



# PEER PERSONNEL PROJECT

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Train and put 150 Peer Support Specialists to work in  
the State of California

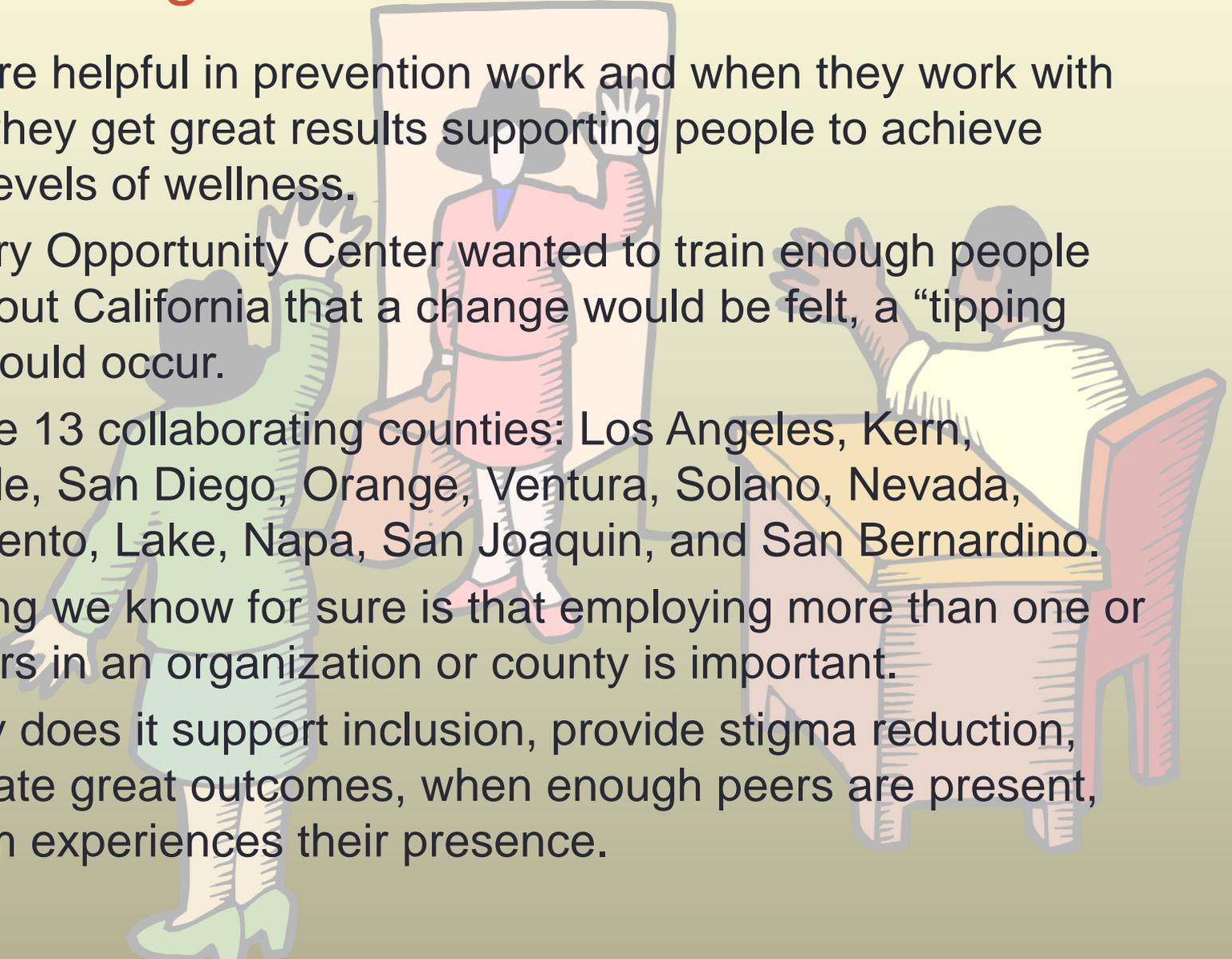


# Setting a Large Goal

- We wanted to align closely with the goals and ideals of MHSA (5822 (g), (h), (i) and (j) which identify that mental health consumers and family members must be employed in the public mental health system. Additionally, it asks that the make-up of those who are included be culturally, racially and ethnically diverse.
- Section 9, Part 3.2, 5830 asks that we increase access to services and engage in interagency collaboration. It also asks that we introduce new practices and approaches.
- We believe that peer support providers reflect the community that surrounds them, and that peer support as a unique discipline is just beginning to be embraced and understood as a best practice.
- We seek to increase understanding of peer support and develop a stronger recovery focus in our systems of care.

# Setting a Large Goal

- Peers are helpful in prevention work and when they work with people they get great results supporting people to achieve higher levels of wellness.
- Recovery Opportunity Center wanted to train enough people throughout California that a change would be felt, a “tipping point” would occur.
- We have 13 collaborating counties: Los Angeles, Kern, Riverside, San Diego, Orange, Ventura, Solano, Nevada, Sacramento, Lake, Napa, San Joaquin, and San Bernardino.
- One thing we know for sure is that employing more than one or two peers in an organization or county is important.
- Not only does it support inclusion, provide stigma reduction, and create great outcomes, when enough peers are present, the team experiences their presence.



# The Project

- The goals of the contract are lofty.
- We propose to train, provide employment support to, and obtain employment for 150 peer support providers.
- We have a focused goal of serving individuals from unserved and underserved populations. This is an important aspect of contract, we are meeting this objective.
- We believe in the power of peer support.

# The Training

- 80 hours of training over two weeks.
- The requirements for acceptance into the class are that people have lived experience of recovery, or as a family member supporter, and a graduate of secondary education (high school or GED).
- Participants must attend at least 72 out of 80 class hours.
- Everyone must thoughtfully participate in class and share and listen in equal measure, and interactions in class are empowering and reflect recovery ideals.
- There are take home quizzes, a final exam, and graded role plays.
- Everyone must be present for the Ethics and Boundaries of peer support module.
- Entering class is not a guarantee of gaining a certificate.

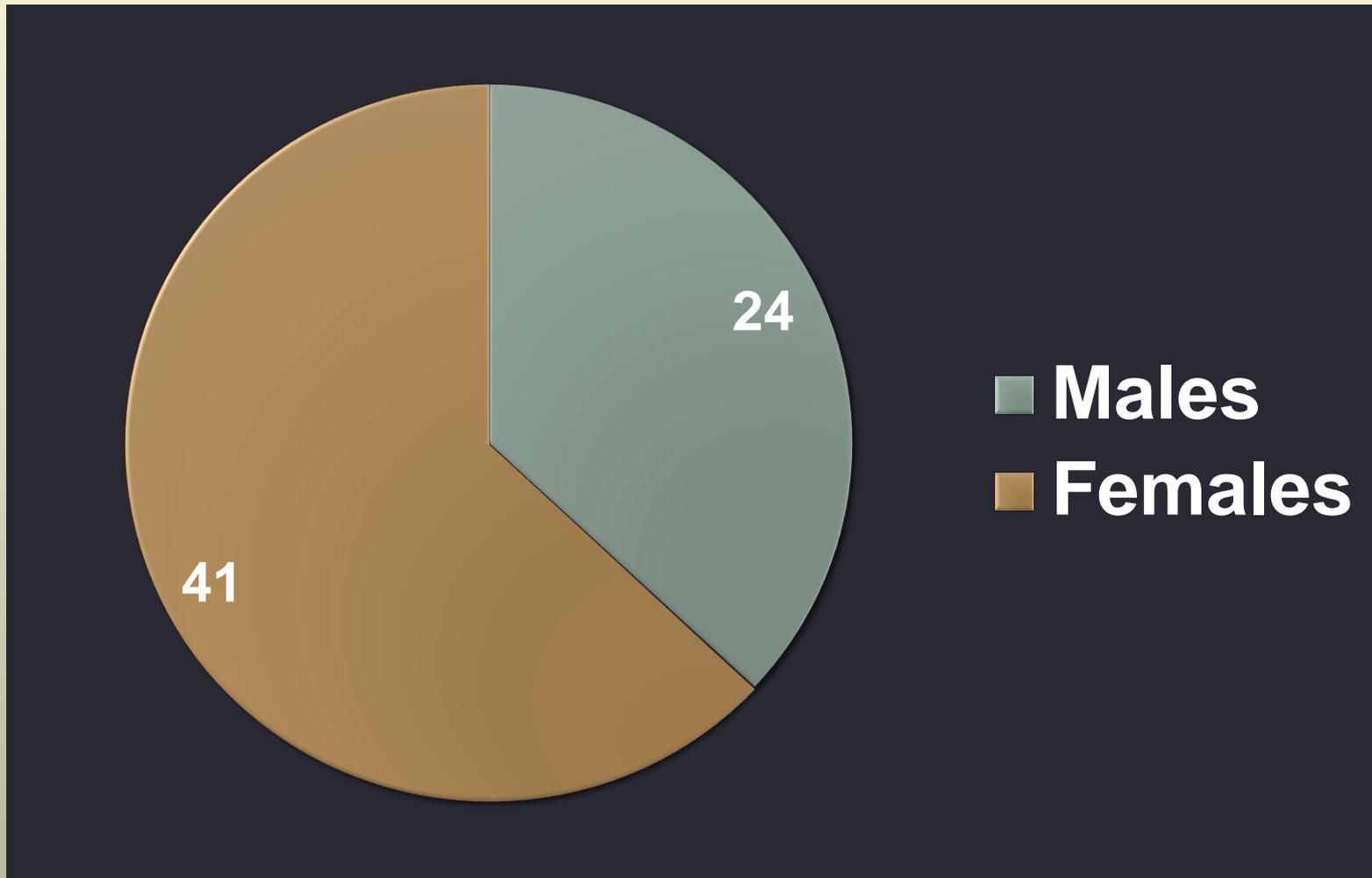
# The Training

- Part I-Personal Development
  - Recovery
  - The Power of Peer Support
  - Self-Esteem and Self-Talk
  - Community, Culture, and Environment
  - Meaning and Purpose in Work and Life
  - Emotional Intelligence
- Part II-Preparing for Work
  - Telling Our Story
  - Employment as a Means of Recovery
  - Ethics and Boundaries of Peer Support
- Part III-Skill Development
  - Communication
  - Conflict Resolution
  - Understanding Trauma
  - Substance Use
  - Being with People through Challenging Situations
  - Partnering with Professionals

# Current Status of Project

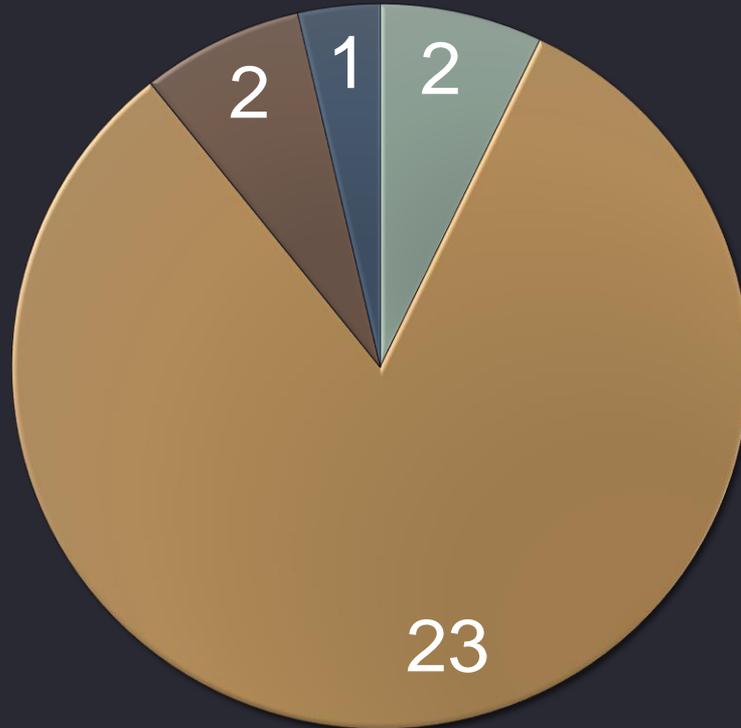
- 65 individuals trained
- One webinar held in 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter as planned
- Orientations occur before trainings to familiarize interested persons in training expectations, one occurs before each class. We have held 4 classes to date
- Outreach to county, CBOs, and community of individuals to create interest
- Flyers, pamphlets, email, and phone calls are used to encourage interest

# Demographics



# Languages

## Languages



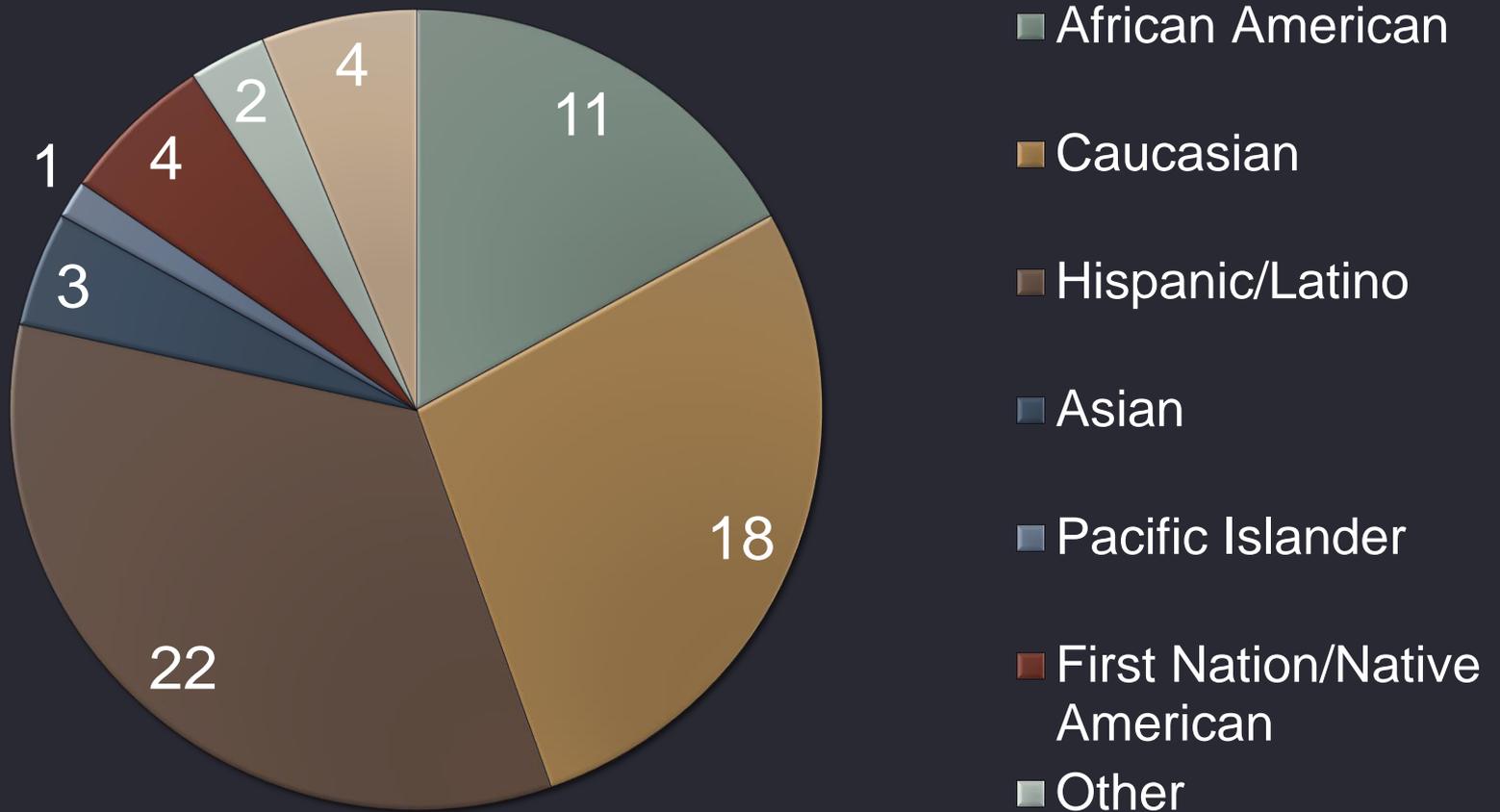
other

Spanish

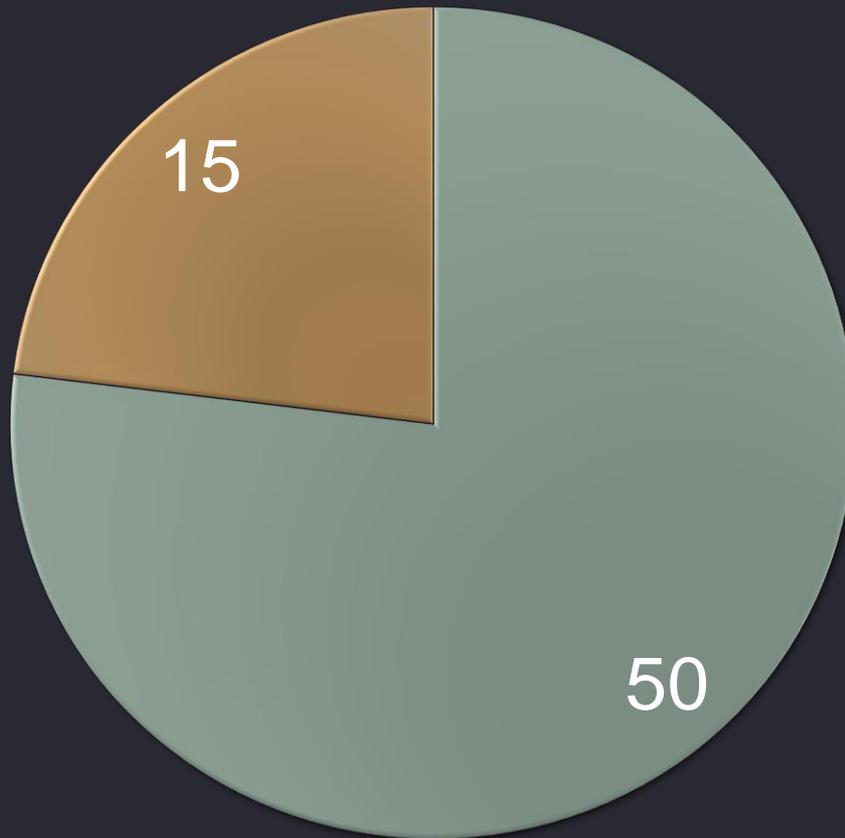
Tagalog

Japanese

# Ethnicity



# Employment Rate

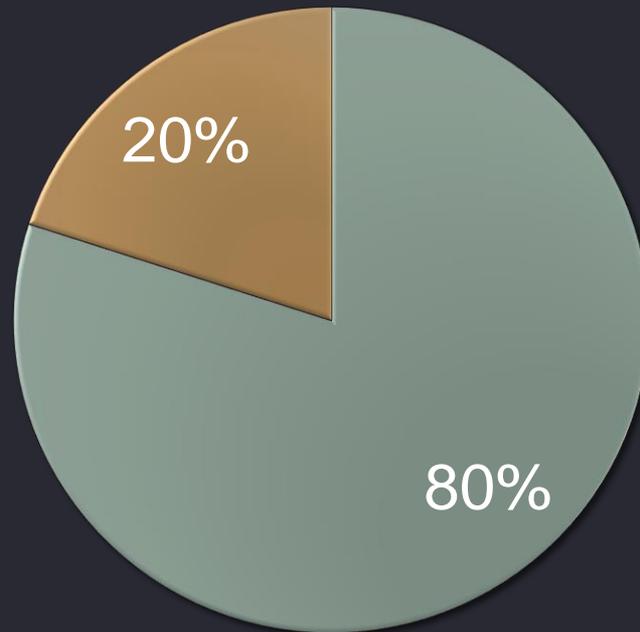


- Employed in PMHS
- Not Employed in PMHS

# Paid or Unpaid Work

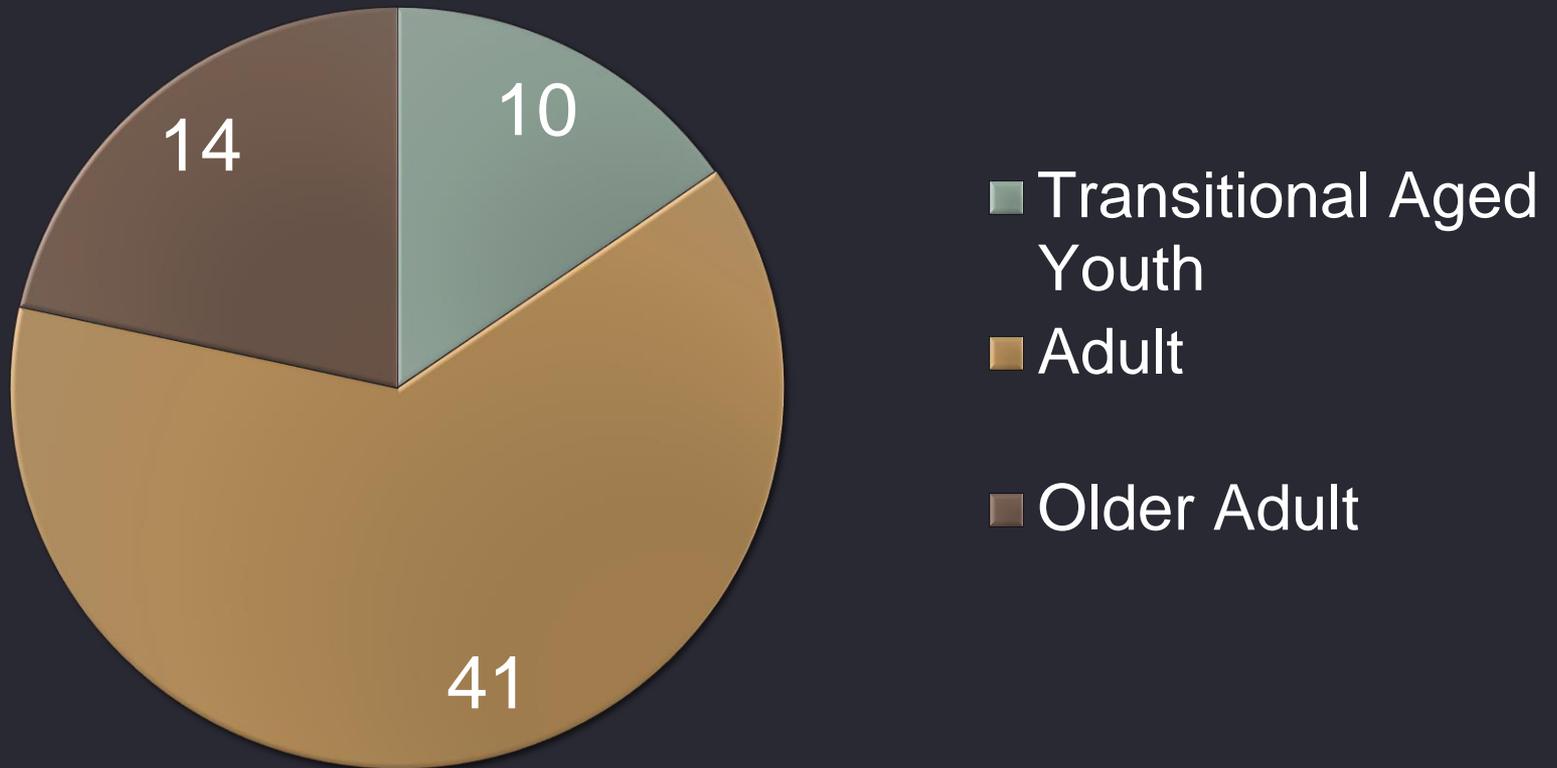
## Paid or Unpaid

■ Paid    ■ Volunteer or Internship



# Age

Age of Participants



# THANK YOU!

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