



Prepared for Solano County Health & Social Services
Presented by LFA Group: *Learning for Action*

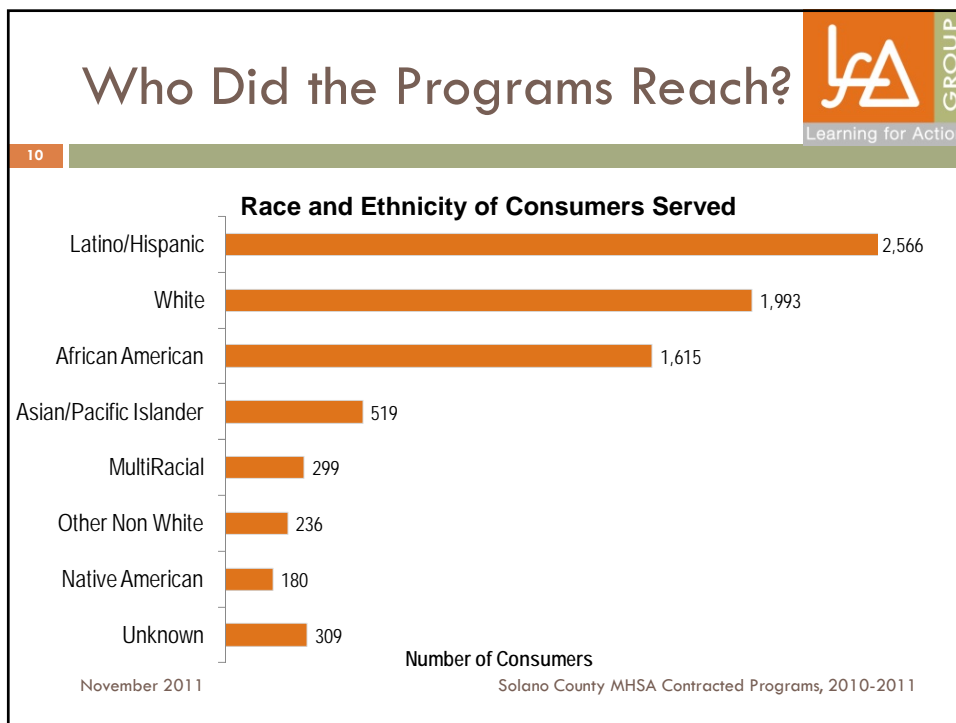
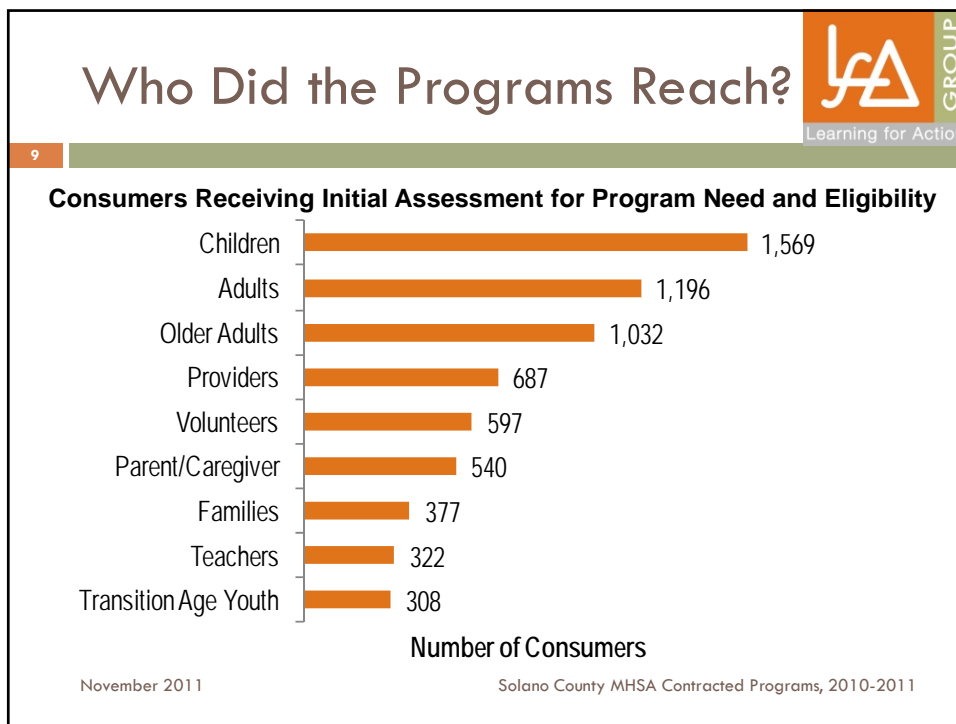
EVALUATION OF SOLANO COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT CONTRACTED PROGRAMS FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011

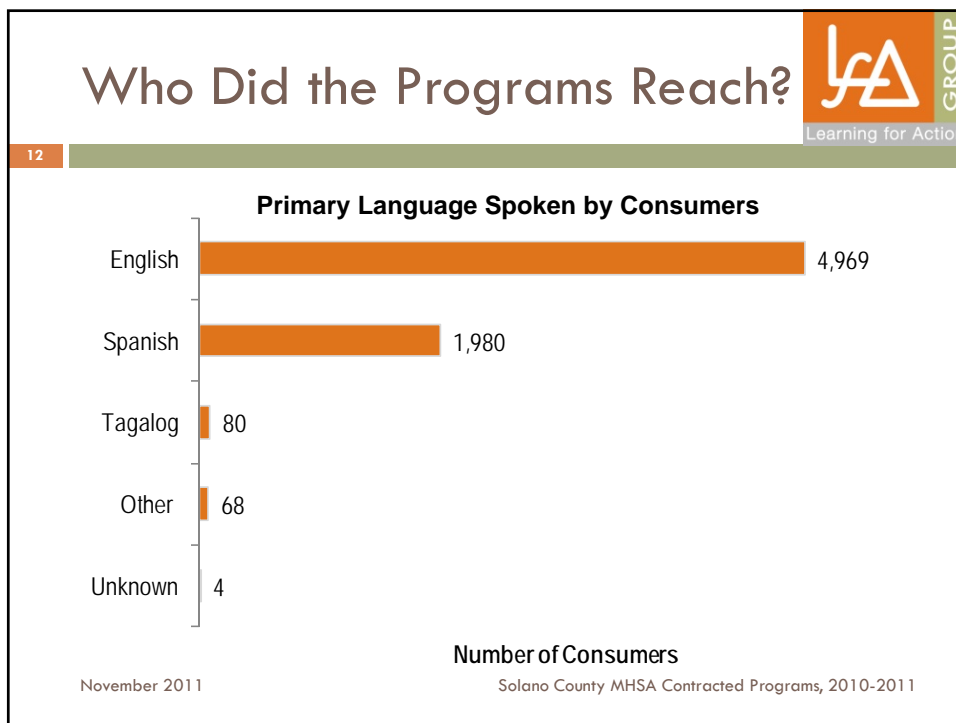
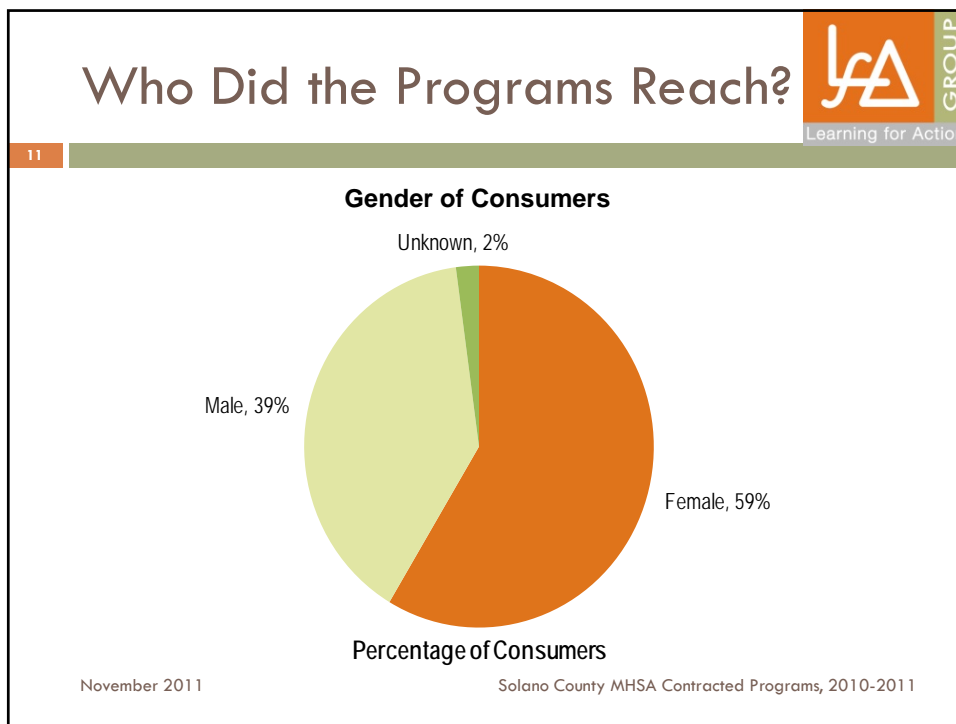
November 2011

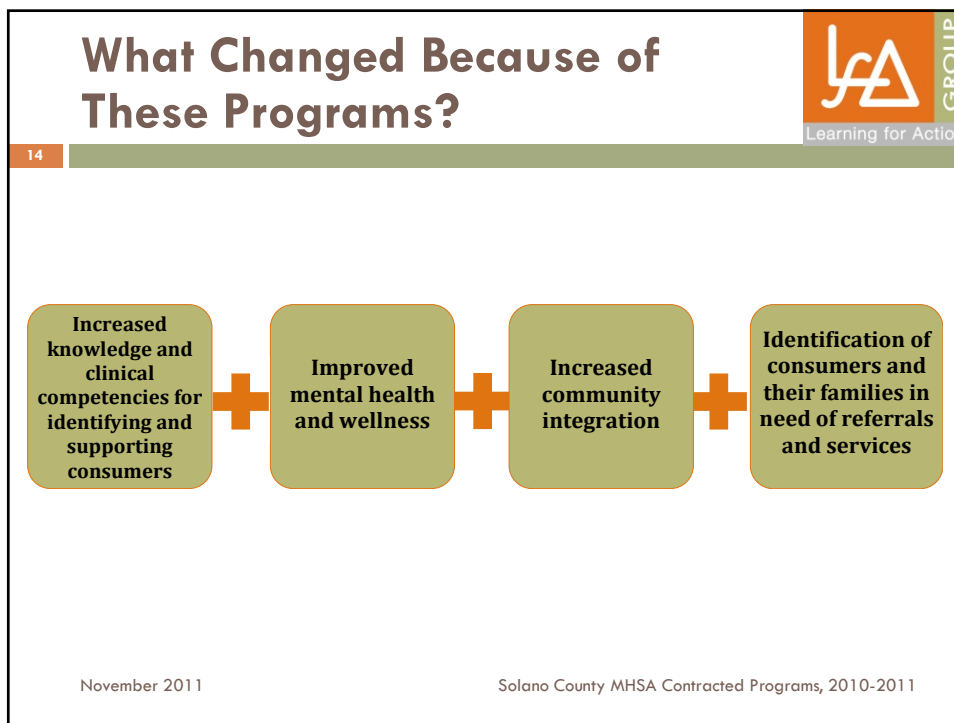
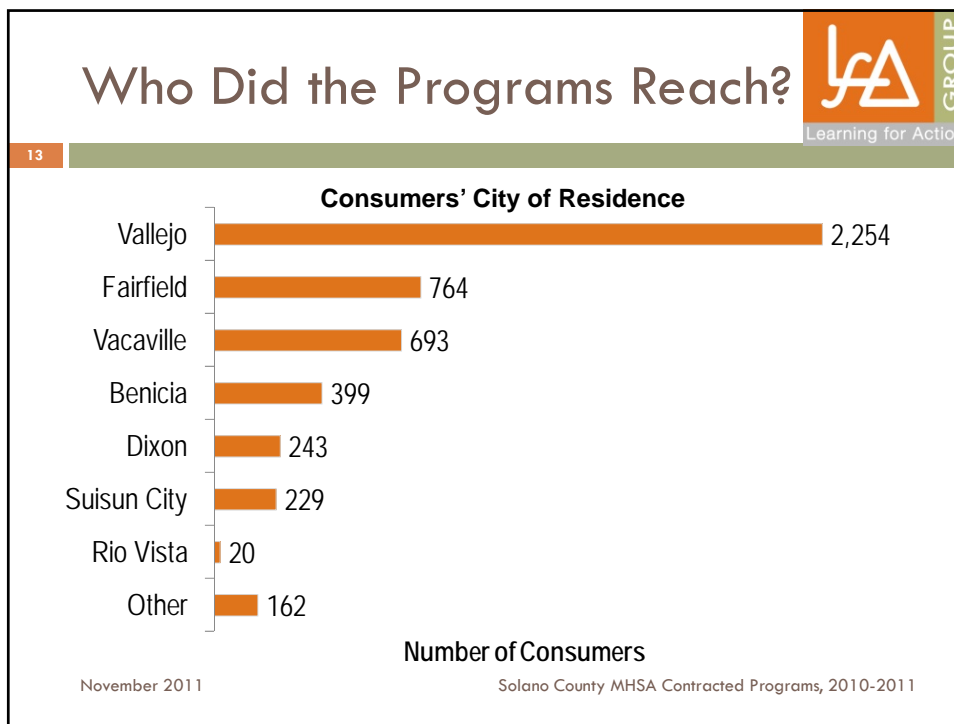
Key Findings

Table 1: Summary of Programs by Outcomes and Funding Stream

		Increased knowledge and clinical competencies for identifying and supporting consumers	Improved mental health and wellness	Increased community integration	Identification of consumers and their families in need of referrals and services
Funding Stream	Program	Outcomes			
Community Services and Supports	Caminar Inc. (Full Service Partnership)	✓	✓	✓	
	Department of Rehabilitation			✓	
	Faith in Action (Wellness and Recovery for Older Adults)	✓	✓		✓
	Seneca Center for Children and Families (TAY)		✓	✓	
Innovation	Aldea (CARE Program)	✓	✓		✓
Prevention and Early Intervention	Area Agency on Aging (Older Adults)	✓	✓		✓
	Crestwood Behavioral Health Inc. (Transition Age Youth Project)	✓	✓	✓	
	First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission, Partnership for Early Access for Kids (PEAK)	✓	✓		✓
	Solano County Office of Education (School Age Program)	✓		✓	
	Solano County Office of Education (Transition Age Youth Program)		✓	✓	
	Vacaville Unified School District (School Age Program)		✓	✓	
Workforce Education and Training	California Institute for Mental Health	✓			







What Changed Because of These Programs?

These twelve MHSA-funded programs contributed in a variety of ways to four key types of change:

Increased knowledge and skills for identifying and supporting consumers

Through training and coaching, MHSA programs augmented the knowledge and skills needed among mental health service providers, staff, volunteers, parents, teachers, and other caregivers to support consumers. Programs also aimed to increase consumers' own knowledge about mental health issues, signs and symptoms, and how to access resources. The knowledge and skills gained through these programs enable providers and caregivers to better identify consumers and their needs, more effectively respond to behavioral issues and symptoms, and appropriately connect consumers and their families to needed resources. Overall, these outcomes contribute to a better prepared workforce, more supportive service, school, and home environments for mental health consumers, and a cadre of consumers who are better able to identify their own mental health needs and resources to address those needs.

Improved mental health and wellness

Programs improved consumers' state of mental health and wellness in four fundamental ways: consumers experienced increased protective factors, such as strong family and social relationships and capacity to cope with depression, anxiety and stress; fewer and less severe clinical symptoms; reduced hospitalization; and achievement of treatment plan goals and medication adherence. Consumers' improvements in these four areas support their overall mental health and wellbeing.

Increased community integration

Community integration refers to consumers' participation in mainstream community institutions and functions. Consumers' ability to maintain school involvement, housing, and employment, for example, is both a function of and contributor to mental health and wellness. Controlled mental health issues help make it possible to stay in school, obtain housing, and retain a job; in turn, experiencing stability in these areas helps support good mental health wellness and functioning. Programs helping consumers achieve housing, educational and employment outcomes are supporting their mental health in this way.

Identification of consumers and their families in need of referrals and services

Finally, these programs served to screen, refer, and connect consumers and their families to needed services. Screening efforts identified both children and adults in need of mental health interventions, and referrals connected these consumers to further screening, assessment, services, and resources. Programs providing screening and referral help ensure that people of all ages are connected with the help they need to be well and thrive.