Santa Fe County engage

Policy Coordinating Group Evaluation Update

January 19, 2024

Updated Jan 10, 2024

Presented by Aspen Solutions

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engage goal

Improve public safety and reduce the burden of low-level drug offenses

by providing support services to people struggling with drug use and mental health challenges

ENGAGE

Referral

Social Law Enforcement
Arrest Diversion
Community Referral

Outreach

Phone calls and Texts
Home Visits

Enrollment

Consent
Program Introduction
Enrollment Forms / Assessment

Case Mgmt

Intensive Case Management
Social Services
HarmReduction
Family Support

Ongoing Assessment

Quarterly Assessments and Monthly Services Forms

Intended Outcome Areas

1. Diversion from Justice System
   - Reduced Recidivism

2. Increased Access to Services & Supports
   - Access & Use of Services
   - Reduced Stigma

3. Reduced or Safer Use Behaviors
   - Reduced Drug Overdose

4. Improved Quality of Life
   - Housing
   - Employment

5. Reduced Societal Costs

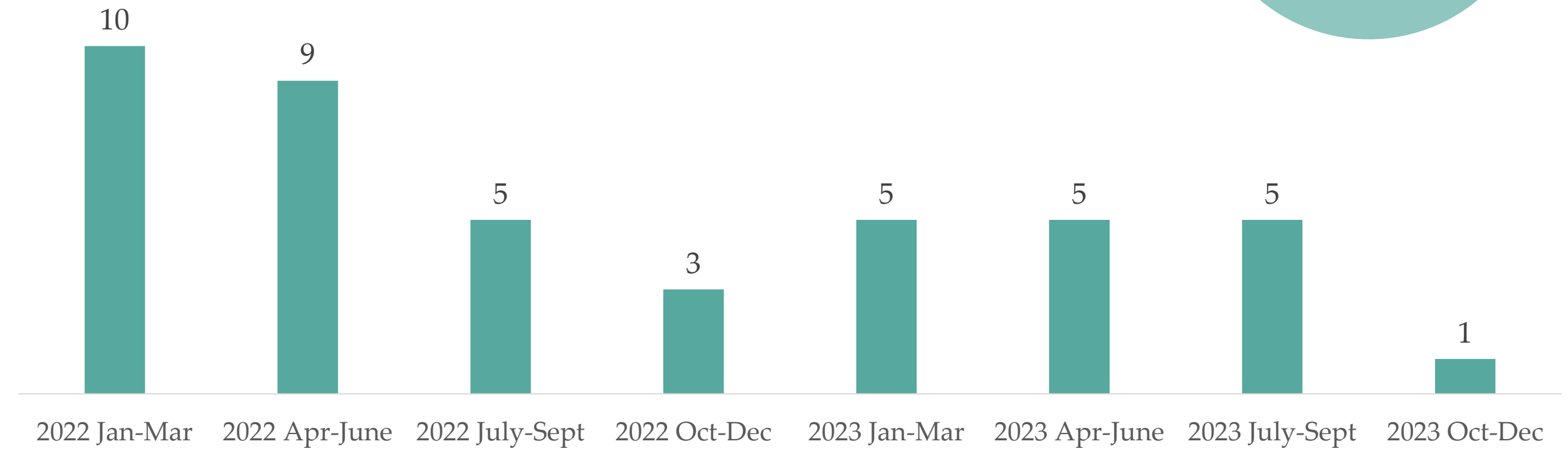
Diversion

Where do *engage* referrals originate?

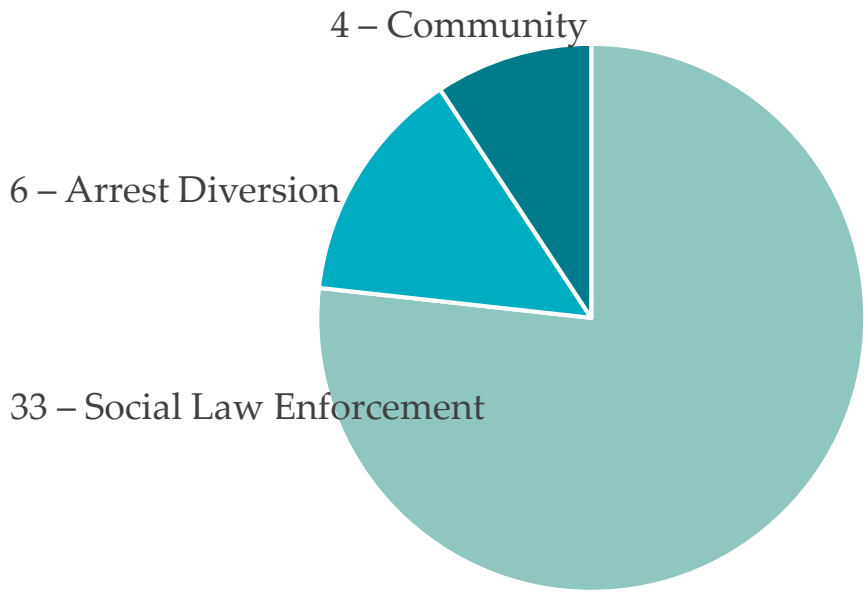
Referrals by Quarter

Santa Fe County engage

N=43 Referrals

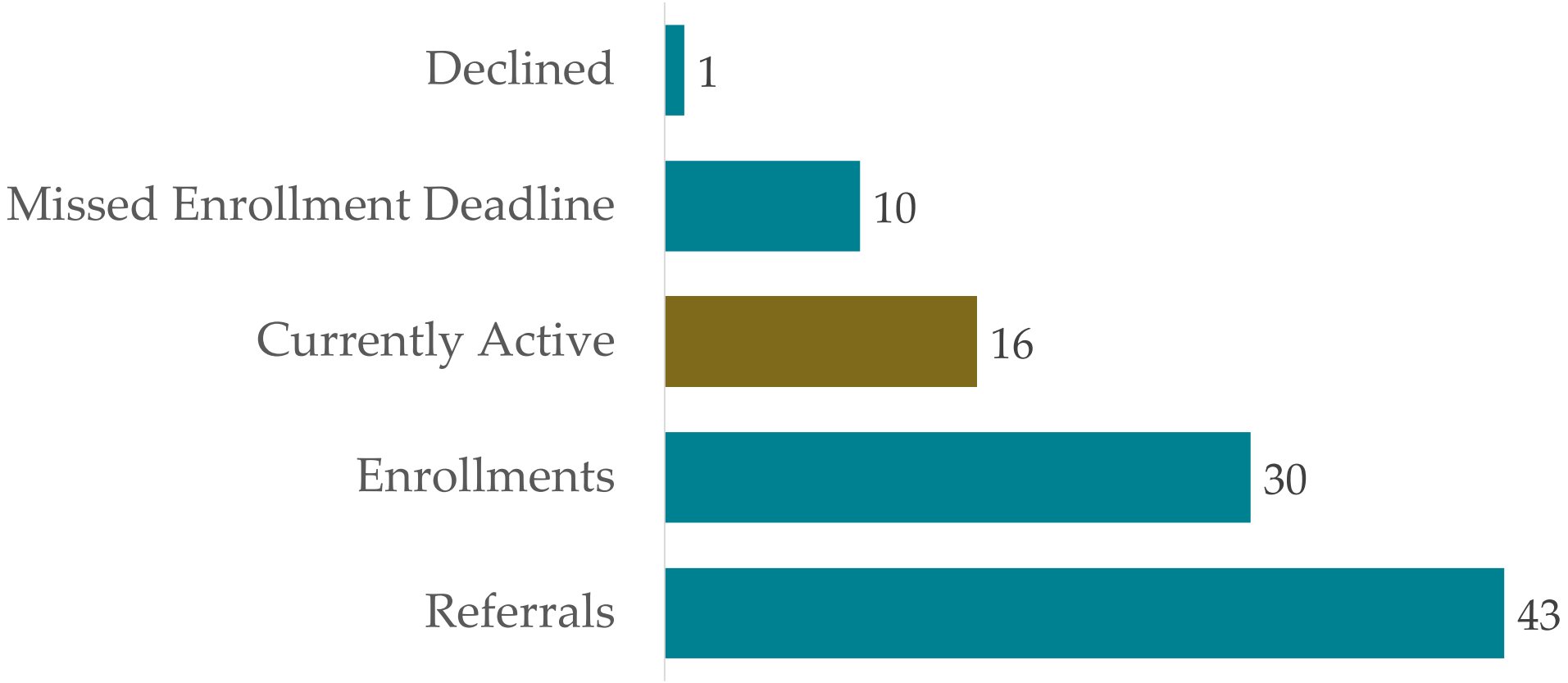


Referral Type



engage Santa Fe County Referrals & Enrollments

January 2022-December 2023



14 individuals exited the program after enrolling, One declined enrollment

Length of participation in *engage*

As of December 31, 2023		
Length of time in the program (N=30)	%	N
One or more years	30.0	9
9 months to a year	10.0	3
6 months to 9 months	26.7	8
3 months to 6 months	16.7	5
Less than 3 months	16.7	5

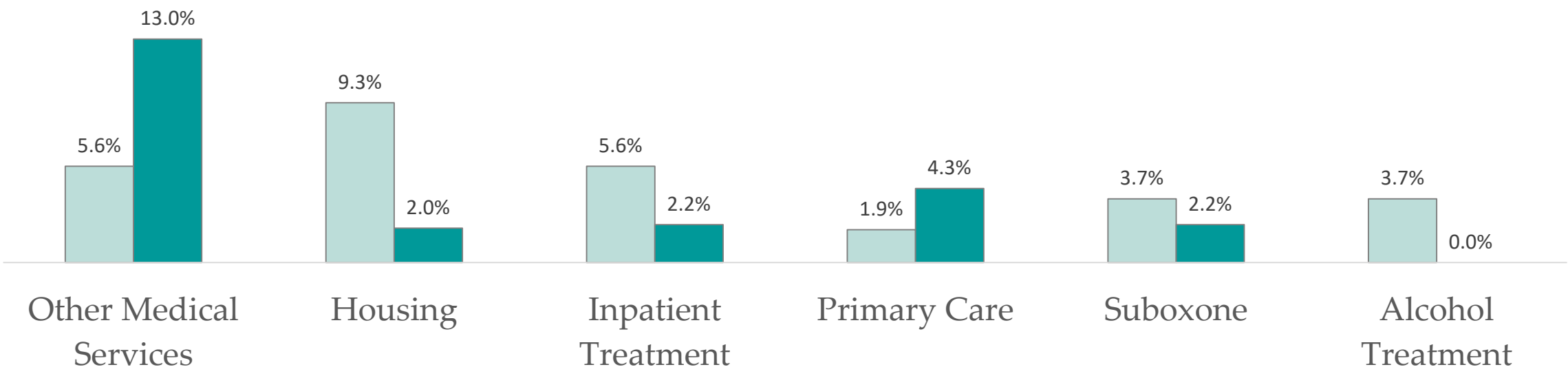
Increased Access to Services

What services are being used?

Who is benefiting?

Types of Service Referrals (past 30 days)

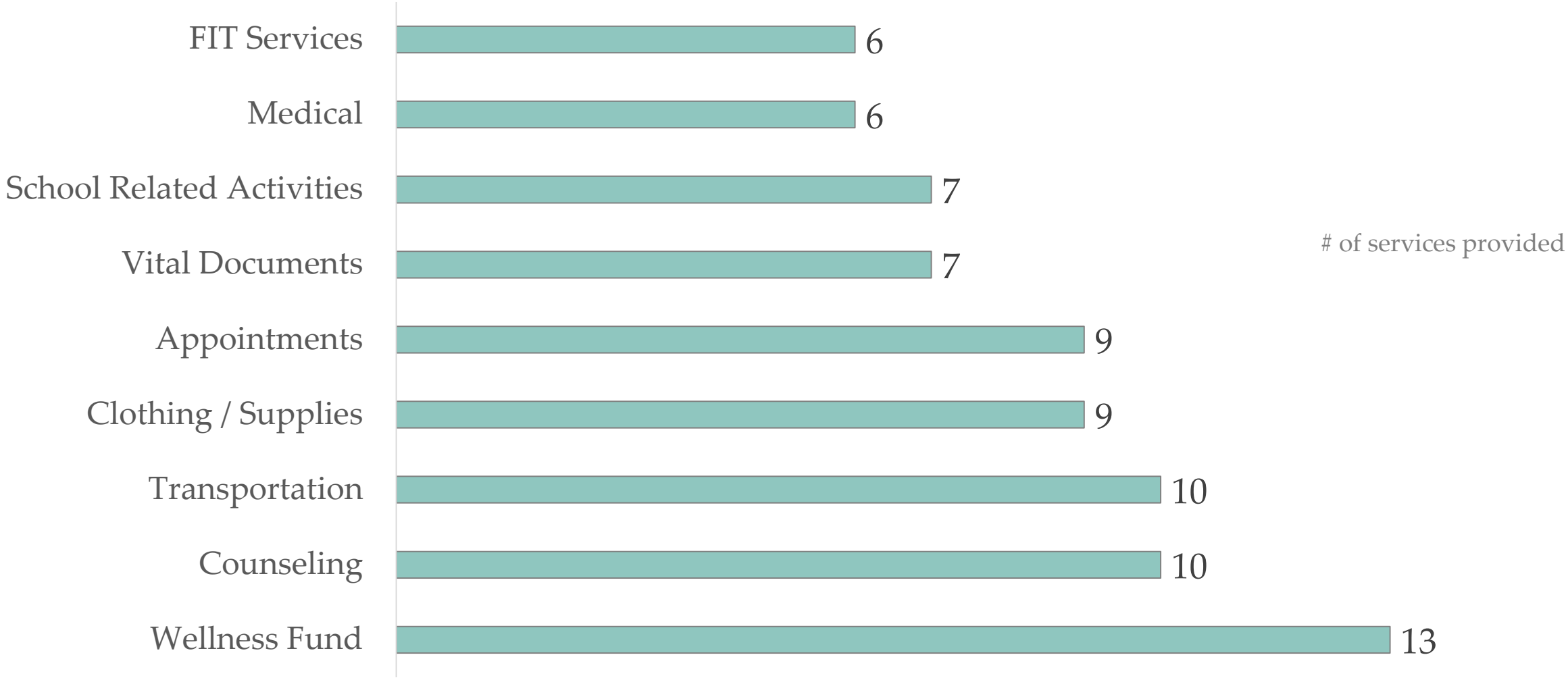
engage participants Santa Fe County – From Monthly Forms



Services Provided to Children of *engage* Participants

Between July-December 2023

Santa Fe County engage (n=12 Children)



July-Dec 2023

6 engage participants

40% of engage participants had family members who received services.

- 20 Family Members Served
  - 12 Children
    - Medical
    - Counseling
    - Transportation
    - Documentation
      - ID Cards
      - FIT Services
    - School Activities
      - Enrollment
      - Supplies
      - Clothing
  - 3 Siblings or Cousins
    - Educational Assistance
    - Counseling
    - Referrals
  - 5 Parents or Grandparents
    - Habitat for Humanity
    - Wellness Funds
    - Grief Support

Reduced or Safer Substance Use

Is substance severity reducing?

Are people practicing harm reduction?

63% of individuals report current substance use at time of enrollment.

of Individuals Using Each Substance at Time of Enrollment

SFC engage January 2022-Dec 2023

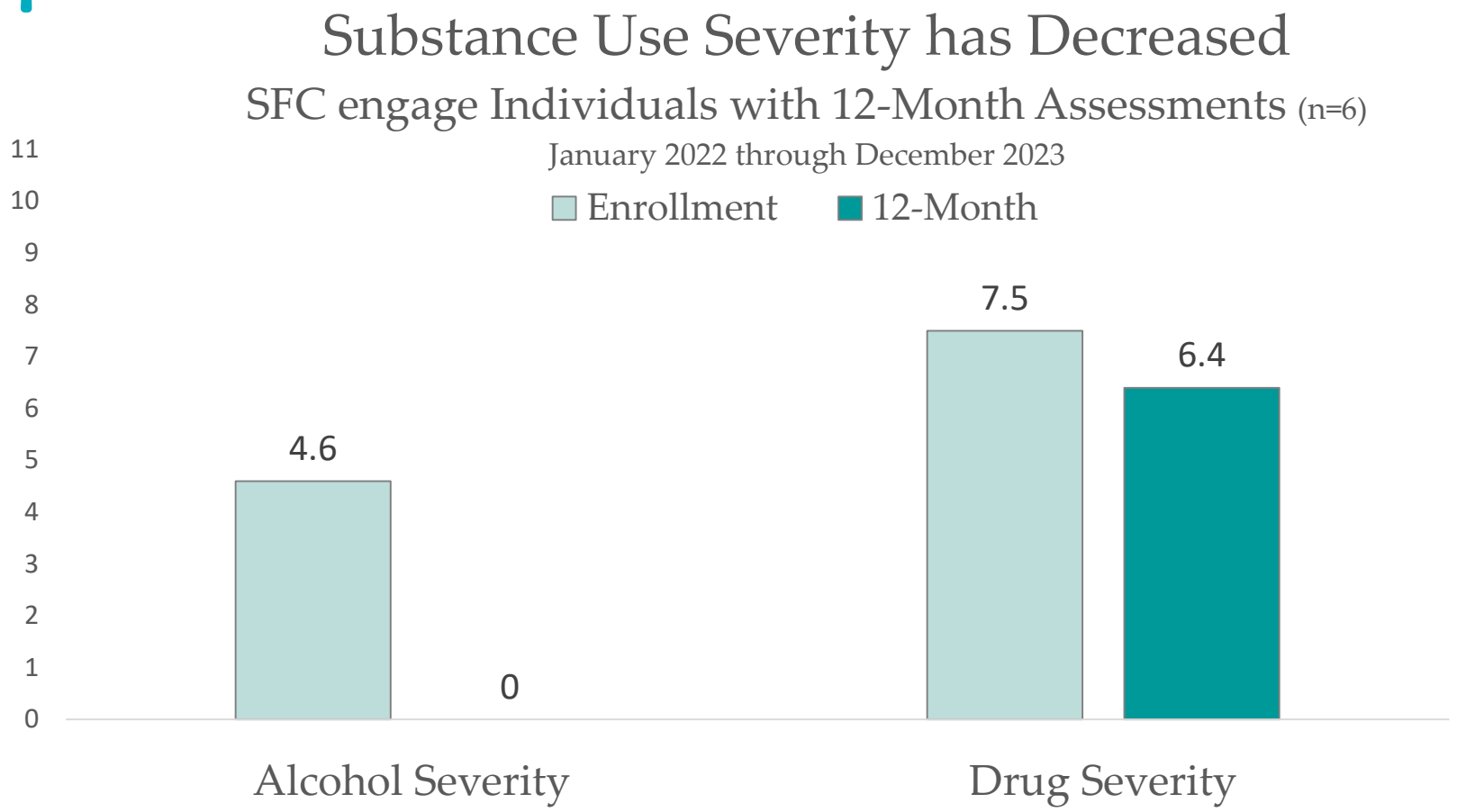
N=30

Fentanyl, Cannabis, and are the most used substances and are often used together.

Desired Change in Substance Use

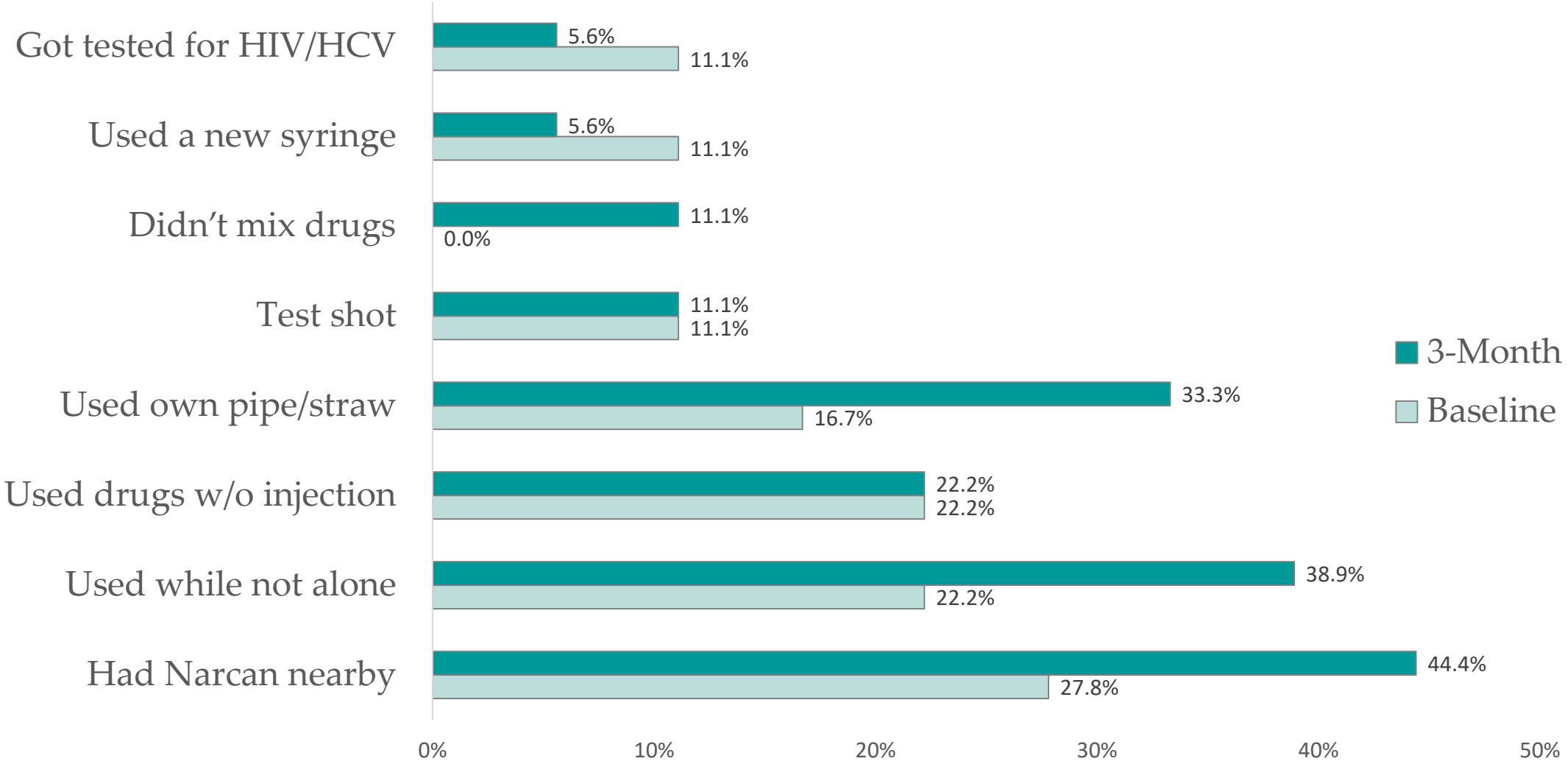
The graph displays the <u>average score</u> for the six individuals with baseline and 12-month assessments.

- One of those individuals had the highest possible severity score of 11 for both alcohol and drugs at enrollment.
- After 12 months, their alcohol is at zero and drugs are at 3.



Safer Use Practices

% of engage participants referred to harm reduction services (past 30-days)
Santa Fe County – Comparing Matched Baseline and 3-month Forms (N=18)



Improved Quality of Life

Is anyone better off?

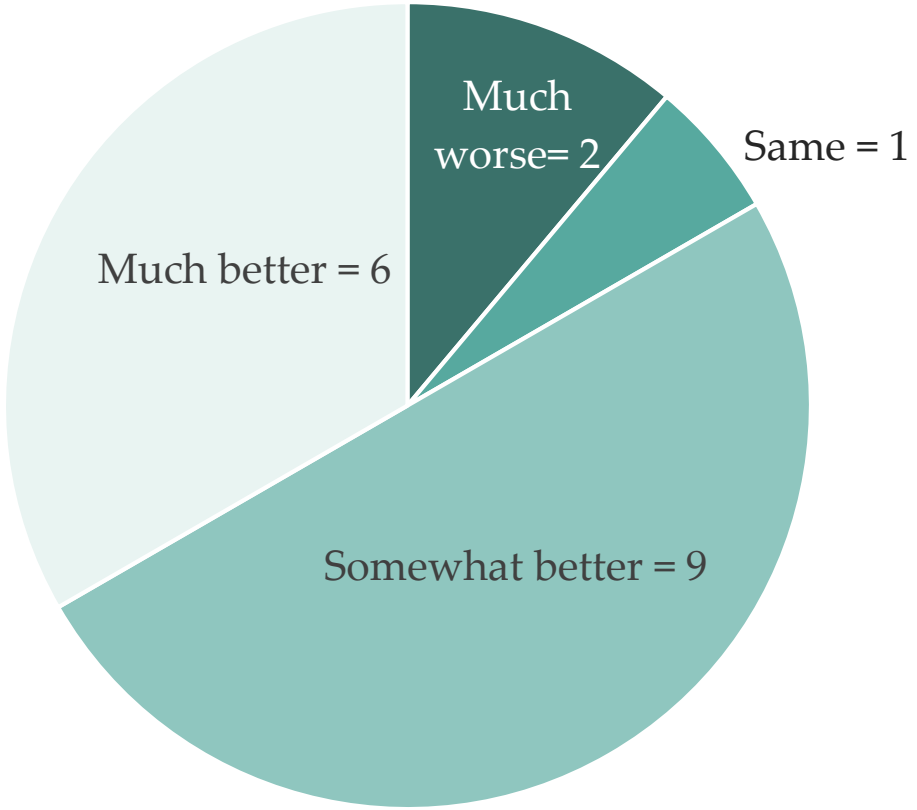
Do people have safer housing situations?

Are people able to obtain employment?

Quality of Life

83% Rated Their Quality of Life as "Somewhat better" or "Much better" compared to when they started ***engage***

(based on 18 completed 3-month quarterlies)



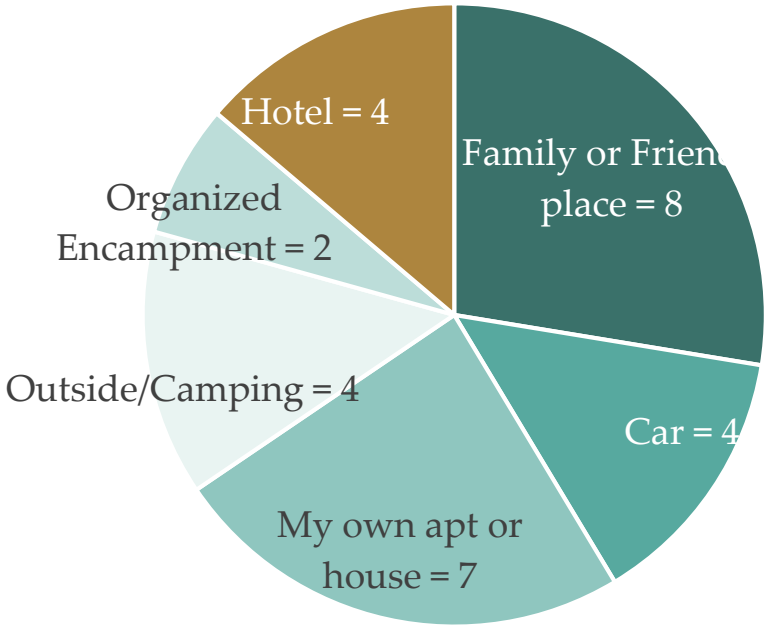
When asked to explain their rating, these are some of their answers:

- "It has been better than before because I feel more supported and helped."
- "My son and I now have advocates and resources to help us. We've been able to obtain help with applying and obtaining Medicaid, legal, cash assistance through TANF and information to other assistance throughout NM."

Housing & Readiness to Change

47% of 29 Individuals Reported NOT Having Adequate Housing

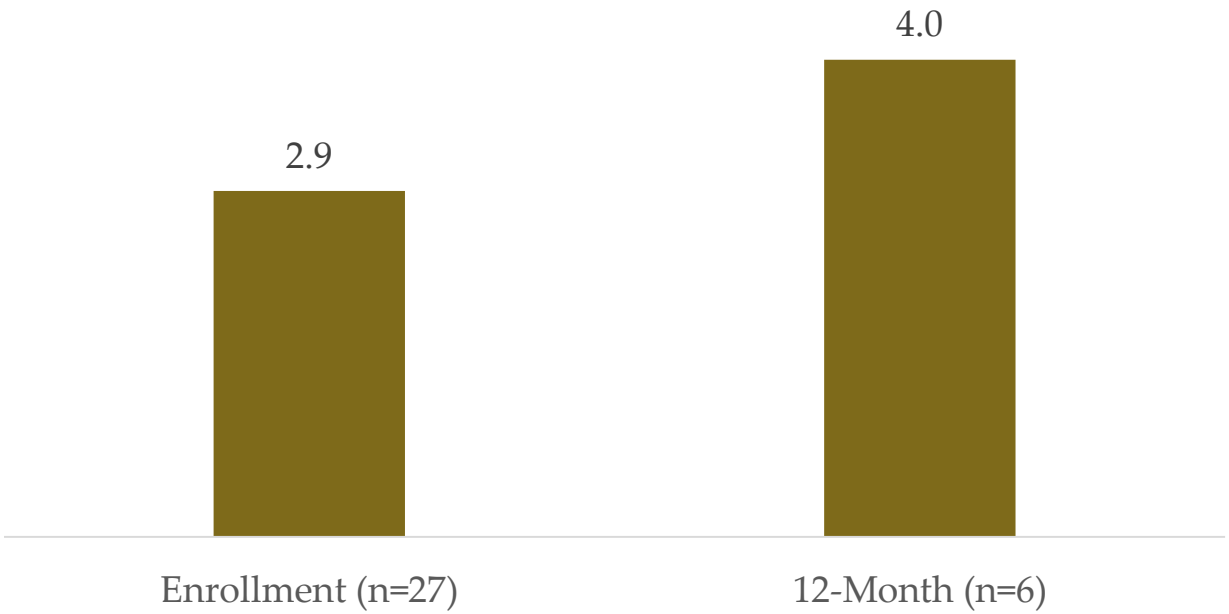
at time of enrollment



Readiness to Change Improves for engage Participants for those in program 12+ Months

January 2022-December 2023 - SFC engage

Average Score from 1= Pre-Contemplation to 5=Maintenance



Challenges

- Engage Case Manager resigned and last day was Jan 2, 2024.
- Individuals' lives are very complicated; One step forward, several steps back
- The death of an individual in engage in October 2023 was very difficult.
- State funding ends June 2024, and operating on a skeleton budget until new funding is secured.

Discussion

1. What stood out to you?
2. What else might you like to see in terms of outcomes or evaluation findings?
3. Do you have ideas to improve the program?