# **Statewide Evaluation (SWE): Phase 2 Findings**



# Los Angeles October 24, 2023



**Office of Health Equity** 

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views or opinions of the California Department of Public Health or the California Health and Human Services Agency



Loyola Marymount University

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https://bellarmine.lmu.edu/psychology/parc



A set of practices that communities have used and determined to yield positive results by community consensus over time and which may or may not have been measured empirically but have reached a level of acceptance by the community.



Served in CA

Culturally Responsive Outreach in the Greater L.A. area



"IPP continues to visit the local Swap Meet with the *Pan y Café* strategy in an effort conduct outreach in areas where our community is present. The Swap Meet is a very common place, where our priority population gathers to walk around, for distraction, and shopping. The IPP takes advantage of this opportunity to interact with community members who walk by the informational table, where sweat bread and coffee is served and Radio Indigena 94.1FM is played. Community members feel connected with the Chilenas playing, which are well-recognized traditional songs, and the information being announced in Mixteco and Spanish that grabs their attention to the informational table.

#### Latinx Hub CDEP

"As a Black woman, this has been one of the most affirming experiences that I've had, to be able to come together beyond our differences and connect on what's important to us as Black women has been priceless...What I really, really, loved was that they created a safe space. It was a space that was non-judgmental, and you were able to show who you really were authentically."

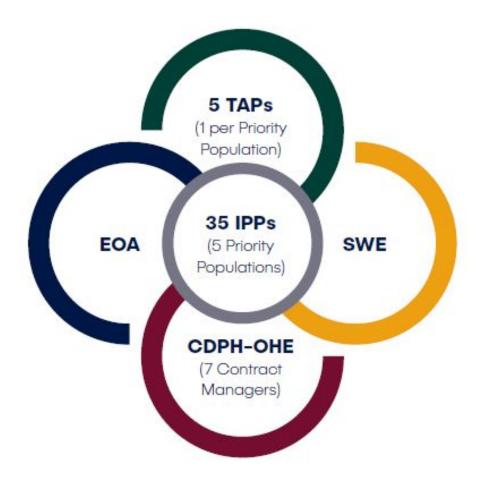
-African American Hub CDEP Participant



#### **CRDP Phase 2 Overview of Phase 2 Partners**



Phase 2 Partners: Office of Health Equity, Statewide Evaluator, Technical Assistance Providers, Education, Outreach Awareness, Implementation Pilot Projects (IPPs)







# The Phase 2 Statewide Evaluation answered seven questions:

#### Objective 1: Evaluate Overall CRDP Phase 2 Effectiveness in Identifying and Implementing Strategies to Reduce Mental Health Disparities

- To what extent were CRDP strategies and operations effective at preventing and/or reducing the severity of mental illness in California's historically unserved, underserved and/or inappropriately served communities?
- What were vulnerabilities or weaknesses in CRDP's overarching strategies and fiscal operations, and how could they have been strengthened?
- To what extent did CRDP strategies show an effective return on investment?

#### **Objective 2: Determine Effectiveness of CDEPs**

- To what extent did IPPs prevent and/or reduce the severity of prioritized mental health conditions within and across priority populations, including specific subpopulations (e.g., gender, age)?
- How cost effective were Pilot Projects? What was the business case for increasing them to a larger scale?
- To what extent did CRDP Phase 2 Implementation Pilot Projects validate their CDEPs?
- What evaluation frameworks were developed and used by the Pilot Projects?



**CDEP Participant Level Data** aka "CDEP Participant Questionnaire"

Organizational Level Data

Semi-Structured Interviews

# Review of Records

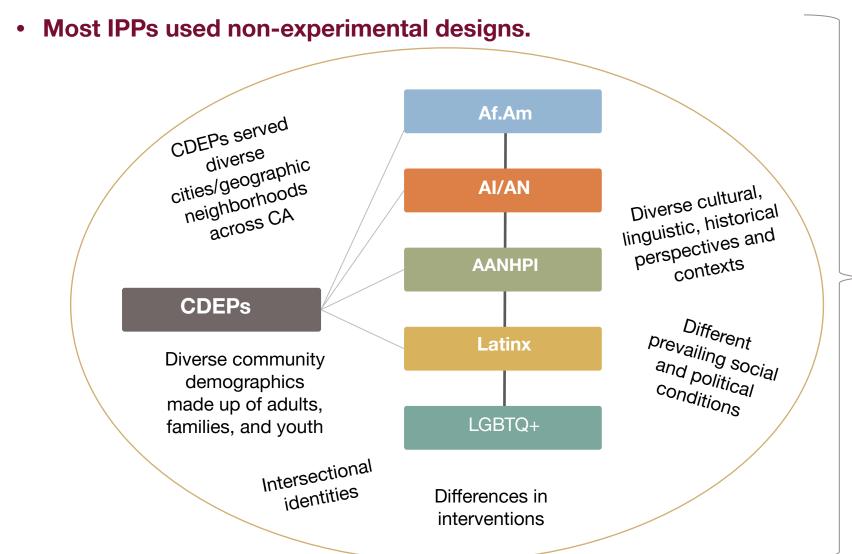
Secondary Data (Administrative)

- Pre-Test (before CDEP services)
- Post-Test (typically after CDEP services)
- IPP Pre- and Post-test Organizational Capacity Assessment
- IPP Semi-Annual Reports (IPP-SAR)
- OHE Progress Reports (submitted by TAPs, EOA, SWE)
- Phase 2 Partner Interviews (TAPs, EOA, SWE, OHE)
- Key Informant Interviews
- Accepted grant proposals/bids; CRDP Strategic Plan; Phase 1
   Priority Population Reports; approved IPP final evaluation plans;
   IPP final evaluation reports; IPP, TAP, EOA, and SWE
   invoices/budgets
- Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS)

Salifornía Reducing



• The Statewide Evaluation (SWE) **did NOT use a randomized control trial experimental design** with assignment of CDEPs or their participants to "treatment" or "control" groups.



- With such great diversity in populations served, strategies employed, and specific program designs used, a wide array of possibilities existed for IPP's quantitative (and qualitative) data collection approaches.
- This includes variable sample sizes. Therefore, priority population comparisons of sample sizes are neither appropriate nor valid.





Objective 1: Evaluate Overall CRDP Phase 2 Effectiveness in Identifying and Implementing Strategies to Reduce Mental Health Disparities.

Objective 2: Determine Effectiveness of Community-Defined Evidence Programs. A mixed-methods "parallel combination" approach was used for baseline participant-level data and programmatic / initiative wide data

A Bayesian analysis paradigm that also included statistical best practices to assess the extent to which CRDP Phase 2 delivered results via credible intervals on effect sizes of relevant variables.

• matched pre- and post-test participant-level data

A cost-benefit analysis for the business case to calculate the dollar value of health (and non-health) savings related to improvements in CDEP participants' mental health

- matched pre- and post-test participant-level data
- MEPS data



SWE RQ1: What was the effectiveness of CRDP and its use of CDEPs for preventing and/or reducing the severity of mental health conditions in its priority populations?

## **CRDP** participant outcomes support CDEP effectiveness

- CRDP made mental health services more accessible and improved mental health in unserved, underserved, and inappropriately served communities.
- Statistical modeling of CRDP participant outcomes show that the positive mental health findings are robust and support the overall efficacy of CDEPs as a mental health PEI strategy.
- **Culturally grounded** technical assistance was provided to support CDEP implementation, evaluation, and organizational capacity building.





SWE RQ2: How cost-effective was the CDEP strategy and what was the return on investment for the initiative? What was the business case for CRDP Phase 2?

## **CRDP** is cost effective

- The CRDP Phase 2 business case found that for every taxpayer \$ invested in CRDP, there was an estimated return of \$5.
- The estimated net financial benefit to the state **exceeded \$450 MD.**
- The business case showed that **prevention and early intervention matter.**

SWE RQ3: To what extent were CDEPs validated and what were the evaluation frameworks developed and used for CDEPs?

 IPP Local Evaluation findings highlighted culturally-informed outcomes that extend beyond standard mental health measures, supporting CDEP effectiveness.





# ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES





**Key Findings from the CRDP Phase 2 Statewide Evaluation Report** 



# How did CDEPs contribute to mental health access (availability, utilization, quality)?

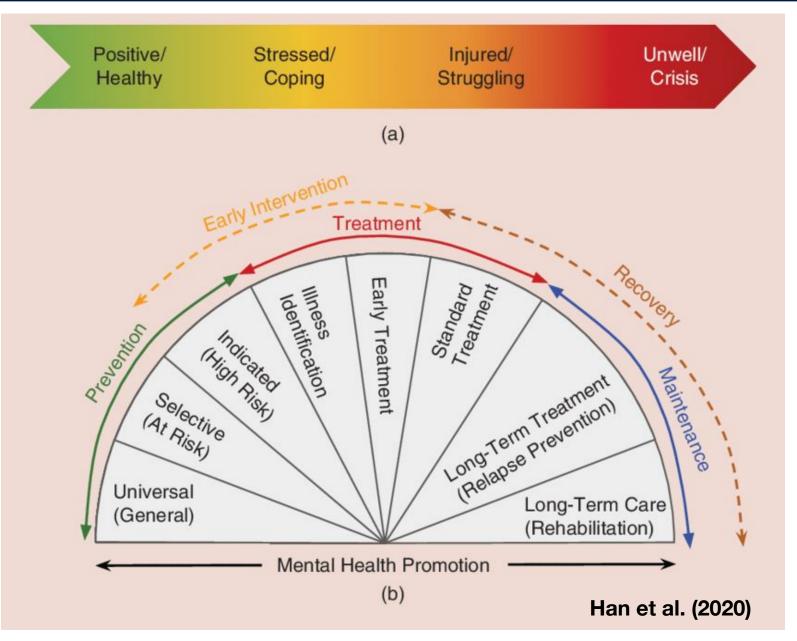
# Where do CDEPs fall in the PEI mental health spectrum?

What does the data reveal about the mental health status and needs of individuals served by the CDEPs at baseline?



## **PEI in the Mental Health Spectrum**

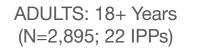




## Mental Health Access Outcomes At-A-Glance

#### **CRDP-wide findings suggest that CDEPs served the communities they intended to serve** Californía Reducing







• 17% LGBQ+

RDP

- GENDER IDENTITY
- 62% woman/female (2% transfeminine)
- 27% man/male (2% transmasculine)
- 6% genderqueer/non-binary
- 2% questioning/unsure

#### RACE

GI

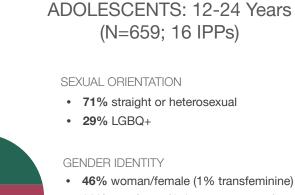
R

Α

- 16% Black (2% multi-race)
- 32% Asian American (1% multi-race)
- 33% Latinx (4% multi-race)
- 13% Amer. Indian/Alaska Nat (3% multi-race)
- 2% Nat. Hawaiian/Pac. Islander (1% multi-race)
- 10% White (4% multi-race)

AGE

- 23% were 18-29 years old
- 39% were 30-49 years old
- 38% were 50 plus years old •



- 38% man/male (4% transmasculine)
- 6% genderqueer/non-binary
- 2% questioning/unsure

#### RACE

- 28% Black (6% multi-race)
- 15% Asian American (3% multi-race)
- **39%** Latinx (10% multi-race)
- 23% Amer. Indian/Alaska Nat (10% multi-race)
- 1% Nat. Hawaiian/Pac. Islander (<1% multi-race)
- 15% White (8% multi-race)

#### AGE

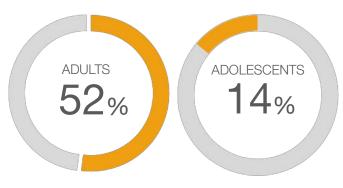
- 33% were 12-14 years old
- 43% were 15-16 years old
- 18% were 17-18 years old
- 6% were 19-24 years old

# **IMMIGRANT/REFUGEE STATUS**



#### LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT

"NOT AT ALL" TO "SOMEWHAT"



#### Source: CDEP participant questionnaire

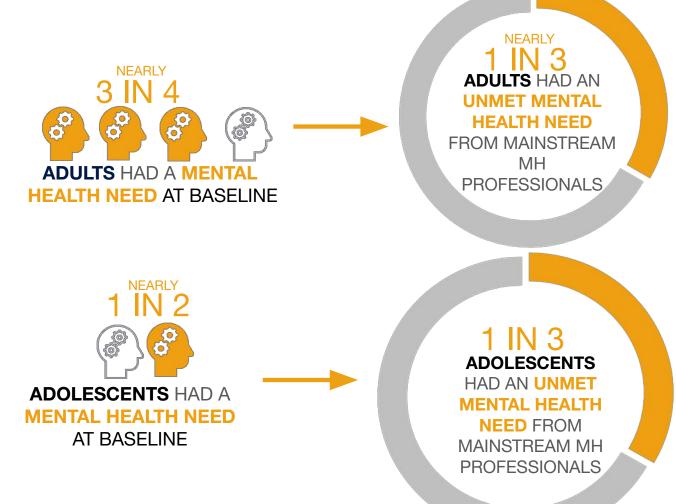
## **ADULT and ADOLESCENT Mental Health Access At-A-Glance**

Data period: 06/2018 - 06/2021

CRDP-wide findings suggest that the CDEPs provided services to ADULTS in the five priority populations who presented with vulnerabilities and risk factors at baseline (i.e., prior to receiving CDEP services).











The Kessler-6 (K6) is a brief screening scale for non-specific psychological distress in adults (Kessler et al., 2002) and has been shown to be strongly predictive of adult serious mental illness (SMI; Kessler et al., 2003, 2010).

**SWE CDEP Questionnaire:** The next questions are about how you have been feeling during the past 30 days. *About how often during the past 30 days did you feel ...* 

#### Six items:

- Feeling nervous
- Feeling hopeless
- Feeling restless/fidgety
- Feeling so depressed that nothing can cheer you up
- Feeling that everything was an effort
- Feeling worthless

#### Response categories:

None of the time (0) A little of the time (1) Some of the time (2) Most of the time (3) All of the time (4)



#### K6 scores:

- 13-24 have probable SMI
- 0-12 probably do not have SMI (Kessler et al., 2003)

# % of K6 scores >13 in general population:

- 3.4% to 6% in the U.S. (Kessler et al., 1996; Weissman et al., 2015)
- 8.5% in California (Grant et al., 2011)

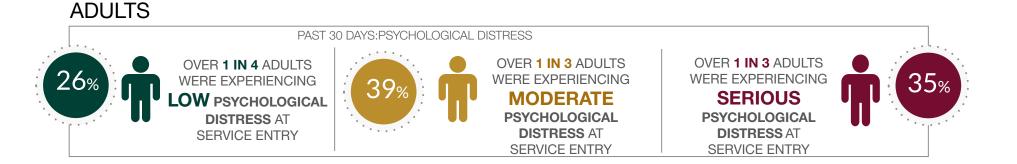
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Source: CDEP participant questionnaire

Data period: 06/2018 - 06/2021

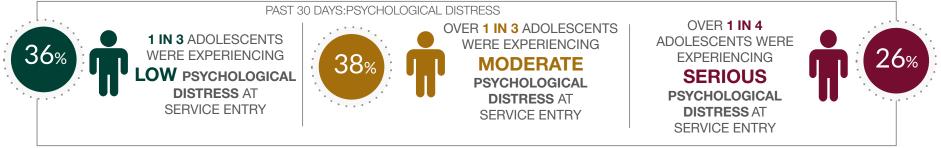




#### ADOLESCENTS

CRDP

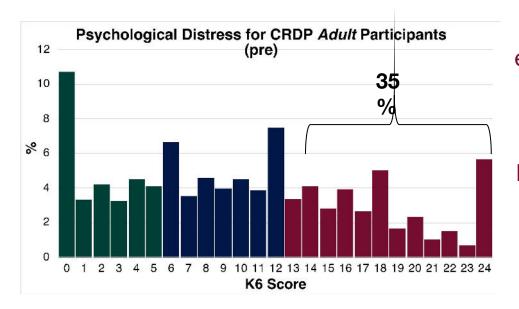
California Reducing Disparities Project



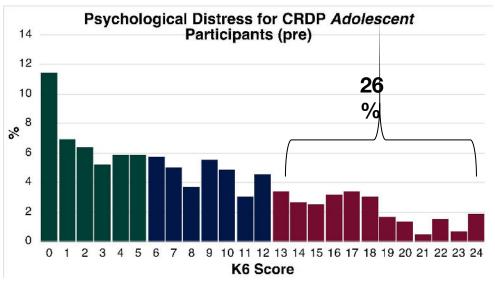
## **CRDP K6 Scores in a National Context**



- According to the National Institute of Mental Health (2023) it is estimated that:
  - More than one in five (22.8%) U.S. adults live with a mental illness (57.8 million in 2021).<sup>1</sup>
    - Nearly half (47.2%) of these individuals received mental health services in the past year.
  - Nearly one in two (49.5%) of adolescents (13-18) had any mental disorder.<sup>2</sup>
- For those who seek and receive mental health treatment, about 1 in 2 meet criteria for a past-year mental health disorder and an additional 13% for other indicators of need (Bruffaerts et al., 2015).



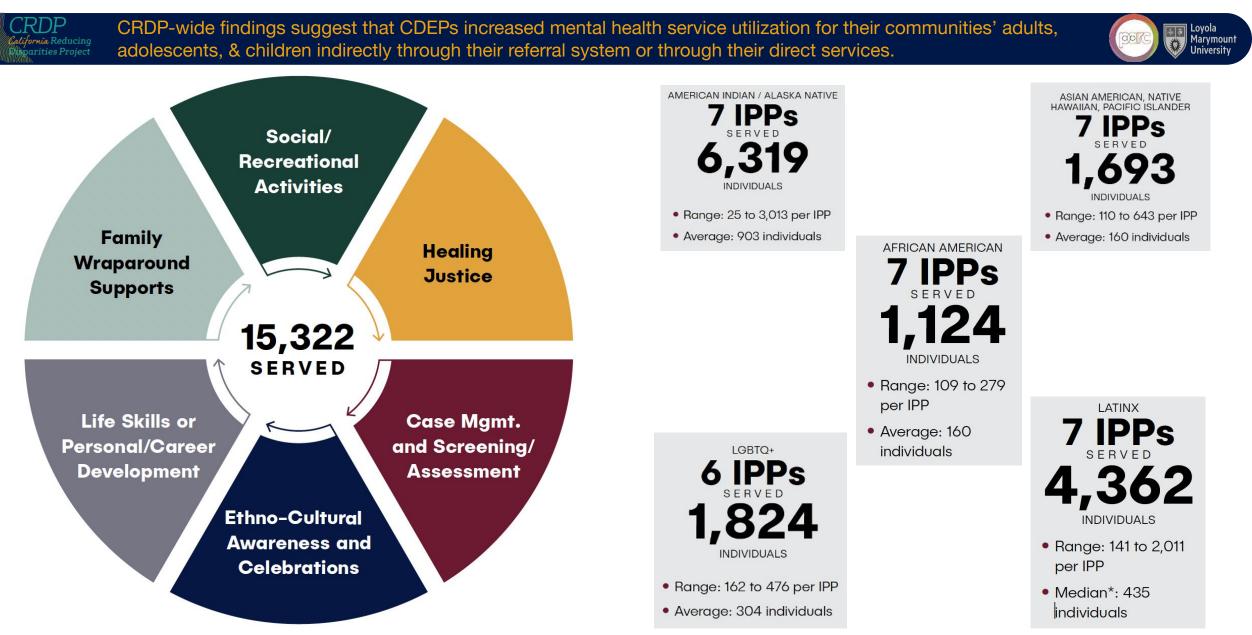
While we don't have enough information to distinguish mental health problems or illness for those who have serious distress, the data suggests **CDEPs are serving individuals who are unserved and underserved**.



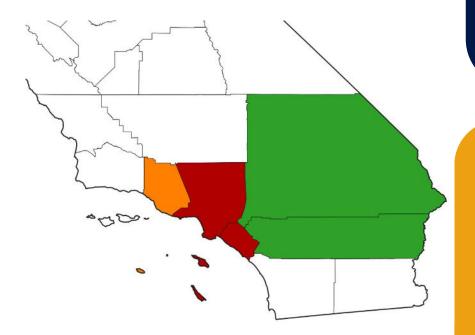
<sup>1</sup>2021 National Survey on Drug Use and Health <sup>2</sup>2010 National Comorbidity Survey Adolescent Supplement

### **Mental Health Access Outcomes At-A-Glance**

Data period: 05/2017 - 04/2021



Culturally Responsive Service Delivery in the Greater L.A. area



"Native American regalia is a component of the cultural education program. The instructors wear full regalia for the introduction session and the final session. Regalia making workshops are available. Lender shawls are available for use for one of the types of dancing styles. Drum sticks are provided for those who come to learn to drum."

#### -AIAN Hub CDEP

"The IPP staff had a good understanding of Korean culture. She understood how Korean pastors like me often feel ashamed to disclose emotional problems to others. The IPP staff said, 'Pastor is a human too.' Pastors can have depression or panic attacks too. She made me feel understood. It was good to have a counselor who not only speaks the language but understands the culture fully"

-AANHPI Hub CDEP Participant

## **Mental Health Access Outcomes At-A-Glance**

Data period: 05/2017 - 04/2021

CRDP Californía Reducing Pieparities Project

CRDP-wide findings suggest that CDEPs increased mental health service availability for their communities' adults, adolescents, & children indirectly through their referral system or through their direct services.



15 IPPs

# IPPs

11

3

7

4

9





n=4 775



MENTAL HEALTH	n=6,439 Referrals	24 IPPs # IPPs	
Top Sub-Types	# Referrals		
Counseling, Therapy, Wellness	5,247	24	
Substance Abuse	416	20	
Sexual Assault	282	15	
Psychiatric Care	229	9	
Domestic Violence	220	13	

BASIC NEEDS	Referrals	20 IPPs # IPPs	
Top Sub-Types	# Referrals		
Food Assistance	2,070	17	
Financial Assistance	922	14	
Housing, Rent, Utilities	869	17	
Transportation	367	13	
Clothing and Furniture Assistance	339	8	

LEGAL ADVOCACY	n=1,707 Referrals	19 IPPs
EDUCATION	n=537 Referrals	20 IPPs

EMPLOYMENT CAREER (job training, skills)	n=507 Referrals	13 IPPs	
PARENTING CHILD CARE	n=141 Referrals	7 IPPs	
SPECIALTY CARE	n=73 Referrals	9 IPPs	

HEALTH	n=4,392 Referrals	18 IPPs	PERSONAL GROWTH	n=2,188 Referrals
Top Sub-Types	# Referrals	# IPPs	Top Sub-Types	# Referrals
Primary Health Care	2,691	17	Social/Cultural Enrichment	1,365
Nutrition	482	4	Programs	
COVID-Related Health Supports	379	4	Support/ Mentoring	326
Dental/ Optometry/ Prescription	356	8	Faith-Based/ Spiritual Services	230
Medical Benefits and Insurance	140	5	Other (e.g.,	
Illness Specific (HIV/AIDS, dialysis)	77	4	entrepreneurial training, police athletic league)	136
Transgender Healthcare	49	Ť	Volunteer Services	120





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# MENTAL HEALTH IMPROVEMENTS





Key Findings from the CRDP Phase 2 Statewide Evaluation Report



# Did CDEPs prevent the development of mental illness and/or promote positive wellbeing?

# Did CDEPs reduce mental health risks for people with early signs of mental illness?

Adult participants improved on ALL five core measure outcomes



**PARC-des** 

igned

Widely-used

(e.g., CHIS,

**NSDUH**)

- Cultural Protective Factor 1: Importance of Culture to Provide Strength, Good Feelings, Connection to Traditions
- Cultural Protective Factor 2: Balanced in Mind/Body/Spirit and Connected to Culture
- Social Isolation/Risk Factor: Feelings of Marginalization and Isolation

- Sheehan Disability Scale: Psychological Functioning at Home, Work, Family, and Friends
- Kessler 6: Psychological Distress





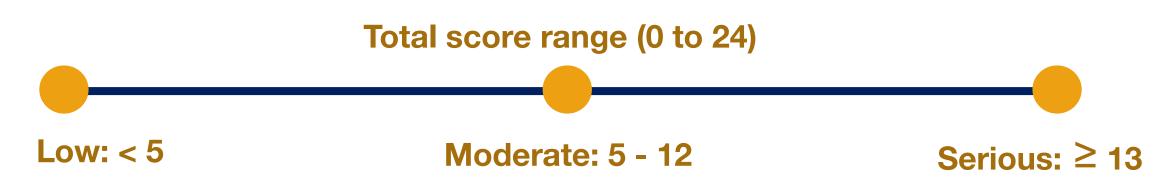
**SWE CDEP Questionnaire:** The next questions are about how you have been feeling during the past 30 days. *About how often during the past 30 days did you feel ...* 

# Six items:

- Feeling *nervous*
- Feeling hopeless
- Feeling restless/fidgety
- Feeling so depressed that nothing can cheer you up
- Feeling that everything was an effort
- Feeling *worthless*

# **Response categories:**

None of the time (0) A little of the time (1) Some of the time (2) Most of the time (3) All of the time (4)



## Changes in psychological distress for adult participants

CRDP Strong evidence emerges supporting CDEP prevention and early intervention effectiveness among a sample of adult participants. Many maintained lower levels of distress or decreased their level of distress by the end of services.



ADULT (N=1,773): PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS (Kessler-6) BY THE NUMBERS



Among a sample of **CDEP-Served Adults** who had "moderate" (K6=5 to 12) psychological distress at pre-CDEP intervention:

 4 in 10 had less distress at post-test, while 5 in 10 maintained at the same state at post-test.



899% Improved or stayed the same, providing strong evidence that CDEP prevention AND early Intervention efforts prevent some adults from developing more serious symptoms.

Key takeaway

## Changes in psychological distress for youth participants

CRDP Strong evidence emerges supporting CDEP prevention and early intervention effectiveness among a sample of youth participants Many maintained lower levels of distress or decreased their level of distress by the end of services.



#### YOUTH (N=317): PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS (Kessler-6) BY THE NUMBERS



Among a sample of **CDEP-Served YOUTH** who had "none" or "mild" (K6=5 or lower) psychological distress at pre-CDEP intervention::

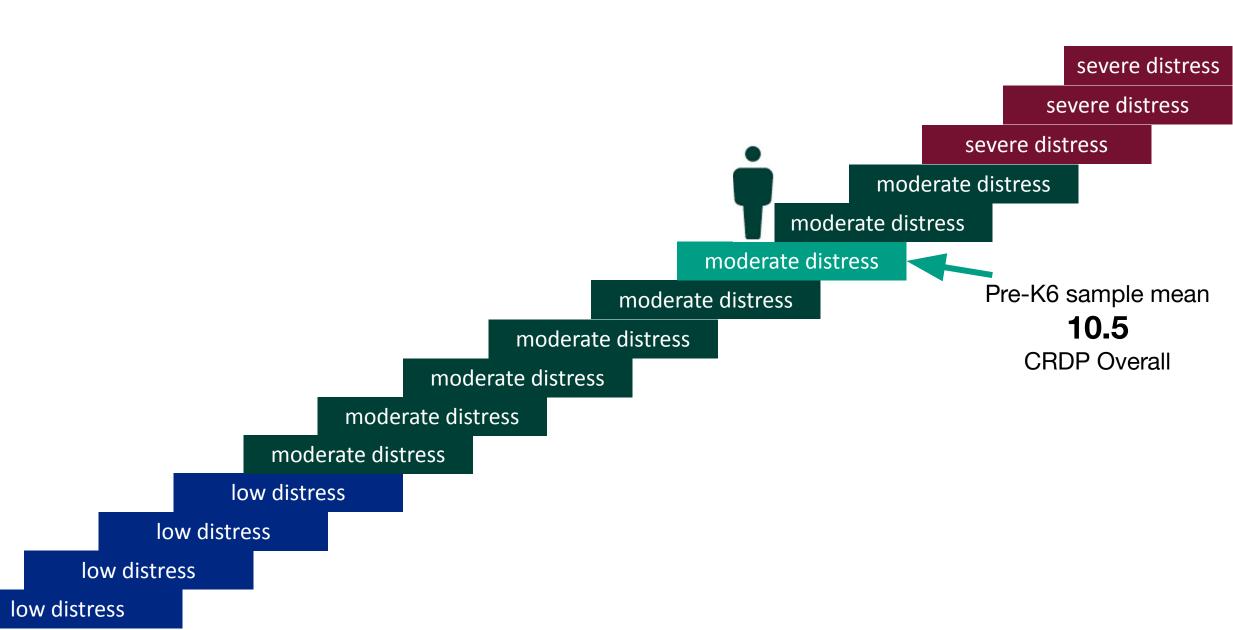
 Nearly 7 in 10 maintained none or a mild state of distress at post-test.



Key takeaway 677% Stayed the same, providing strong evidence that CDEP prevention efforts work for many young people.

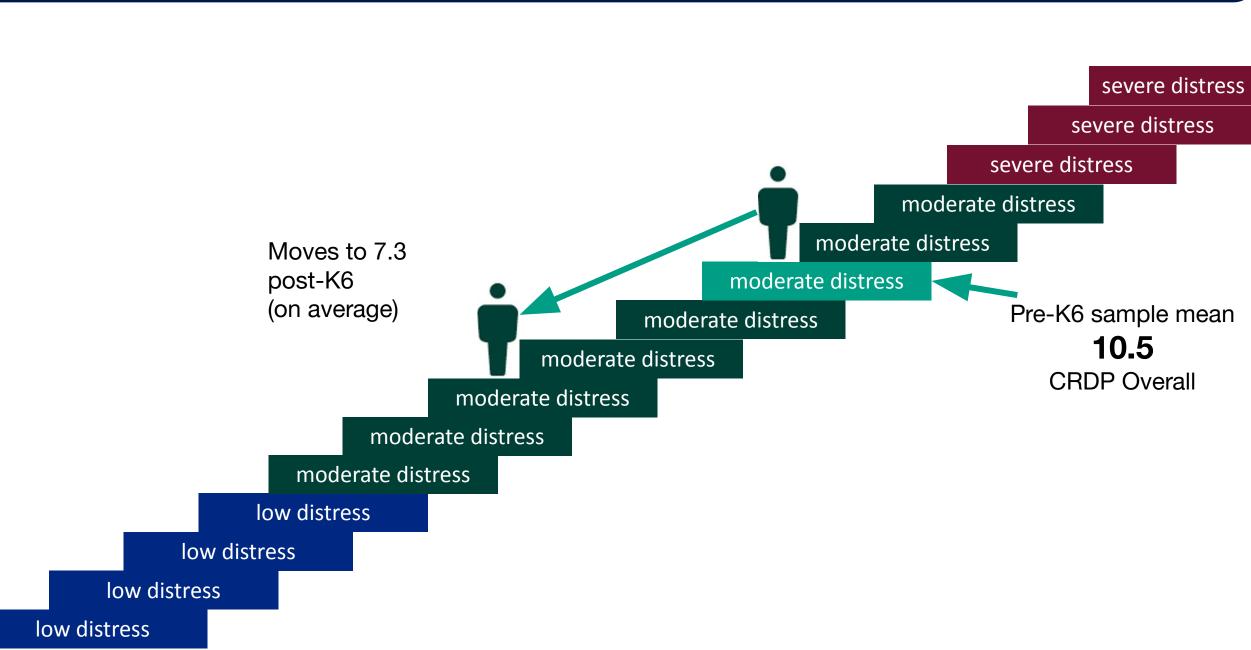


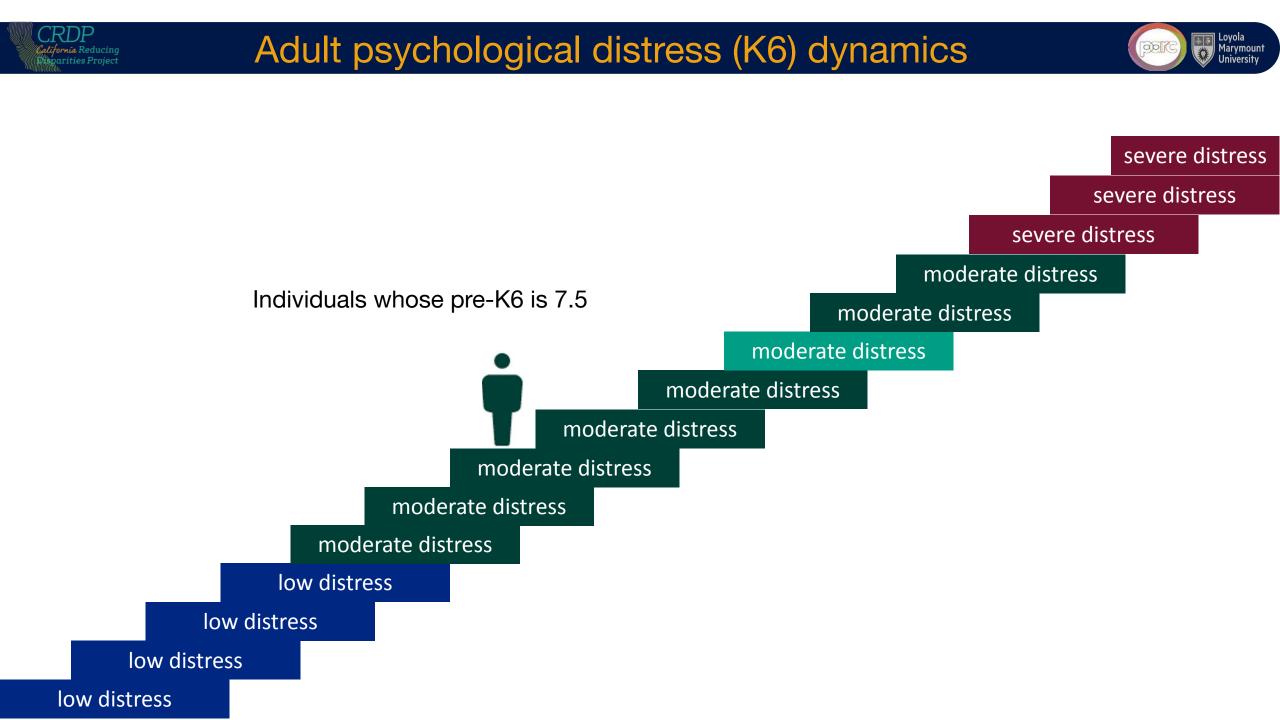
Loyola Marymount University

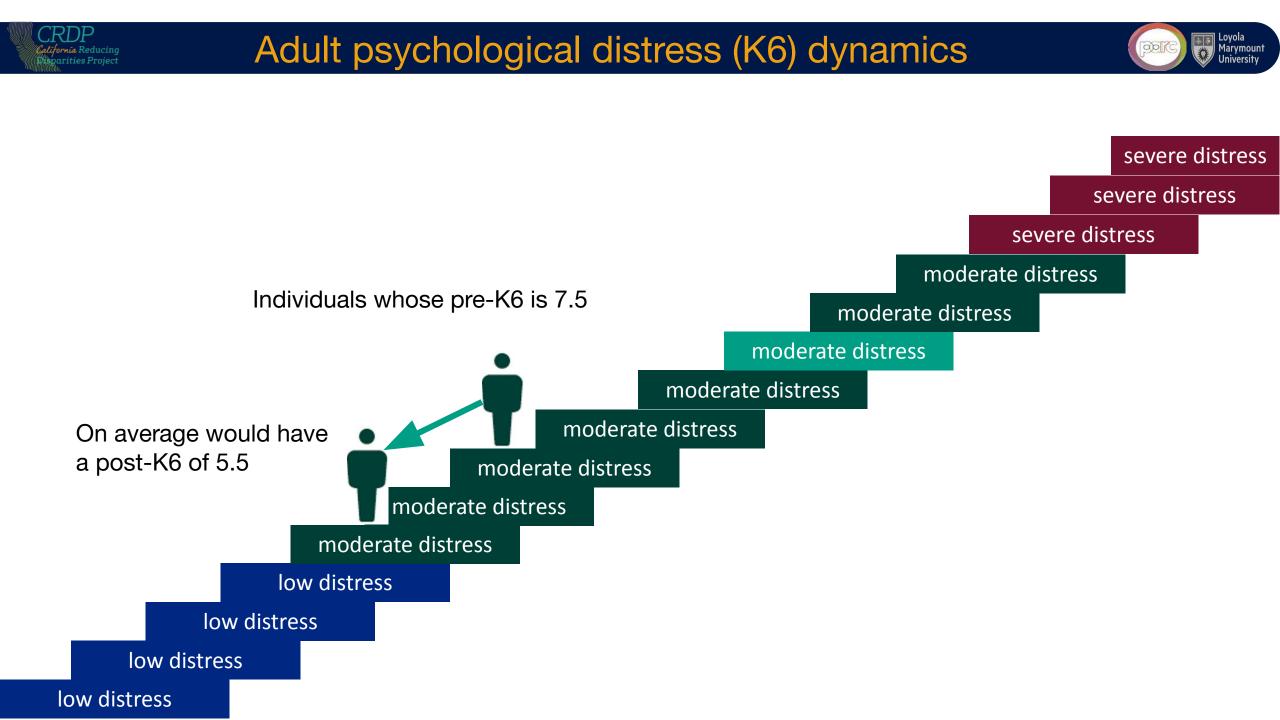


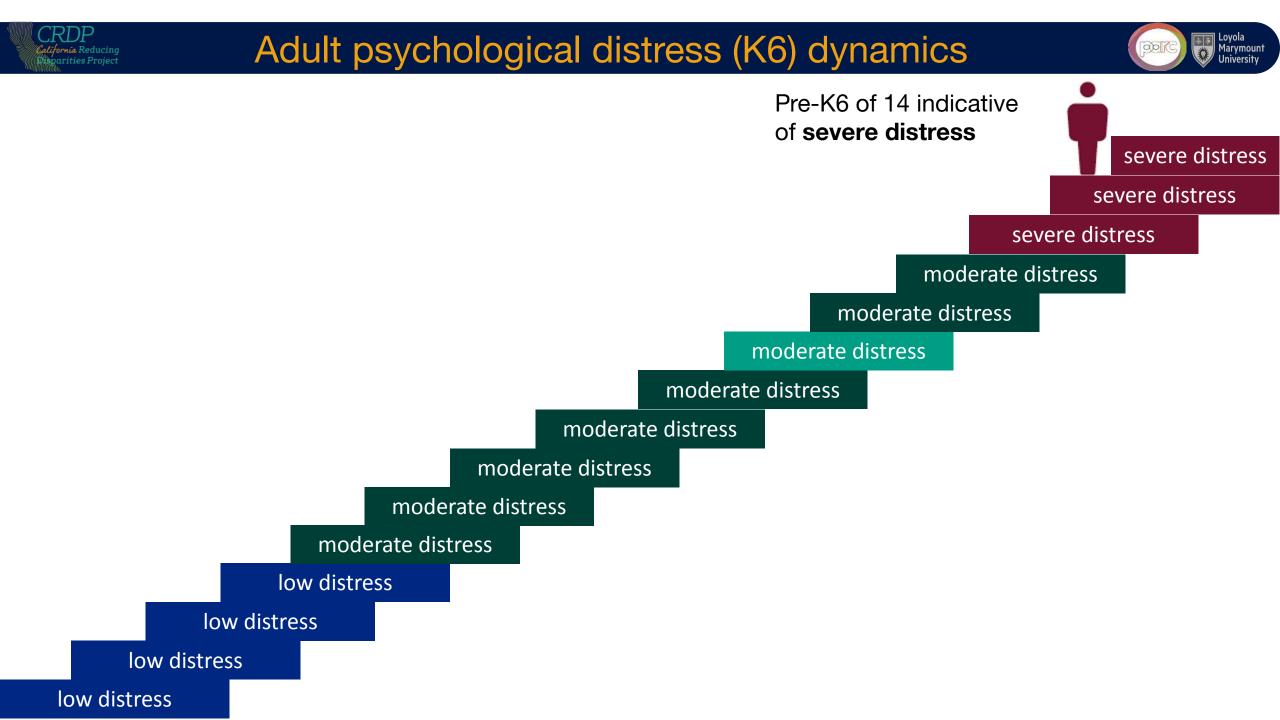


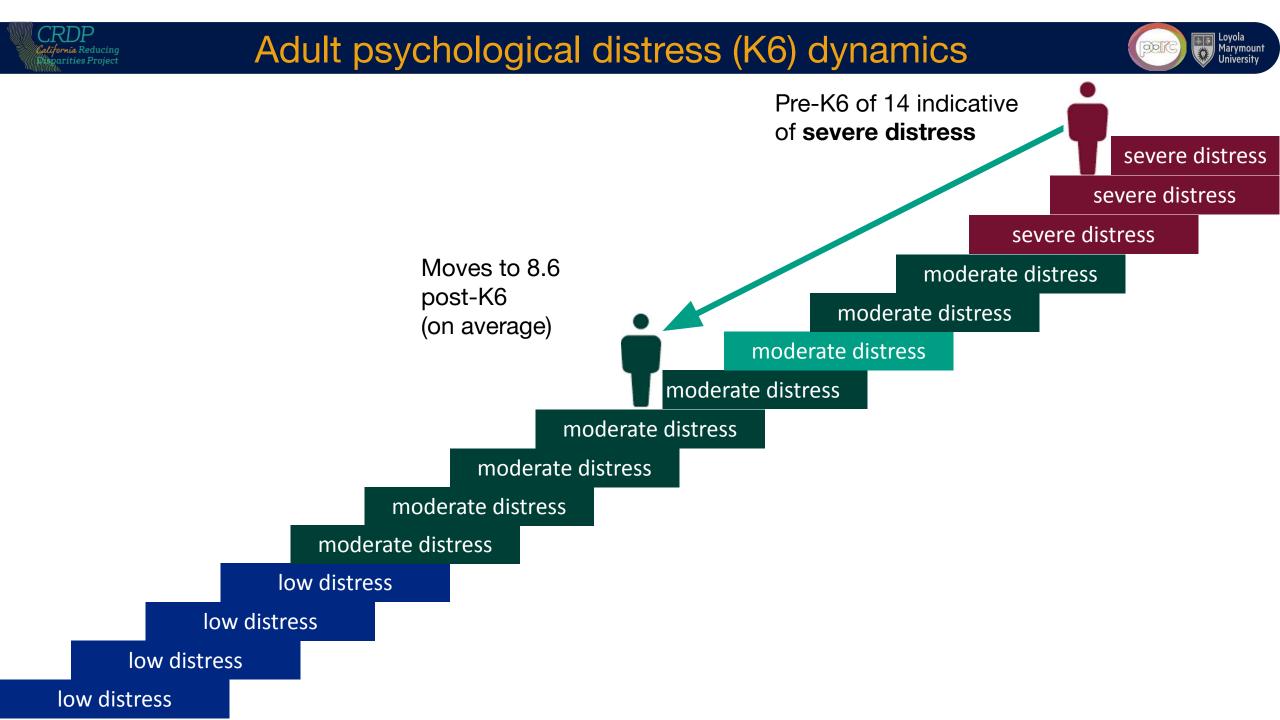
Loyola Marymount University

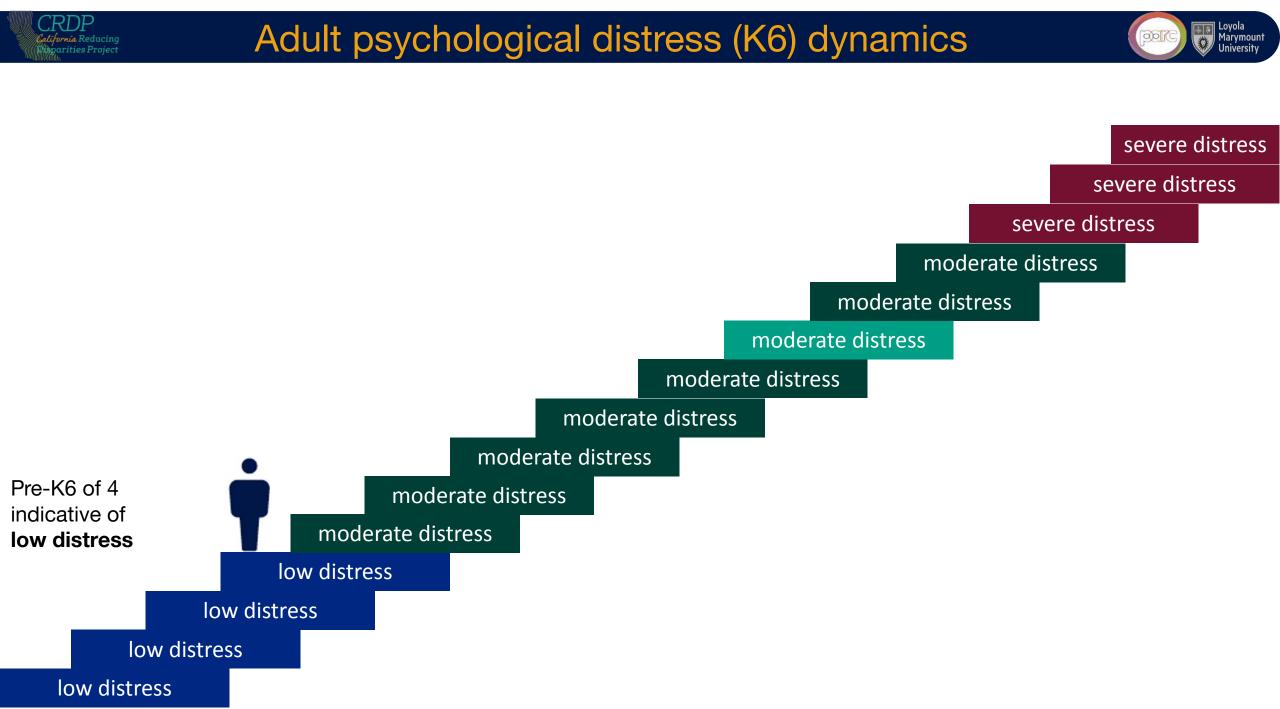








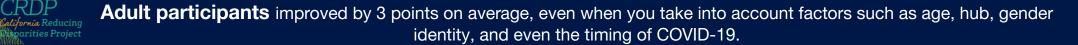






Loyola Marymount University



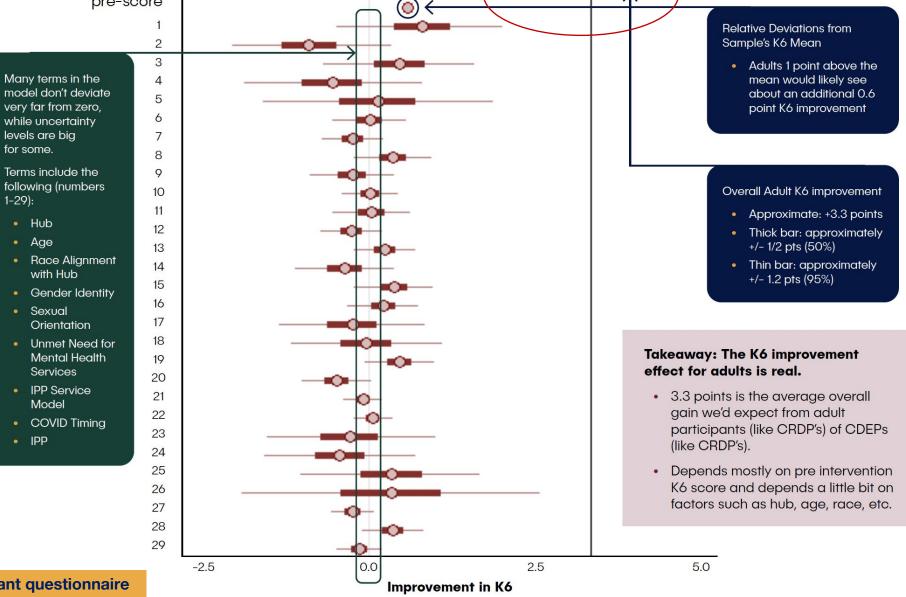






**Overall Effect** pre-score

CRDP



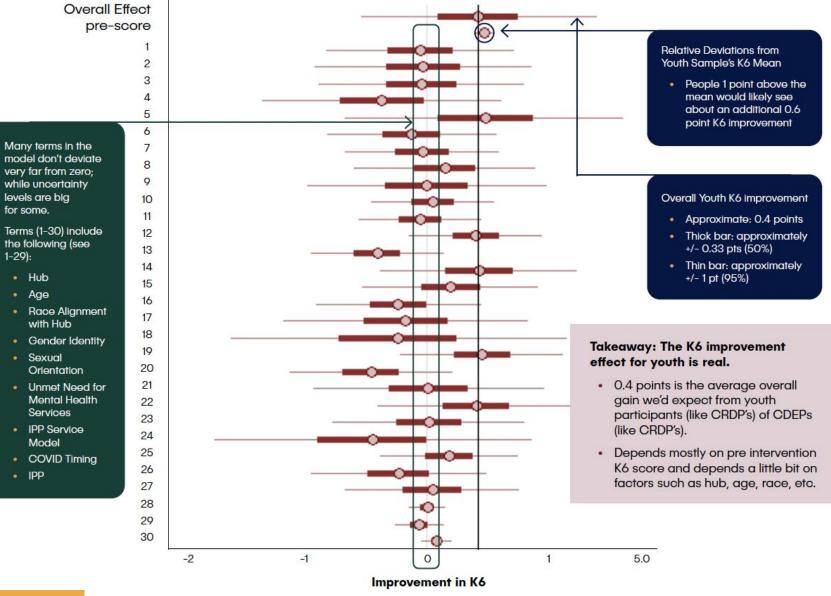
Source: CDEP participant questionnaire



#### Adolescent participants These findings indicate the importance of mental health prevention services that help youth remain steady over time.







Source: CDEP participant questionnaire





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Participant Story in the Greater L.A. area

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"A young, single mother with two young children, who just divorced from her abusive and controlling husband told me that she felt that she was trapped in the welfare system. [...] After I listened to her story, I shared my own story, how I was able to go from a brand-new immigrant who spoke very little English working at 7-Eleven to hold a master's degree in Early Childhood Education within ten years. [...] I told her that she has all the potential and power to make this happen because she is a strong and intelligent young woman. [...] She is now enrolled at Los Angeles City College majoring in nursing and is starting in January 2018. She is still in her recovery stage from the emotionally abusive relationship, but she now knows that she is not going through this alone and things will get better"

-AANHPI Hub CDEP Participant





# SYSTEMS CHANGE EFFORTS

## Systems change efforts



In collaboration with their communities, IPPs harnessed their collective power to champion solutions for addressing mental health inequities across multiple societal levels.



#### Data period: 05/2017 - 04/2021

**Source: IPP semi-annual reports** 





#### **Environmental**

Changes in spaces where people live, work, and play

**Systems** Changes in organizational or institutional processes

#### Policy

Information and education to help inform the development of more equitable laws, regulations, and rules



21 IPPs contributed to 55 environmental, systems, and policy changes.

Systems Change in the Greater L.A. area

#### **African American Hub IPP Accomplishment:**

IPP participated in a town hall meeting to increase funding for Mental health and they were also represented on the Governor's Behavioral health Taskforce. IPP is working to get county to integrate CDEP into their models.

#### Latinx Hub IPP Accomplishment:

IPP along with other community-based organizations, have been able to achieve positive systems-level change for farmworker communities, such as increasing the access to COVID-19 vaccines in the agricultural fields, mobile clinics in identified areas, COVID-testing, COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave, and increased information on safety health measures, etc.



#### AANHPI+ Hub IPP Accomplishment:

IPP worked to form a racial equity framework with the city of Long Beach and changed Office of Equity from the Health Department to City Manager's Office. A few months later, the city recognized the rise in API hate crimes, engaged in discussions with the city to build racial reconciliation in Cambodia Town and grow API and Black solidarity.





# BUSINESS CASE: COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS OF CRDP PHASE 2

Rather than what does all of this COST.....

The question that should be asked is, how much does all of this SAVE?





**Key Findings from the CRDP Phase 2 Statewide Evaluation Report** 



# What matters most? Prevention or early intervention?

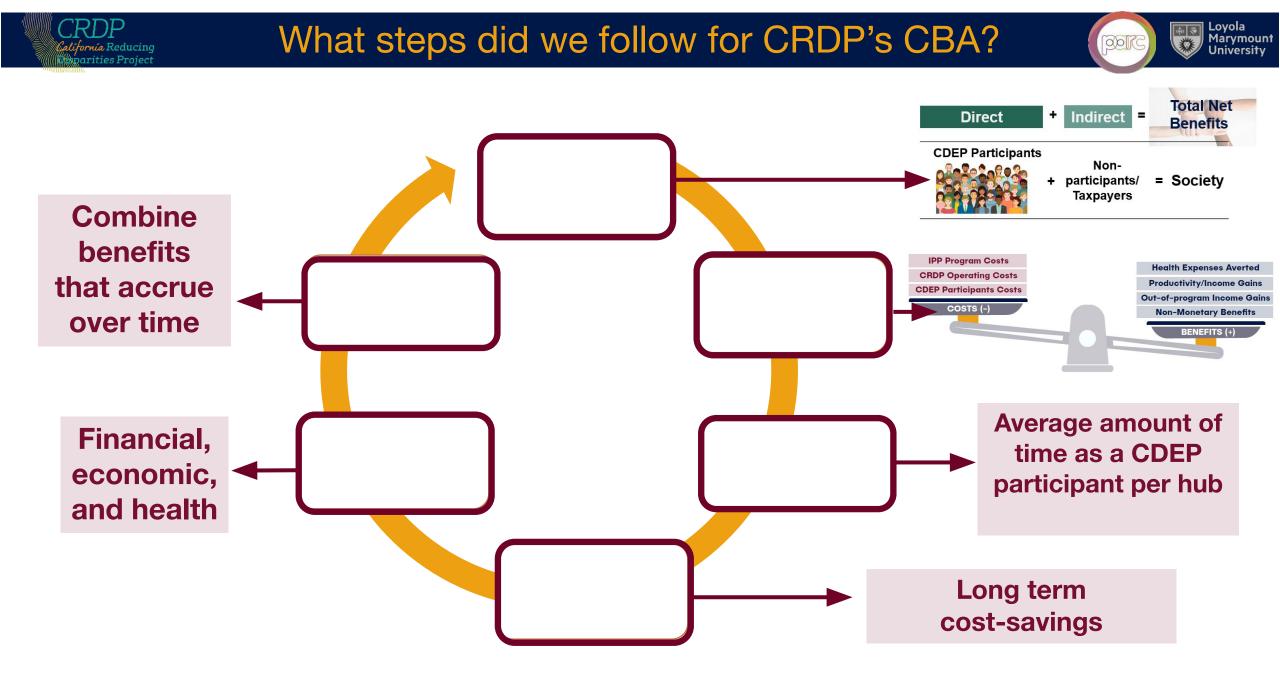


A Cost-Benefit Analysis is a systematic process for identifying, quantifying, and comparing expected benefits and costs of an action, investment, or policy (U.S. Department of Transportation, 2023)

CRDP's CBA includes health and non-health outcomes

# **Advantages of CRDP's CBA**

- Measures/monetizes CDEP-related social benefits
- Provides a useful benchmark from which to evaluate and compare potential PEI investments
- Used to calculate CRDP's return on investment (ROI)





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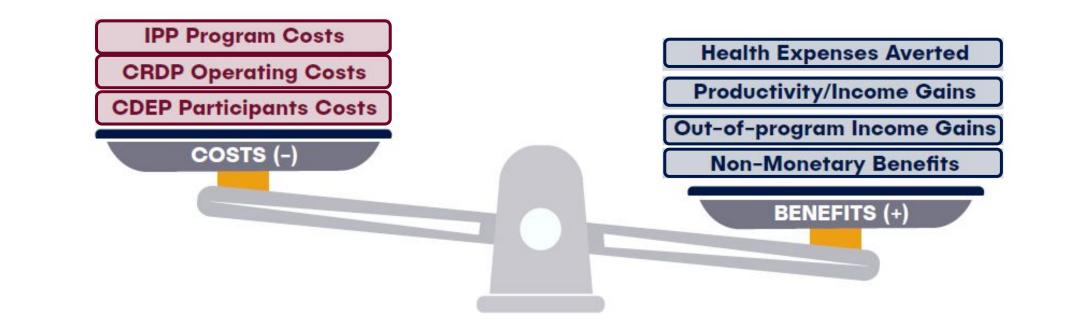
**CDEP** participants' travel costs

**CDEP** participants' reduction in

## Costs and Benefits Considered for CRDP



- • Lower suicide rates
- Reduced recidivism
- Cultural connectedness
  - ------





### Data Sources



#### OHE budget

**IPP local evaluation reports** 

**IPP** semi-annual reports

IPP Program Costs CRDP Operating Costs

**CDEP Participants Costs** 

COSTS (-)

**CDEP SWE participant questionnaire** (no health expenditure data)

National medical expenditure panel data (restricted version with links to NHIS accessed through a U.S. Census Federal Research facility)

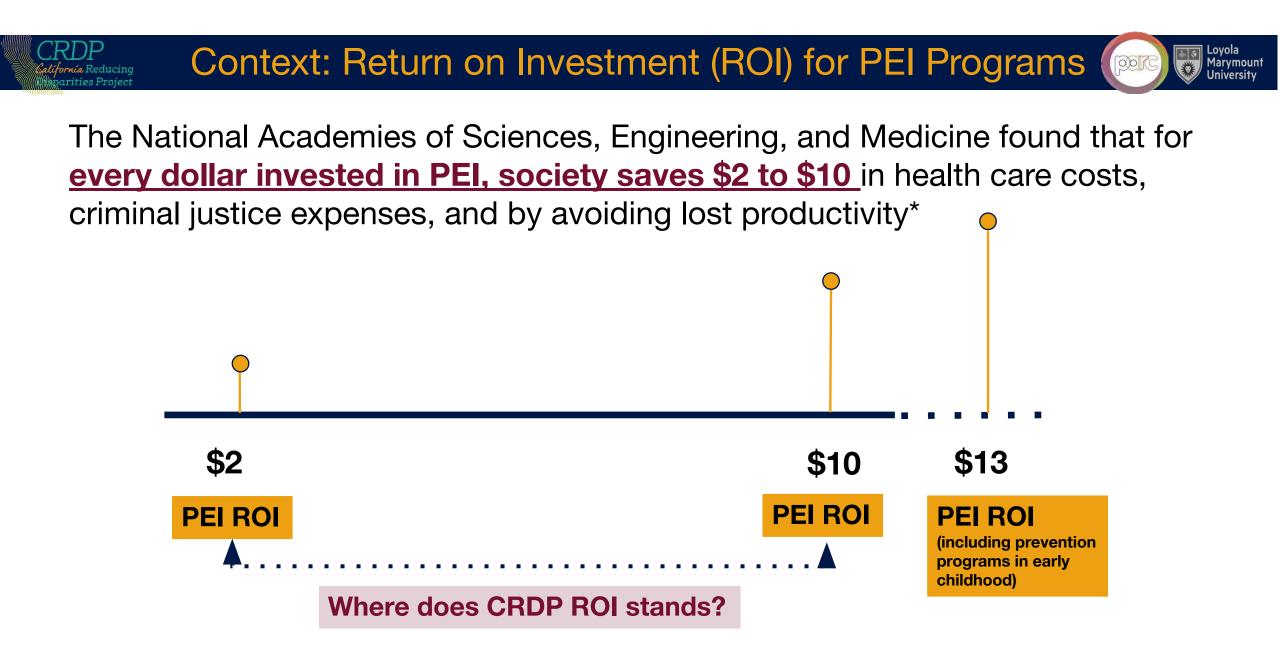
**Health Expenses Averted** 

**Productivity/Income Gains** 

**Out-of-program Income Gains** 

Non-Monetary Benefits

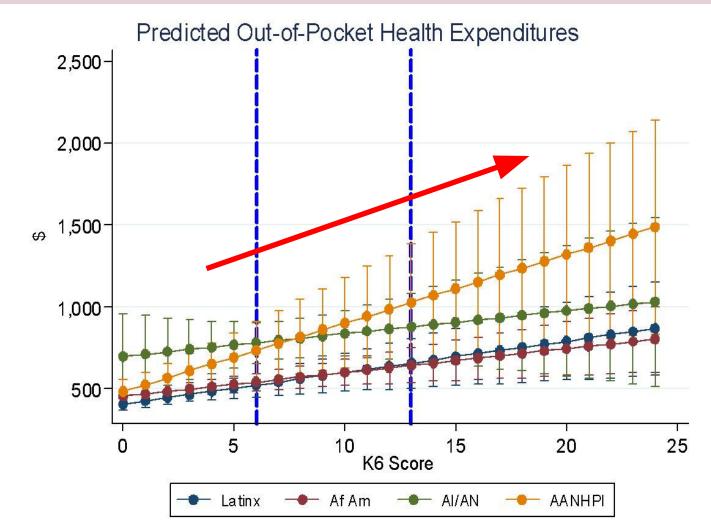
**BENEFITS (+)** 



\*Calculations from 2009 described in the MHSOAC "2022 Well and Thriving Prevention and Early Intervention in California Report"



## Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS) Data for 2017-2019

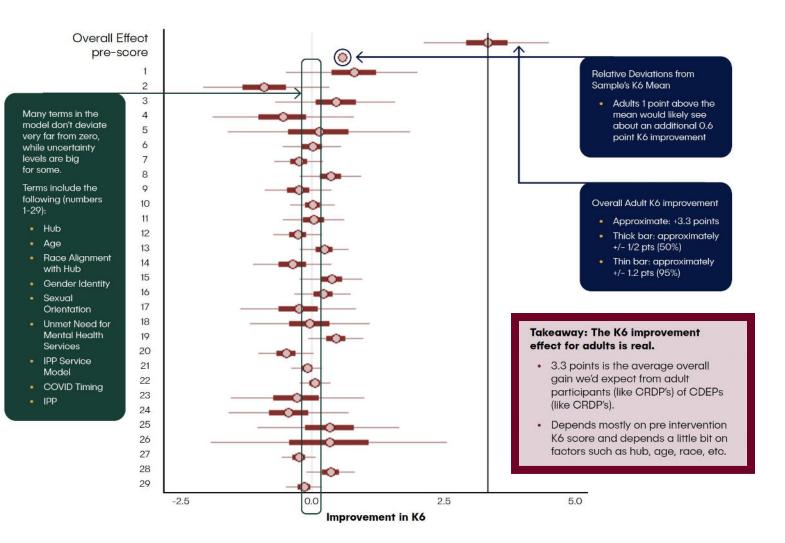


Positive relationship between MEPS K6 scores and out-of-pocket health expenditures

 confirms findings previously outlined in the health literature (Dismuke et al, 2011; Pirraglia et al., 2011)



### Findings: Health Expenditure Values and Psych Distress



What does a 3-point improvement in psychological distress (K6) mean in \$? Loyola Marymount

University

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\*



K6*Race/Ethnicity	Health	Expenditures	Standard Error
8#hubA	\$	1,342.12	\$44.4
8#hubB	\$	551.75	\$31.0
8#hubC	\$	805.04	\$62.5
8#hubD	\$	779.13	\$102.8
9#hubA	\$	1,385.52	\$50.4
9#hubB	\$	562.87	\$34.6
9#hubC	\$	817.56	\$62.5
9#hubD	\$	819.38	\$116.0
10#hubA	\$	1,428.92	\$56.6
10#hub B	\$	573.99	\$38.4
10#hubC	\$	830.08	\$66.4
10#hubD	\$	859.64	\$129.4
11#hubA	\$	1,472.33	\$62.9
11#hubB	\$	585.11	\$42.4
11#hubC	\$	842.60	\$73.5
11#hubD	\$	899.90	\$142.9

A **3-point drop** in psychological distress for a person in hub A:

K6=11 to K6=8 (moderate distress)

Yearly health expenditures \$1,472 \Box \$1,342

= \$130 savings for a CDEP participant in hub A

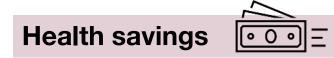




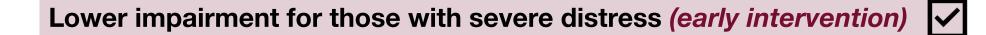


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Lower psychological distress (prevention and early intervention)	, ,	$\checkmark$
		-





Avoidance of productivity loss from better mental health





## **CRDP Long-term Benefits**





#### Increased earnings from sustained mental health improvements

What does this mean?

We calculated the expected value of improved life-time earnings

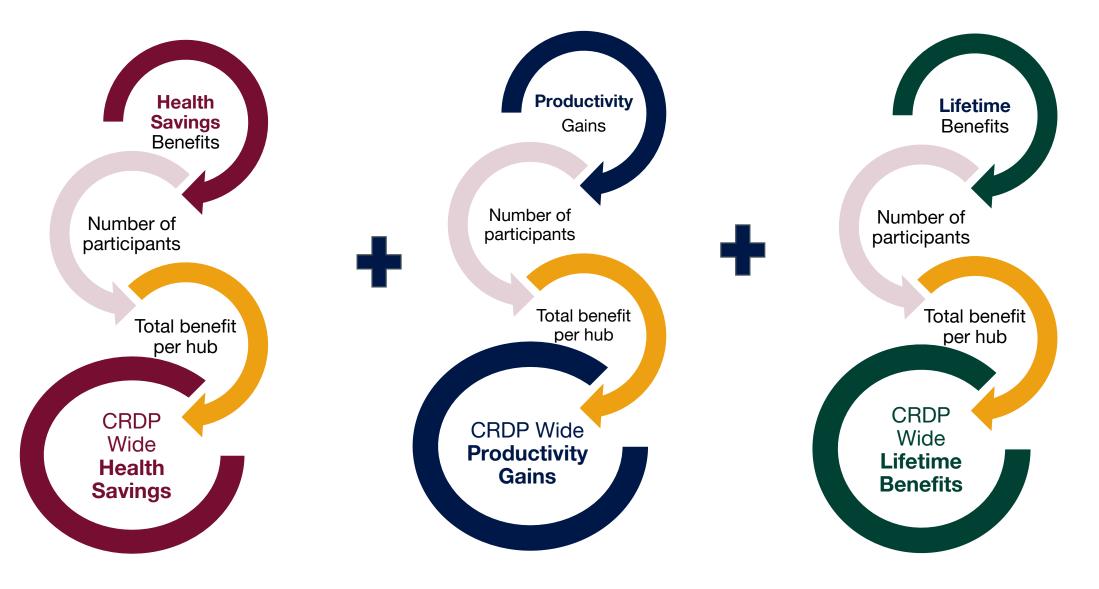
#### For example, for hub A:

- The estimated average gain in earnings (from better mental health) is \$1,840/year for adult participants
  - A typical worker has an estimated retirement age of 65 years
  - The average age of participants in hub A is 37 years of age
- We calculated long-term of annual gains for 28 years (65-37)



## CRDP: Adding All Up









# **Net Estimated Long-Term Societal Benefits**

# Estimated benefits

Estimated direct and indirect costs



#### • 6 •





\$454 million in net benefits





# RETURN ON INVESTMENT = (Benefit-Cost) / Cost CRDP ROI = 4.32 to 5.67

Sensitivity Analysis: including youth costs and benefits shows higher net benefits but same ROI

For every dollar spent, CRDP is expected to deliver **\$4.3 to \$5.67 in long term cost-savings** 

## These savings are related to:

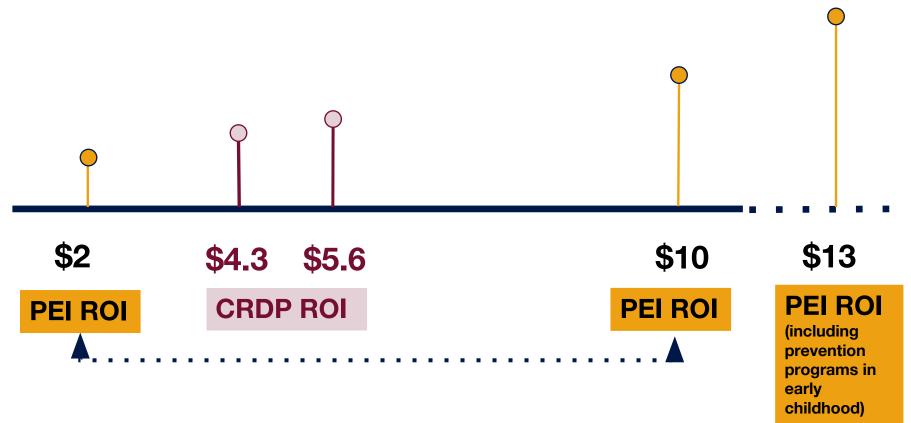
- Better mental health experienced by CDEP participants
  - Fewer health-related costs (e.g., medical visits, medication, etc.)
  - Fewer days missed at work (i.e., higher productivity)
  - During and after CDEP participation



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For every dollar invested in PEI, society saves \$2 to \$10 in health care costs,

criminal justice expenses, and by avoiding lost productivity\*



\*Calculations from 2009 described in the MHSOAC, "2022 Well and Thriving Prevention and Early Intervention in California Report"





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