**V. Evaluation** – Provide information on general project evaluation activities as they relate to your measurement outcomes. The following evaluation is provided for PY2 and includes detailed information on allowable activities and outcomes:

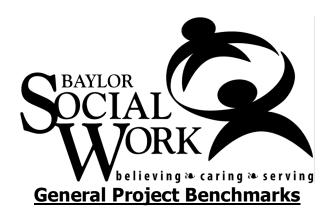
# **Hispanic Active Relationships Project (HARP)**

### of Cameron County



### Project Year 2 Annual Report Evaluation Section Final Draft

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The research team is monitoring project milestones through the use of a reporting form that is submitted electronically by the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month by project staff to the evaluation team. This data is entered into an SPSS database so that information on the status of these indicators can be easily assessed. Some project milestones that are being tracked include:

The following represent data on project milestones for Project Year 2 (October 2007 through September 2008).

#### **Indicators of Community Awareness and Interest**

#### Attendance at special events

A total of 89 individuals attended the following special events during the current project year:

Special Event	Date of Event	Number in Attendance
Hot Topics	October 2007	10
Hot Topics	November 2007	10
Play Workshop	November 2007	19
Holiday Open House	December 2007	30
Vow Renewal Ceremony	February 2008	20

#### HARP Cameron County Website Hits

Traffic on the project's website has remained active throughout Project Year 2 as seen by the number of monthly website hits in the graph; the highest traffic month to date was in April 2008.





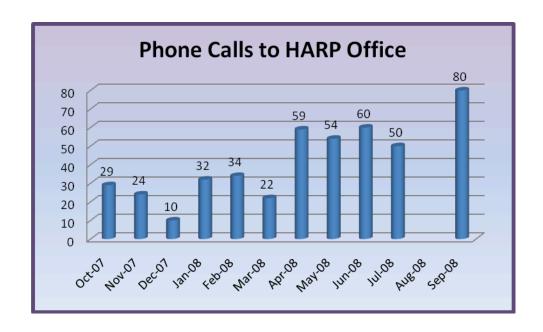
#### HARP Cameron Country Website Visitors

Additionally, there were more unique visitors to the project's website in Project Year 2 compared to Project Year 1, with a significant spike occurring in June 2008.



#### **HARP Inquiry Calls**

A consistent increase occurred in the number of phone calls coming into the project office inquiring about HARP and its programs.



#### **Program Outputs**

#### Number of leaders trained

The following were trained in Project Year 2:

- 9 leaders trained in Active Money
- 7 leaders trained in *Romance and Intimacy*
- 20 leaders in 6 Mentoring Dates
- 28 leaders in ARYA (youth) and other adult HARP programming

#### Number of workshops

There were 64 HARP workshops held during Project Year 2:

- 20 Active Communication
- 9 Money Personalities
- 5 Romance and Intimacy
- 6 ARYA (youth)
- 1 Parent seminar for youth attending ARYA
- 16 Active Adults
- 7 Active Choices

#### Number of mentor/mentee relationships established

There were 19 new couples recruited to serve as mentors in Project Year 2 (not done in Year 1). As seen in the chart below, there has been steady growth in the number of mentor/mentee relationships that have been established during Project Year 2. The number of couples being mentored has been:



<sup>\*\*</sup>It should be noted that some leaders were trained to lead multiple programs

#### **HARP Project Outcomes**

The evaluation team has been monitoring a number of characteristics of program attendees, as well as tracking changes in knowledge and behaviors of participants who attend HARP Cameron County workshops. This information has primarily been gathered through surveys distributed by workshop leaders before (pretest) and after (posttest) the workshops. All attendees who complete surveys are voluntary participants who sign informed consents that have been approved by the Baylor University Institutional Review Board.

The evaluation team and the project staff have worked together to collect 6 month and 12 month follow-up data from couples who completed both pre and posttests at HARP workshops. As is true in most evaluations, follow-up data have been difficult to gather from participants and the return rate has been less than desired. The following plan is now in place: the evaluation team notifies project staff of those couples from whom follow-up data is scheduled to be obtained; project staff then attempt to contact participants via phone to inform them that they will be receiving follow-up surveys in the mail; surveys are accompanied by a letter of explanation and instructions for returning the surveys in the pre-addressed and stamped envelopes that are provided to participants.

Couples workshops, regardless of their primary content, all aim to improve marital or relationship satisfaction; therefore, all workshops for couples measure the following outcomes:

#### **Marital Satisfaction**

The item used to measure **marital satisfaction** is a modified version of the Locke-Wallace marital satisfaction question – "Please rate how happy you are in your present marriage. The middle point of the scale, "Happy", is how happy most people are in their marriage. Circle the number that best describes your marriage". Participants rate their satisfaction on a 7 point scale, therefore the highest possible couple score is a 14.

#### Commitment

To measure **increased commitment to one's present relationship**, the following question that the evaluation team has used in a pilot study with a similar population is – "Please rate how committed you will be to staying in your marriage. The middle point, "committed", is how committed most people are to their marriage. Circle the number that best describes how committed you will be to your marriage." Participants rate their satisfaction on a 7 point scale, therefore the highest possible couple score is a 14.

#### **Conflict Resolution**

The ENRICH Conflict Resolution subscale is used to assess change in **conflict resolution** skills among couples. This is a nine-item measure that asked participants to rate how much they agree or disagree with each statement using a 5 point scale; therefore the highest possible couple score is a 90.

#### Communication

The ENRICH Communication subscale is used to assess change in positive **communication** skills. This is an eight-item scale that asks participants to rate how much they agree or disagree with each statement using a 5 point scale; therefore the highest possible couple score is an 80.

#### **Negative Interactions**

The BSRF Negative Interaction scale is used to assess change in **negative interactions** among couples. This is an eight-item scale that asks participants to rate how much they agree or disagree with each statement using a 5 point scale. However, on this score, improvement is actually indicated by a decrease in scores. Couples scores range from 16-80, with the "best" possible couple score being a 16.

These measures are summarized in the table below and will be referenced throughout the remainder of this report.

**Summary of Outcome Measures: Couples Workshops** 

Couples Workshops					
Objective	Measure				
Increase marital satisfaction	Happiness with present relationship question				
Increase commitment to present relationship	Commitment to present relationship question				
Improve conflict resolution skills	ENRICH Conflict Resolution Subscale				
Increase positive communication	ENRICH Communication Subscale				
Decrease negative interaction	Negative Interaction Scale				

Results that follow are reported by workshop and are limited to participants who initially attended during Project Year 2 (October 1, 2007 - September 30, 2008). Descriptive statistics of participants in the various HARP programs are provided below, as are workshop-specific outcomes.

SPSS was used to conduct all analyses; findings reflect results with missing data (when participants did not answer a question) excluded. Pretest-posttest results only reflect anticipated change, meaning that change in behaviors, relationships, or marriages had not actually occurred. Pretest-posttest score changes are reflective of how participants felt, after attending a HARP workshop that their future behaviors, relationships, or marriages could be.

#### **Active Communication**

#### **Pretest-Posttest Results**

These workshops were primarily attended by couples. Surveys were returned by 266 persons who attended *Active Communication* workshops in Project Year 2. Of these, 194 or 97 couples completed both the pre and posttest. The background information provided below, as well as analysis of program outcomes is based on data from these attendees; missing data is excluded from results.

#### **Descriptive Characteristics**

Workshops themselves ranged from 8-16 hours. Almost half of the participants attended workshop that were 8 hours in length (46.5%, n = 94).

**Workshop Length** 

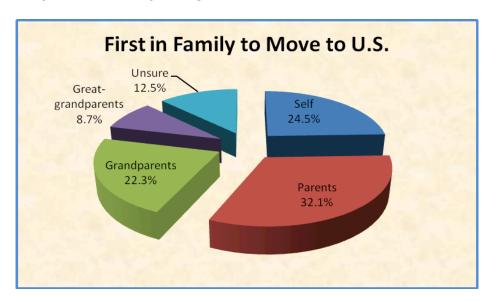
Length (in hours)	% attending	n attending
8	46.5	94
9	9.9	20
10	9.9	20
12	10.9	22
14	13.9	28

Participants ranged in age from 18 to 87 years, with a mean age of 39.35 (sd = 11.97) years. Participants reported being in their present relationships for an average of 15.95 (sd = 14.14) years, with a range of less than 1 year to 38 years.

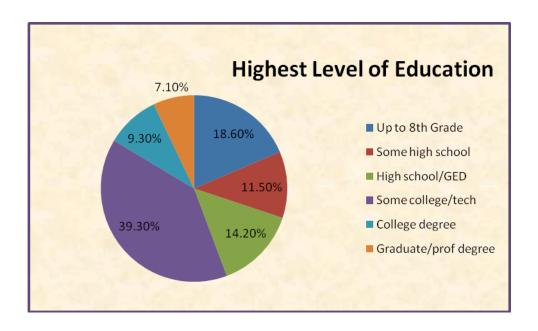
The vast majority of those who have attended *Active Communication* workshops in Year 2 were married (93.2%, n = 177). Almost one-fourth (24.5%, n = 46) of these attendees have been married prior to the current relationship. Only 7% (n = 13) indicated they had no children. Others reported having from 0-9 children, with a mean of 3.03 (sd = 1.66).

Just over half (58.1%, n = 108) of these *Active Communication* workshops attendees preferred to speak in Spanish; 40.9% (n = 76) preferred to communicate in English; 1.1% (n = 2) had no preference. The vast majority of attendees were Hispanic/Latino (94.6%).

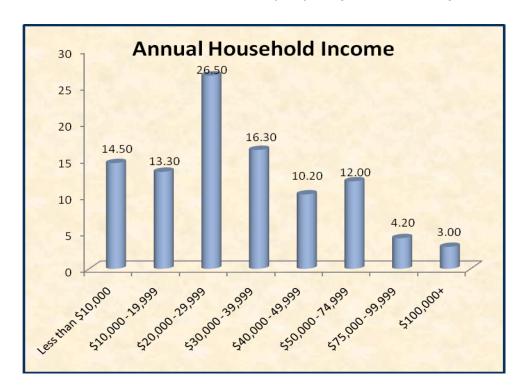
Slightly more than half of this group was either first (24.5%, n = 45) or second generation (32.1%, n = 59) immigrants.



The educational level of the participants ranged significantly, with just under one-fifth (18.6%, n=34) having up to/through an  $8^{th}$  grade education, while 39.3% (n=72) had some college or technical training and 16.4% (n=30) had obtained a four-year college degree or higher.



For the majority of the couples, at least one spouse worked outside the home (88.1%, n = 156). The most commonly reported annual household income range of participants was \$20,000-\$30,000 (26.5%, n =44), followed by those with incomes between \$30,000 - \$40,000 per year (16.3%, n = 27).



#### <u>Program Outcomes – Pretest/Posttest Change</u>

Findings below reflect couple scores from *Active Communication* workshops in Project Year 2. The measures highlighted in green indicate the change was statistically significant (p < .05).

**Active Communication:** Pretest-Posttest Change

		Pre	test	Pos	ttest
Objective	Measure	Mean	(sd)	Mean	(sd)
Increase marital satisfaction	Happiness with present relationship question	10.53	(2.81)	11.76	(2.52)
Increase commitment to present relationship	Commitment to present relationship question	12.51	(2.19)	13.29	(1.35)
Improve conflict resolution skills	ENRICH Conflict Resolution Subscale	57.97	(8.30)	62.45	(7.67)
Increase positive communication	ENRICH Communication Subscale	58.79	(14.12)	65.39	(10.96)
Decrease negative interaction	Negative Interaction Scale	45.51	(12.97)	38.21	(12.55)

#### Workshop Satisfaction

All but one participant either strongly agreed (85.9%, n = 164) or agreed (13.6%, n = 26) that they would recommend this workshop to a friend. One person neither agreed nor disagreed with this item.

#### **Knowledge Questions**

During Project Year 2, four items were included on posttest surveys that measured acquired knowledge of the workshop material. Participants indicated how much they agreed or disagreed with these statements using a 5-point Likert scale. Results are seen in the table below; blank cells indicate no responses in that category.

Question	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Neither Agree or Disagree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
I can talk without fighting about issues that come up.	50.3	42.0	6.2	1.6	
I will spend more time having fun and being friends with my spouse.	81.9	15.0	1.6	1.0	0.5
I have new ideas for how to show commitment to my spouse.	67.0	28.9	4.1		
I will invest more time in my marriage.	88.5	9.4	1.6		0.5

#### **Participant Feedback**

On posttests, we asked participants to "please share with us what you liked best about this workshop and any suggestions for improving it". Here are some of the responses we received from those attending *Active Communication* workshops in Project Year 2. Those in quotation marks are direct quotes; others have been translated from Spanish to English.

- "What I really liked about the workshop were the activities as a couple that we participated in; it really developed better communication between both my spouse and I." (Female)
- That we can live and learn at the same time how to take on family and avoid sin, acts of infidelity, robberies, and deaths inside and outside the marriage. (Male)
- Everything, how I can control my emotions and be able to communicate. (Female)

\*\*Note - At this time of this report, the evaluation team had received 6 month follow-up surveys back from only 3 of the of the 44 couples who attended *Active Communication* workshops in Project Year 2.

#### **Money Personalities**

#### Pretest-Posttest Results

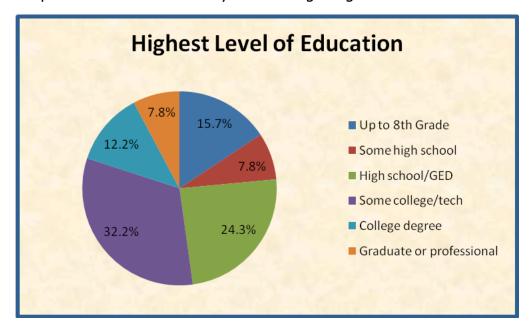
During Project Year 2, 140 people attended a Money Personalities workshop. Unfortunately 20 or 14.3% did not complete either a pretest or a posttest. Therefore, data provided on attendees in Project Year 2 is based only on those participants who completed both pre and posttest and does not reflect any missing data. These workshops were primarily attended by couples.

#### **Descriptive Characteristics**

Attendees were 51.7% female vs. 48.3% male and were, on average, 35.71 (sd = 10.10) years of age. Of the participants, 9.6% (n = 13) had been married in the past. The vast majority of attendees were married (92.3%, n=103). *Money Personalities* workshops ranged from 12-16 hours in length.

Of the 89.5% (n = 102) that reported having children, 12.3% (n=13) had one, 29.2% (n = 31) had two, 34.9% (n = 37) had three, 11.3% (n = 12) had four, and the 10.4% (n = 11) had between five and ten.

The educational experience of the attendees was diverse. Some participants (15.7%, n = 18) reported relatively low levels of formal education – e.g., up to or through an  $8^{th}$  grade education or some high school (7.8%, n = 9). However, almost one-fourth had a high school degree or its equivalent (24.3%, n = 28), 32.2% (n = 37) had some college or technical training, 12.2% (n = 14) completed a four-year college degree, and 7.8% (n = 9) reported some graduate or other professional education beyond a college degree.

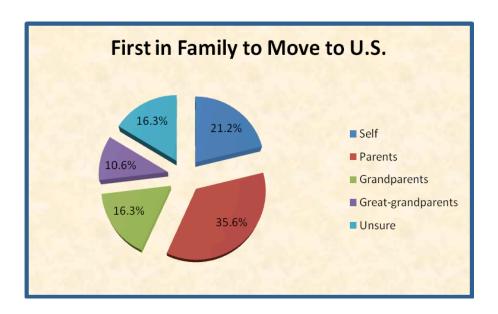


The vast majority of participants 89.3% (n=109) reported that at least one of the partners worked outside of the home. As seen in the graph below, income also varied among *Money Personalities* attendees. Over one-fourth of participants reported having annual household incomes below \$10,000 (25.5%, n = 28), followed by incomes between \$10,000 - \$20,000 (20.9%, n=23) and), \$20,000 - \$30,000 and \$50,000 -\$75,000 (both 16.4%, n = 18), and \$30,000 - \$40,000 (13.6%, n = 15). Only 7.3% (n = 8) participants reported having annual incomes between \$40,000 - \$50,000.



The majority of individuals attending *Money Personalities* workshops (63.6%, n = 70) preferred to communicate in Spanish, while 36.4% (n = 44) indicated English was their preference. Those attending were 97.7% Hispanic/Latino; only 1 person indicated s/he was White/Caucasian. Over half (58.8%, n = 60) had attended a prior workshop.

One-fifth (21.2%, n=22) indicated that s/he was the first person in the family to move to U.S, while another 35.6% (n=37) reported that it was her/his parents. Others reported the first person in the family to come to the U.S. was a grandparent (16.3%, n=17) or great-grandparent (10.6%, n=11), while 16.3% (n=17) were not sure.



A substantial portion of those attending *Money Personalities* workshops (40.0%, n = 48) indicated that they learned about the workshop through a church; another 8.3% learned about the workshop through the HARP Office or HARP staff. Other ways participants learned were workshop leaders, billboards, family members and friends.

#### Program Outcomes - Pretest/Posttest Change

Of the 120 who completed pre and posttest, 8 cases were removed for this analysis either because the partner did not attend or because both partners did not complete both pre and posttest surveys.

Findings below reflect couple scores from *Money Personalities* workshops in Project Year 2. The measures **highlighted** in blue indicate the change was statistically significant (p < .05).

## Money Personalities: Pretest-Posttest Change

		Pre	test	Pos	ttest
Objective	Measure	Mean	(sd)	Mean	(sd)
Increase marital satisfaction	Happiness with present relationship question	10.74	(2.67)	12.11	(2.09)
Increase commitment to present relationship	Commitment to present relationship question	12.72	(1.63)	13.00	(1.76)
Improve conflict resolution skills	ENRICH Conflict Resolution Subscale	60.24	(8.02)	63.04	(7.82)
Increase positive communication	ENRICH Communication Subscale	63.35	(11.82)	66.74	(10.83)

Decrease negative interaction	Negative Interaction Scale	40.91	(11.54)	34.44	(12.15)

#### Workshop Satisfaction

All participants either strongly agreed (83.8%) or agreed (16.2%) that they would recommend this workshop to a friend.

#### **Participant Feedback:**

On posttests, we asked participants to "please share with us what you liked best about this workshop and any suggestions for improving it". Here are some of the responses we received from those attending *Active Communication* workshops in Project Year 2. Those in quotation marks are direct quotes; others have been translated from Spanish to English.

- Very complete and explained very well. I hope to put the help for my behavior into practice. (Female)
- "I liked that I learned the importance that I give to money in my life and that I learned how to deal with it." (Female)
- "The closeness that it gets between my wife and me" (Male)
- "I loved the 'I want you to know..' exercise with my spouse. It would help to have a more intimate setting for that one." (Male)

#### Money Personalities: 6 Month Follow-Up Results

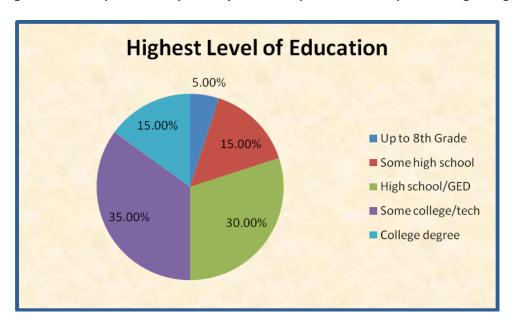
Of the 120 who completed pre and posttest, at the time of this report, the evaluation team had received data from 12 of the 29 couples from whom surveys were requested for a return rate of 41.4%. However, it should be noted that 3 of the 9 *Money Personalities* workshops conducted in Project Year 2 were not due for follow-up surveys at this time; follow-up data was not obtained for one other workshop because the pre/posttest data was not usable. Data from one couple was excluded from analysis because it was received more than one month after the 6 month due date. Other missing data (if a respondent did not answer a question) was excluded from analyses.

#### Descriptive Characteristics at 6 Months

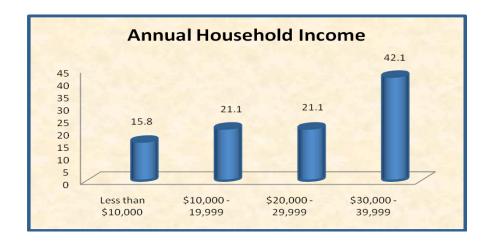
Participants returning 6 month follow-up surveys were 50% female and 50% male (n = 11 each) and were, on average, 39.10 (sd = 8.40) years of age. Of the participants, 9.1% (n = 2) had been married in the past. All couples in this sub analysis were married.

Of the 90.5% (n = 19) that reported having children, 20.0% (n = 4) had two, 60.0% (n = 12) had three, 15.0% (n = 3) had four, and 4.5% (n = 1) had six.

The educational experience of the attendees was diverse. Only one participant (5.0%) who completed a 6 month follow-up survey from this workshop had up to/through an  $8^{th}$  grade education and three (15.0%) reported attending some high school. However, almost one-third (30.0%, n = 6) had a high school degree or its equivalent, while 35.0% (n = 7) had some college or technical training. Three respondents (15.0%) had completed a four-year college degree.



The vast majority of participants 90.0% (n=18) reported that at least one of the partners worked outside of the home. As seen in the graph below, income also varied among *Money Personalities* attendees who completed 6 month follow-up surveys. The most common response was that household incomes ranged \$30,000 - \$40,000 (42.1%, n = 8), followed by those with incomes between \$20,000 - \$30,000 and \$10,000 - \$20,000 (both 21.1%, n = 4). Only three respondents (15.8%) reported having annual incomes below \$10,000.



The majority of individuals returning 6 month follow-up *Money Personalities* surveys (80.0%, n = 16) preferred to communicate in Spanish, while 20.0% (n = 4) indicated English was their preference.

Over one-fourth (27.3%, n = 6) indicated that s/he or her/his parents was/were the first person in the family to move to U.S, while another 11.1% (n = 2) reported that it was her/his great grandparents; four people (22.2%) were not sure who was the first in the family to move to the U.S.

#### **Program Outcomes at 6 Months**

The summary of program outcomes in the following chart is based **only on the 11 couples** who attended *Money Personalities* workshops and completed surveys at **all three time points** (e.g., pretest, posttest and follow up). Although results are only tentative due to the limited number of cases, instances of statistically significant (p < .05) pretest-follow up change are **highlighted in blue**.

## Money Personalities: Pretest-Posttest-Follow Up Change

Objective	Measure	Pre Mean	test <i>(sd)</i>	Pos Mean	sttest (sd)	Follo Mean	w Up <i>(sd)</i>
Increase marital satisfaction	Happiness with present relationship question	10.10	(2.51)	11.27	(2.53)	13.00	(1.05)
Increase commitment to present relationship	Commitment to present relationship question	12.40 (	(2.32)	12.62	(1.96)	13.50	(1.27)
Improve conflict resolution skills	ENRICH Conflict Resolution Subscale	61.80 (	(6.48)	63.10	(8.31)	65.50	(5.06)
Increase positive communication	ENRICH Communication Subscale	61.67 (	(12.97)	68.78	(10.24)	70.70	(9.29)

Decrease negative	Negative Interaction Scale	39.50	(11.66)	30.73	(13.28)	26.80	(6.23)
interaction							

#### Romance & Intimacy

#### Pretest-Posttest Results

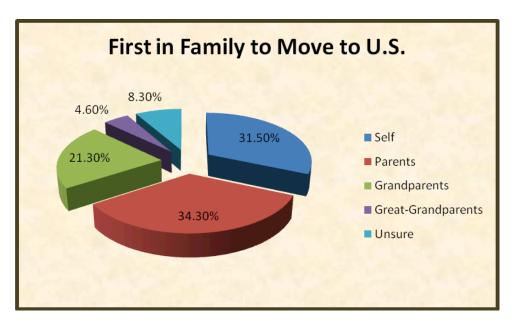
During Project Year 2, surveys were returned by 121 persons who attended *Romance & Intimacy*. Of these, 116 (N = 58 couples), or 95.9% were couples who completed both pre and posttests and were therefore, included in analysis; missing data was excluded from analyses.

#### **Descriptive Characteristics**

Participants ranged in age from 20 to 53 years, with a mean age of 37.63 (sd = 9.41) years. Participants reported being in their present relationships for an average of 15.98 (sd = 13.70) years, with a range of less than 1 year to 38 years. One-half of participants (50.0%, n = 58 each) attended a workshop that lasted 13 hours; the other half attended a workshop that was 15 hours in length.

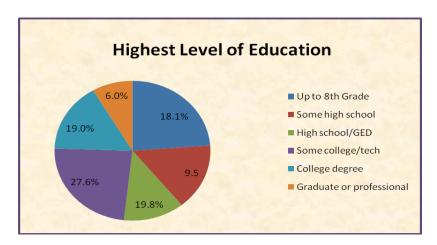
The vast majority of those who have attended *Romance & Intimacy* workshops in Year 2 reported being currently married (98.3%, n = 113). Eight participants (7.2%) reported at least one prior marriage to the current relationship. Only 5.5% (n = 6) indicated they had no children. Others reported having from 1-10 children, with a mean of 2.59 (sd = 1.62).

The majority of this group reported being either first (31.5%, n = 34) or second generation (31.9%, n = 37) immigrants.

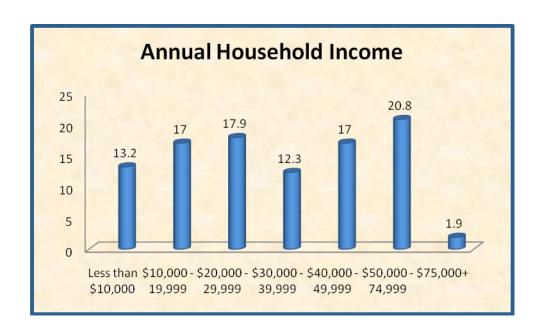


Almost three-fourths (74.1%, n = 86) of these attendees preferred to speak in Spanish; 25.99% (n = 30) preferred to communicate in English. The vast majority of attendees were Hispanic/Latino (97.4%).

The educational level of the participants ranged significantly, with just under one-fifth (18.1%, n=21) having up to/through an  $8^{th}$  grade education, while 27.6% (n=32) had some college or technical training and 25.0% (n=29) had obtained a four-year college degree or higher.



For the majority of the couples, at least one spouse worked outside the home (93.4%, n = 92). The most commonly reported annual household income range of participants was \$50,000-\$74,999 (20.8%, n =22), followed by those with incomes between \$20,000 - \$29,999 per year (17.9%, n = 19).



#### <u>Program Outcomes – Pretest/Posttest Change</u>

Findings below reflect couple scores from *Active Communication* workshops in Project Year 2. The measures <a href="https://nicenter.org/highlighted-in-brown">highlighted in brown</a> indicate the change was statistically significant (p < .05).

## Romance & Intimacy: Pretest-Posttest Change

		Pre	test	Pos	ttest
Objective	Measure	Mean	(sd)	Mean	(sd)
Increase marital satisfaction	Happiness with present relationship question	11.63	(2.15)	12.78	(1.68)
Increase commitment to present relationship	Commitment to present relationship question	12.86	(1.80)	13.57	(0.86)
Improve conflict resolution skills	ENRICH Conflict Resolution Subscale	60.51	(7.20)	65.42	(5.38)
Increase positive communication	ENRICH Communication Subscale	65.14	(12.47)	72.12	(7.35)
Decrease negative interaction	Negative Interaction Scale	37.12	(10.20)	29.02	(7.49)

#### Workshop Satisfaction

All but one participant either strongly agreed (89.5%, n = 102) or agreed (9.6%, n = 11) that they would recommend this workshop to a friend. One person disagreed with this item.

#### Participant Feedback

On posttests, we asked participants to "please share with us what you liked best about this workshop and any suggestions for improving it". Here are some of the responses we received from those attending *Active Communication* workshops in Project Year 2. Those in quotation marks are direct quotes; others have been translated from Spanish to English.

- "This was a great experience for my husband and me. I learned how to better our understanding of one another. Great job!" (Female)
- "It is helping people dealing with real situations, because sometimes we do not know where to go or what to do." (Female)
- That I can have many hours together with my wife (without the kids) and we can have romance. (Male)
- The thing that I liked was the exercise "You know how I liked that you love me". (Female)
- The thing that I liked the most was the languages of love. (Female)

\*\*\* Note – there were no *Romance & Intimacy* workshops for which 6 month follow-up data had been requested at the time of this report.

#### Active Adults

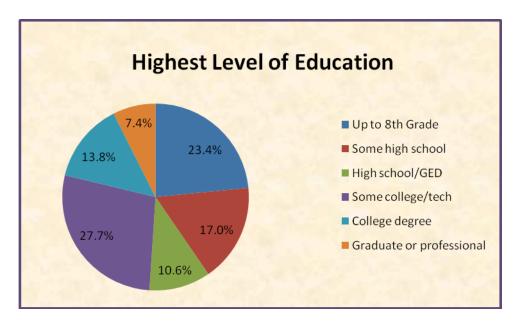
#### Pretest-Posttest Results

These workshops were primarily attended by single parents, divorced, widowed and separated persons, as well as by persons who were married but could not attend workshops with their spouse. During Project Year 2, the evaluation team received survey data from 128 individuals meeting these criteria. However, 22 were unable to complete both pre and posttests and were removed prior to analyses. Findings presented below exclude any missing data.

#### **Descriptive Statistics**

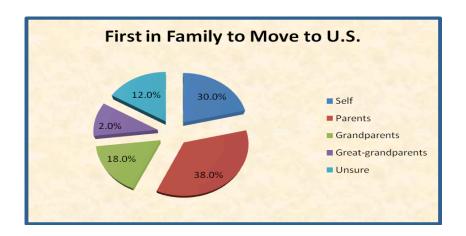
Attendees were 80.9% female vs. 19.1% male and were, on average, 40.46 (sd = 11.44) years of age, with a range of 19-72. Most were married individuals attending without their spouse (64.2%, n = 68), while 27.4% (n = 29) were divorced and 7.5% (n=8) were widowed.

The educational experience of the attendees was diverse. Almost one-fourth (23.4%, n=22) had up to or completed an  $8^{th}$  grade education, 17.0% (n=16) received some high school training, 10.6% (n=10) completed a high school degree or its equivalent, 27.7% (n=26) had some college or technical training, 13.8% (n=13) completed a four-year college degree, and 7.4% (n=7) obtained some graduate or other professional education beyond a college degree.



The majority of individuals attending Active Choices workshops (71.6%, n=73) preferred to communicate in Spanish, while 28.4% (n=29) indicated English was their preference. Those attending were primarily (98.8%) Hispanic/Latino; only 1 person indicated s/he was White/Caucasian.

Almost one-third (30.0%, n = 15) indicated that s/he was the first person in the family to move to U.S, while another 38.0% (n = 19) reported that it was her/his parents. Others reported the first person in the family to come to the U.S. was a grandparent (18.0%) or great-grandparent (2.0%), while 12.0% were not sure.



Almost one-fourth of attendees (23.6%, n = 25) indicated that they learned about the workshop through a church. Other ways participants learned were from the HARP office, the workshop leader, and the radio.

#### <u>Program Outcomes: Pretest/Posttest Change</u>

The pre and posttests used for these workshops contained 20 items designed to measure change in participants' knowledge or attitudes.

Participants were asked to rate their level of agreement using the following fourpoint scale on 20 items before the workshop began and then again, after the workshop ended:

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
□ 1	□ 2	□ 3	□ 4

Improvement in knowledge or attitude is indicated by an increase in scores from pretest to posttest. The measures  $\frac{\text{highlighted in pink}}{\text{the change was statistically significant (p < .05)}$ .

Results indicated that scores did not demonstrate such improvement on only 1 measure – and in that case it was very minimal. The statement "I believe healthy relationships require commitment from both partners" declined from a mean score of 3.36 (sd = 0.61) at pretest to 3.34 (sd = 0.50) at posttest.

Scores on one additional measure remained essentially unchanged from pre to posttest. The mean score on the item "it is important to know the traits in my partner are reliable before I marry and have children" was 3.24 both before and after the workshop.

As seen in the following table, the remaining 18 items all saw positive pre to posttest score change. Furthermore, according to results of paired samples t-tests, 9 of these items demonstrated statistically significant change (p < .05).

Active Adults:
Pretest-Posttest Score Change

Pretest-Posttest Score Change					
Measure	Pretest Mean ( <i>sd</i> )	Posttest Mean ( <i>sd</i> )			
I can use good speaking and listening skills to improve communication.	3.25 (.62)	3.27 (.47)			
I have skills to solve disagreements in a respectful way.	3.09 (.49)	3.22 (.50)			
I can name some benefits of having a healthy marriage.	3.17 (.47)	3.23 (.45)			
I can name some predictors of healthy marriages.	2.91 (.65)	3.11 (.47)			
I can name some of my personal strengths.	3.17 (.49)	3.22 (.46)			
I have the skills necessary to build healthy relationships.	3.13 (.51)	3.22 (.44)			
I know how to make a budget.	2.96 (.72)	3.07 (.48)			
I can respectfully discuss money matters if/when I am in an intimate relationship.	2.93 (.63)	3.02 (.59)			
I believe living on a budget is essential to creating a healthy marriage.	3.17 (.59)	3.31 (.51)			
I understand the legal responsibilities of being a parent including the possibility of having to pay child support until the child is 18.	3.27 (.58)	3.33 (.47)			
If I have a baby with someone, the state will hold me responsible for caring for that child.	3.20 (.52)	3.29 (.46)			
If I have a baby with someone, the state has the right to take money from me to support that child.	3.18 (.57)	3.24 (.52)			
I can define verbal, physical, and emotional abuse.	3.15 (.57)	3.26 (.46)			
I can name some behaviors that are related to relationship violence.	3.14 (.58)	3.28 (.45)			
I know that the chemical high of hormones can lead to making poor relationship decisions.	3.04 (.59)	3.20 (.51)			
I know specific characteristics to look for in a person to increase my chances of developing a healthy, long-term relationship.	3.05 (.48)	3.27 (.44)			
I can notice signs of anger in myself before it grows.	3.07 (.53)	3.24 (.43)			

I know some positive ways to control my anger.	3.06 (.50)	3.20 (.42)

#### **Program Outcomes – Knowledge Acquired**

Finally, participants were asked to rate their level of agreement at posttest only on 4 items related to specific information covered during the workshop using the same four-point scale referred to earlier. Results are displayed in the following table; blank cells indicate no responses in that category.

Active Adults:
Increase in Knowledge from Workshop

Question	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
I can use the SMART cards to solve an argument.	33.3	64.4	2.3	
I can make plans to manage my emotional triggers.	26.4	70.8	2.8	
I know some ways to establish family traditions.	22.1	76.0	1.9	
I can use the SMART cards to solve a relationship conflict.	32.9	62.4	4.7	

# Active Relationships for Young Adults ARYA Workshops

#### Pretest-Posttest Results

These workshops were primarily attended by young adults who participated in 1 of 3 workshops held during Project Year 2. The evaluation team did receive data on 3 additional youth workshops, but has been unable to analyze it at this point due to lack of full consent information.

#### **Descriptive Statistics**

Fifty-nine (N = 59) individuals who attended one of three *Active Relationships for Young Adults* workshops completed surveys. The workshops ranged in length between 8 and 17.5 hours.

These young adults ranged in age from 14 - 21 years of age, with a mean age of 16.34 (sd = 1.74). Slightly more than half of the attendees were female (55.9%, n = 33), while 42.4% (n = 25) of participants were male; 1 person chose not to answer this question.

All 59 participants reported currently being in school. Just over 2/3 of participants (67.8%, n = 40) indicated they did not currently have a girl or

boyfriend, while 28.8% (n = 17) reported being in such a relationship; 2 persons did not answer this question.

#### Program Outcomes - Pretest/Posttest Change

The pre and posttest surveys developed for these workshops contained 20 items designed to measure change in participants' knowledge or attitudes. Analysis was restricted to data of those participants who completed both the pretest and the posttest and on whom informed consents from the participant, as well as a parent/guardian, if appropriate, was obtained. For Project Year 2, this resulted in the analysis of data from 57 attendees.

ARYA participants were asked to rate their level of agreement using the following four-point scale on 20 items before the workshop began and then again, after the workshop ended:

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
□ 1	□ 2	□ 3	□ 4

Improvement in knowledge or attitude is indicated by an increase in scores from pretest to posttest. The measures  $\frac{\text{highlighted in yellow}}{\text{in the table below}}$  in the table below indicate the change was statistically significant (p < .05).

Results indicated that scores on only 2 of the 20 items did not show improvement. These statements were "I believe healthy relationships require commitment from both partners" which declined from a mean score of 3.49 (sd = 0.72) at pretest to 3.34 (sd = 0.55) at posttest and "I can use good speaking and listening skills to improve communication", which had an average score of 3.38 (sd = 0.74) at pretest and 3.32 (sd = 0.64) after the workshop.

As seen in the following table, the remaining 18 items all saw positive pre to posttest score change. Furthermore, according to results of paired samples t-tests, 14 of these items demonstrated statistically significant change (p < .05).

## ARYA: Pretest-Posttest Score Change

Measure	Pretest	Posttest
	Mean ( <i>sd</i> )	Mean ( <i>sd</i> )
I have skills to solve disagreements in a respectful way.	3.08 (.65)	3.31 (.61)
I can name some benefits of having a healthy marriage.	2.98 (.84)	3.40 (.63)
I can name some predictors of healthy marriages.	2.60 (.71)	3.25 (.65)
It is important to know that the traits in my partner are reliable before I marry and have children.	3.23 (.75)	3.45 (.64)
I can name some of my personal strengths.	3.15 (.77)	3.32 (.58)
I have the skills necessary to build healthy relationships.	3.19 (.65)	3.23 (.58)
I know how to make a budget.	2.75 (.74)	3.29 (.57)
I can respectfully discuss money matters if/when I am in an intimate relationship.	2.85 (.72)	3.38 (.53)
I believe living on a budget is essential to creating a healthy marriage.	2.96 (.82)	3.33 (.55)
I understand the legal responsibilities of being a parent including the possibility of having to pay child support until the child is 18.	3.06 (.75)	3.52 (.58)
If I have a baby with someone, the state will hold me responsible for caring for that child.	3.04 (.92)	3.51 (.58)
If I have a baby with someone, the state has the right to take money from me to support that child.	2.83 (.90)	3.48 (.54)
I can define verbal, physical, and emotional abuse.	3.18 (.81)	3.47 (.58)
I can name some behaviors that are related to relationship violence.	2.94 (.80)	3.27 (.56)
I know that the chemical high of hormones can lead to making poor relationship decisions.	2.94 (.89)	3.58 (.50)
I know specific characteristics to look for in a person to increase my chances of developing a healthy, long-term relationship.	3.00 (.66)	3.45 (.50)
I can notice signs of anger in myself before it grows.	3.08 (.74)	3.20 (.57)
I know some positive ways to control my anger.	3.24 (.55)	3.42 (.61)

#### Program Outcomes - Knowledge Acquired

Finally, *ARYA* participants were asked to rate their level of agreement at posttest only on 4 items related to specific information covered during the workshop using the same four-point scale referred to earlier. Results are displayed in the following table; blank cells indicate no responses in that category.

ARYA:
Increase in Knowledge from Workshop

Question	% Strongly Agree	% Agree	% Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
I can use the SMART cards to solve an argument.	66.7	33.3		
I can make plans to manage my emotional triggers.	55.6	44.4		
I know some ways to establish family traditions.	40.0	57.8	2.2	
I can use the SMART cards to solve a relationship conflict.	28.9	71.1		

#### Participant Feedback

On posttests, we asked participants to "please share with us what you liked best about this workshop and any suggestions for improving it". Here are some of the responses we received from those attending *Active Communication* workshops in Project Year 2. Those in quotation marks are direct quotes; others have been translated from Spanish to English.

- "What I liked about the workshop was that it has a lot of details that we can know and how to work things out in life. Also how to control our problems and emotions, how to learn to make a budget." (Male)
- "Well what I really liked about your counseling is that it really made me think about of what to do in bad situations." (Male)
- "I liked it a lot cause it helps and shows someone how to contribute their life in a positive way. The only way to improve the world would be for more people to listen." (Male)

#### **Baylor Evaluation Summary and Recommendations**

As Project Year 2 ends, the Evaluation Team is very pleased with the achievements of the HARP Cameron County team. They are to be commended for their accomplishments to date, including the workshops that they were able to conduct, the number of individuals and couples that have received relationship and marriage education training, and the outcomes that were achieved in the previous year. They were able to meet and exceed many of the goals that were set before them despite 2 major hurricanes that resulted in the cancellation of numerous workshop and changes in staff positions and responsibilities. Participants continue to report high levels of satisfaction with the workshops that are produced by the HARP project, indicating the quality of leaders that are being recruited and retained by this project.

The Evaluation Team wants to highlight the following from their Project Year 2 evaluation:

- While the evaluation team acknowledges the lack of control/comparison groups, the outcomes for this project to date are overwhelmingly positive

   and this is true across workshops.
- In some instances, substantial numbers of cases are excluded from analyses due to incomplete pre or posttests or lack of informed consents. The project staff and evaluation team should identify any possible mechanisms to reduce the incidence of these occurrences.
- The HARP project staff needs to be credited for the phenomenal job that has been done in reaching and recruiting Spanish speaking, as well as first- and second-generation Hispanic/Latino individuals and couples. \
- Furthermore, it is clear that participants are hearing about HARP workshops through churches and HARP should continue to utilize this venue for recruitment.
- The Evaluation Team recognizes that findings can be impacted by factors such as the length of the workshop, the workshop leader, and attendance at prior workshops. As this project progresses and larger numbers of cases are pooled, it is hoped that the impact of some of these factors may be "teased out" with more sophisticated analyses.

End -research document.