substance abuse problem? (N = 293)

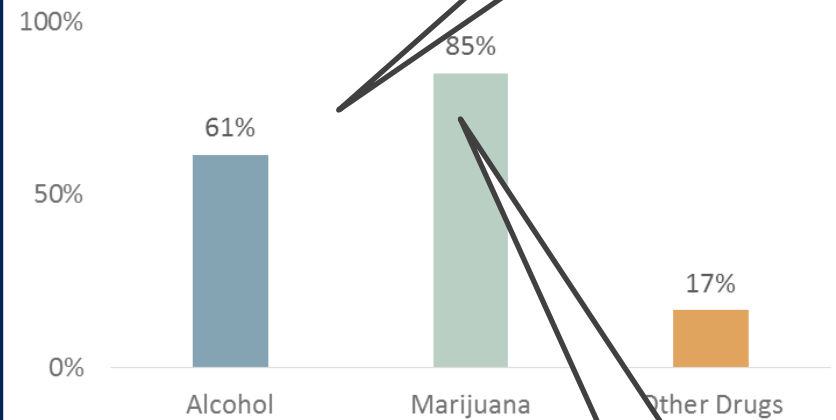


# CRAFFT

During the past 12 months, did you drink any alcohol, use any marijuana or hashish, or use anything else to get high? (N = 389)



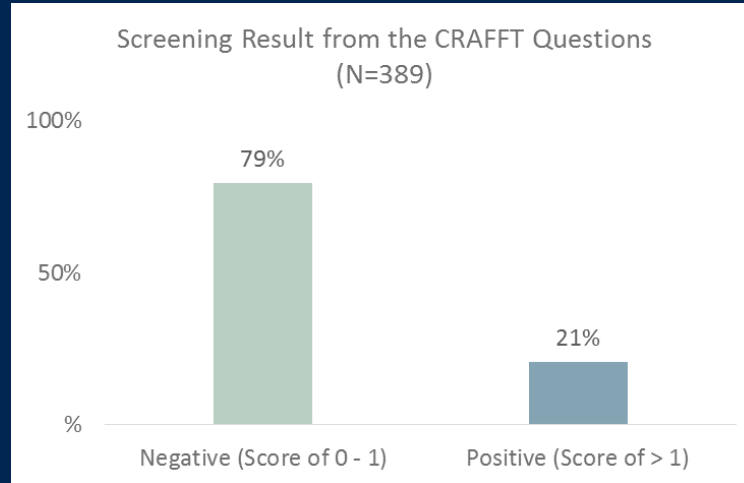
Of youth who used substances in the past 12 months (n = 127), they reported using:



47% used both alcohol & marijuana

11% used alcohol, marijuana & other drugs

# CRAFFT Results



CRAFFT Screening Results	N	% Screen Positive
Have you ever ridden in a Car driven by someone (including yourself) who was high or had been using alcohol or drugs?	389	18%
Do you ever use alcohol or drugs to Relax, feel better about yourself or fit in?	125	51%
Do you ever use alcohol or drugs while you are Alone?	127	39%
Do you ever Forget things you did while using alcohol or drugs?	125	27%
Do your Family or friends ever tell you that you should cut down on your drinking or drug use?	127	40%
Have you ever gotten into Trouble while you were using alcohol or drugs?	126	41%

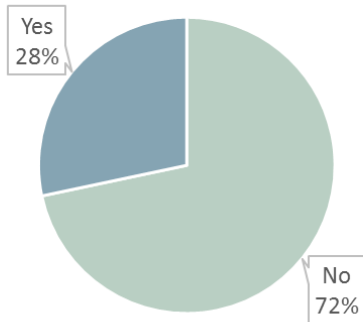


# Brief Intervention & Referral to Treatment

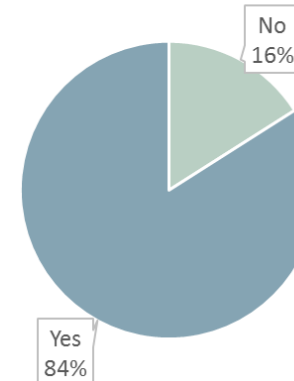
Full Population Screened  
(N = 389)

Youth Who Said "YES" to one or more CRAFFT Question (n= 118)

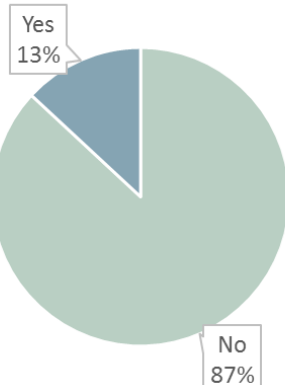
Did you give a brief intervention?



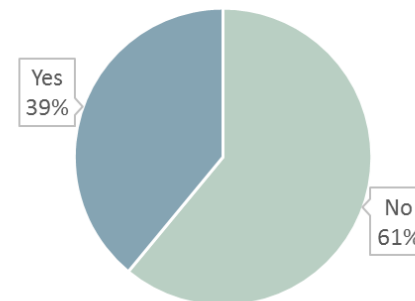
Did you give a brief intervention?



Did you give a referral to treatment?



Did you give a referral to treatment?



# Follow-up Surveys

- “What is a brief intervention?”
- N=34
- Best response: *“A connection and brief conversation with a youth or adult to provide feedback from screening and enhance motivation toward cutting back or stopping unhealthy substance use.”*
- Most concerning response: *“I do not know.”*

# Summary

- Nearly half of providers report not having tools to screen for marijuana use.
- 2/3 of the study sites serve “at risk” youth; only 1/3 of youth reported past 12 month substance use.
- Majority who reported substance use reported using marijuana.
- Of those who reported any substance use, nearly 1/2 reported both marijuana and alcohol.

[www.improvinghealthcolorado.org](http://www.improvinghealthcolorado.org)

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