



Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Initiative Update

Presentation to the
House Finance Committee
February 21, 2014

Mission: To End the Epidemic of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

*“We will not rest until all
Alaskans are safe in their homes
and communities.”*

– Governor Sean Parnell

Building Comprehensive Strategies

- Focusing on prevention and education
- Increasing law enforcement, prosecution, and probation
- Creating legislation that protects Alaskans
- Supporting survivors and helping them heal
- Strategies spanning across six departments
- Highlights and performance measure outcomes from each of the six departments



Key Priority Areas by Funding

From FY2011 to FY2014 operating and capital budget investments toward this initiative increased from \$7.6 million to \$10.8 million

Key Priority Areas	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	*FY2015
1. Prevention and Intervention	\$3,200.0	\$3,622.5	\$3,715.0	\$4,650.0	\$3,500.0
2. Law Enforcement	\$3,676.4	\$5,337.7	\$5,604.4	\$3,465.2	\$4,623.0
3. Support for Survivors	<u>\$706.9</u>	<u>\$878.2</u>	<u>\$2,803.9</u>	<u>\$2,637.5</u>	<u>\$4,287.5</u>
Total	\$7,583.3	\$9,838.4	\$12,123.3	\$10,752.7	\$12,410.5

* Proposed

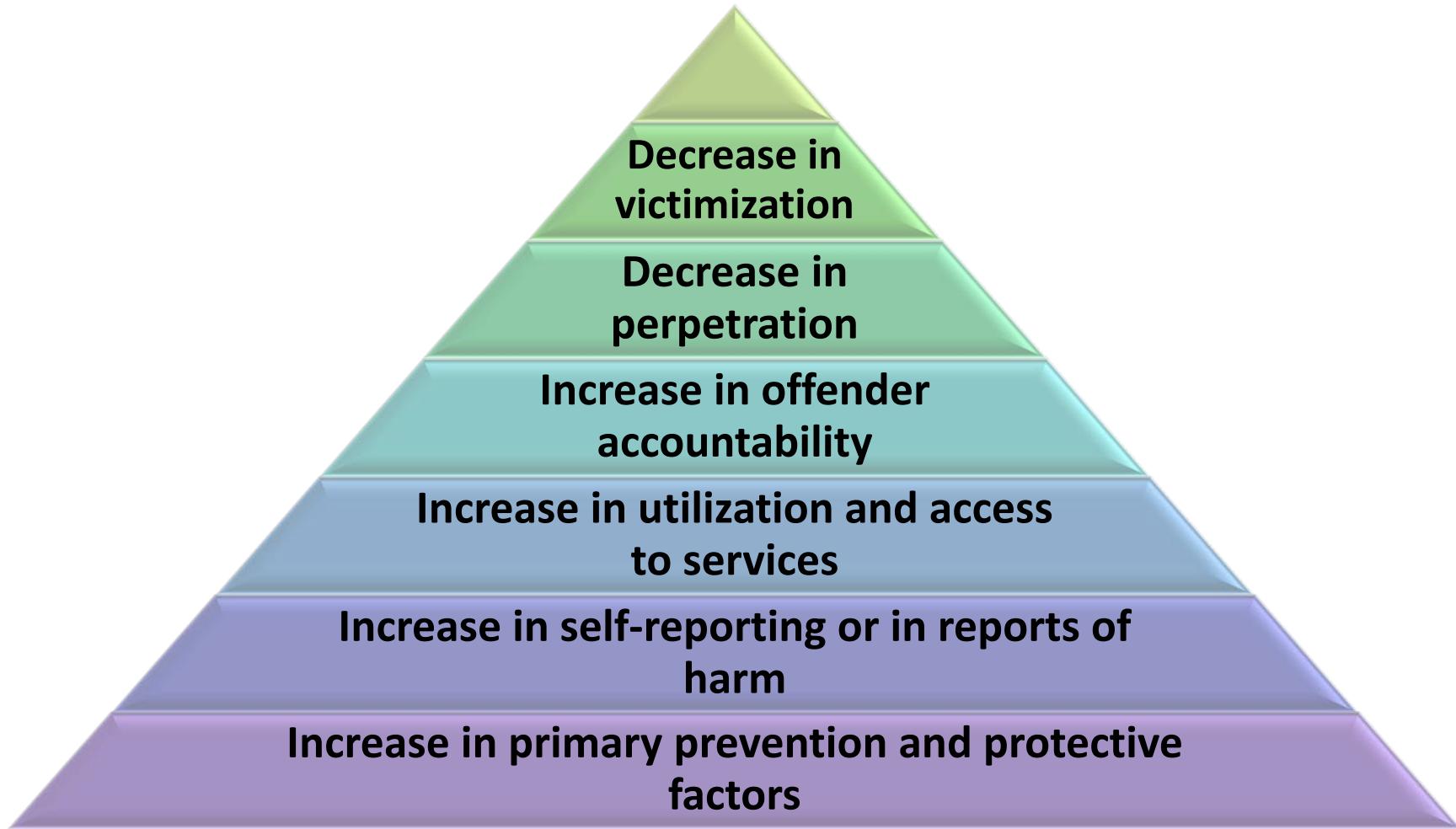
We Are Making a Difference

- Tracking progress over time
 - Population measures (Dashboard)
- Implementing effective programs
 - Evidence based, best practices, and promising programs
- Holding ourselves accountable
 - Performance measures (department increments)

We Are Making a Difference

- Progress in all three priority areas
 - Increase in prevention programming and community engagement
 - Increase in reporting to law enforcement (forcible rape)
 - Increase in domestic violence, sexual assault, and sexual abuse of minor cases accepted for prosecution
 - Increase in shelter nights and children being evaluated at Child Advocacy Centers

Population Measures of Success



Tracking Progress: Alaska Dashboard

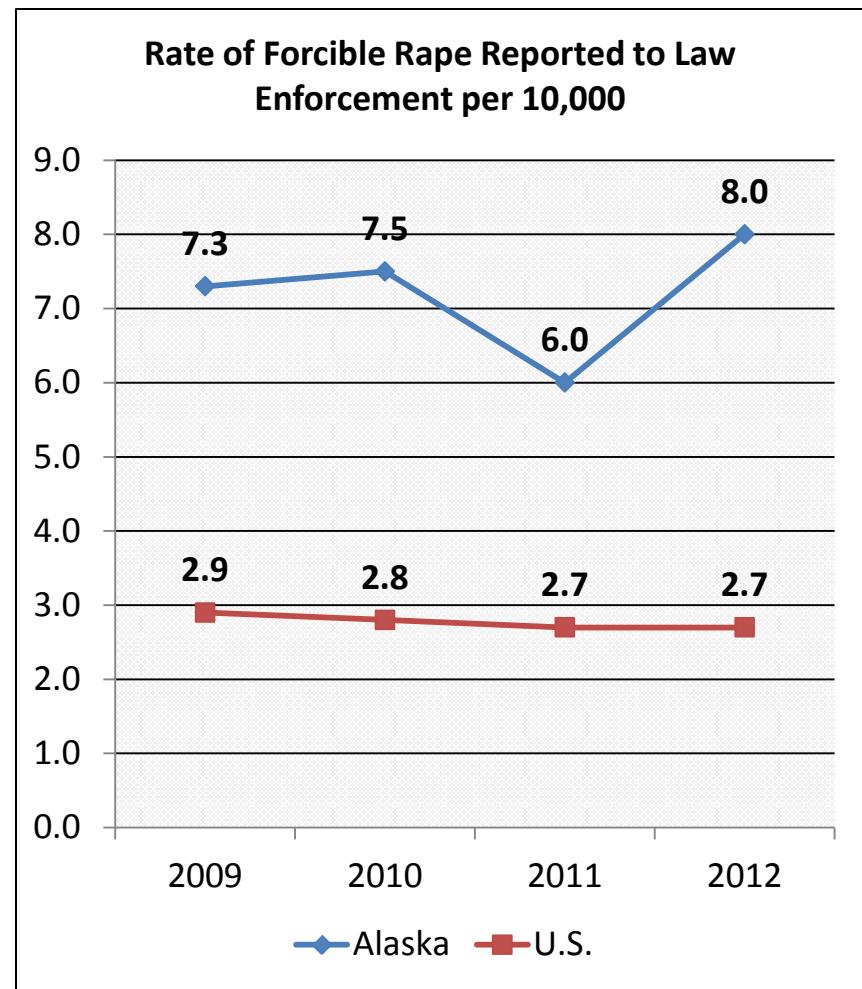


- “One stop shop” for monitoring progress over time
 - Reported incidents
 - Service utilization
 - Protective factors
 - Offender accountability
 - Victimization survey results

Tracking Progress: Alaska Dashboard

● Making Progress

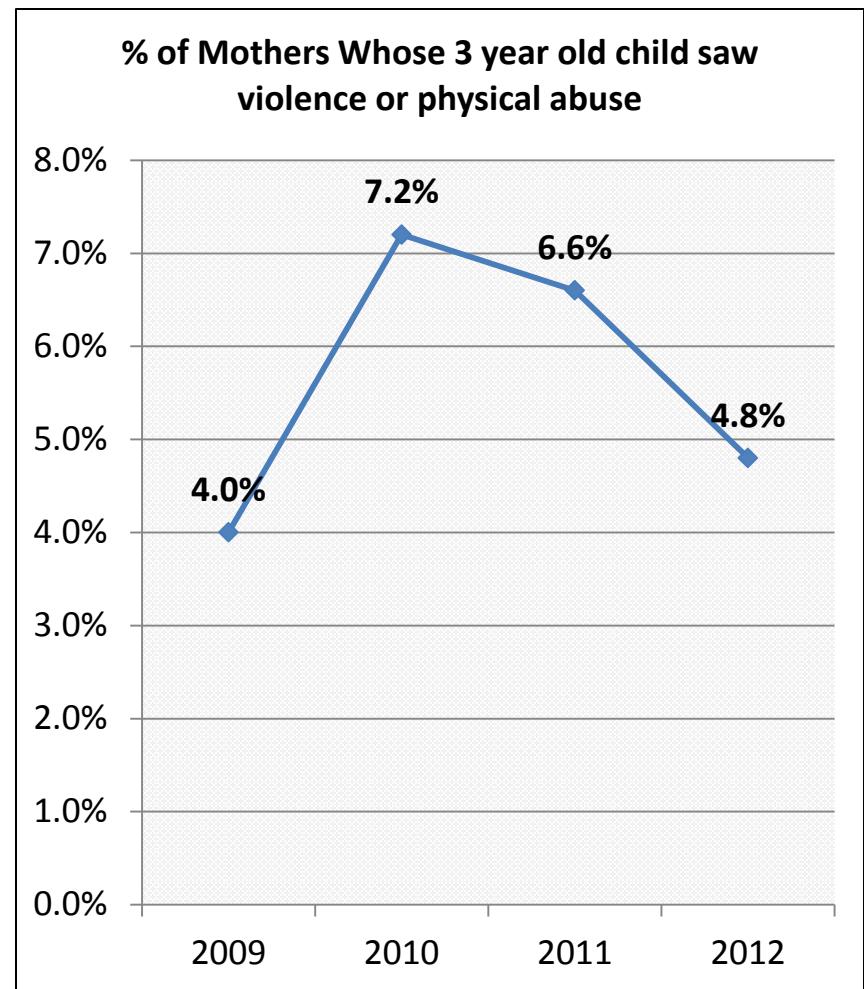
- Reports to Law Enforcement
 - Rate of forcible rape reported to law enforcement (#16)
- Offender Accountability
 - Percent of forcible rapes resulting in an arrest (#27)
 - Number of sexual assault cases accepted for prosecution (#30)
 - Percent of accepted sexual assault cases with a conviction (#31)



Tracking Progress: Alaska Dashboard

● Progress Needed

- Childhood Exposure to DV
 - Percent of mothers whose 3 year old child saw violence or physical abuse (#2)
- Reports of Harm
 - Rate of reported child abuse and neglect (#5)



Implementing Effective Programs

Evidence Based

Best Practices

Promising Programs



Prevention

- Preventing sexual and domestic violence requires:
 - Paying attention to the environments in which assaults occur; and
 - Understanding community norms, values, and actions.
- Designing and developing effective programs to:
 - Foster healthy behaviors; and
 - Change norms to support anti-violence actions.

The First Step: Breaking the Silence

“This battle is going to be won in the hearts and minds of our young people.

To have a nation where every person lives free of fear ... and every person has that hope and opportunity for the future, that’s my dream.

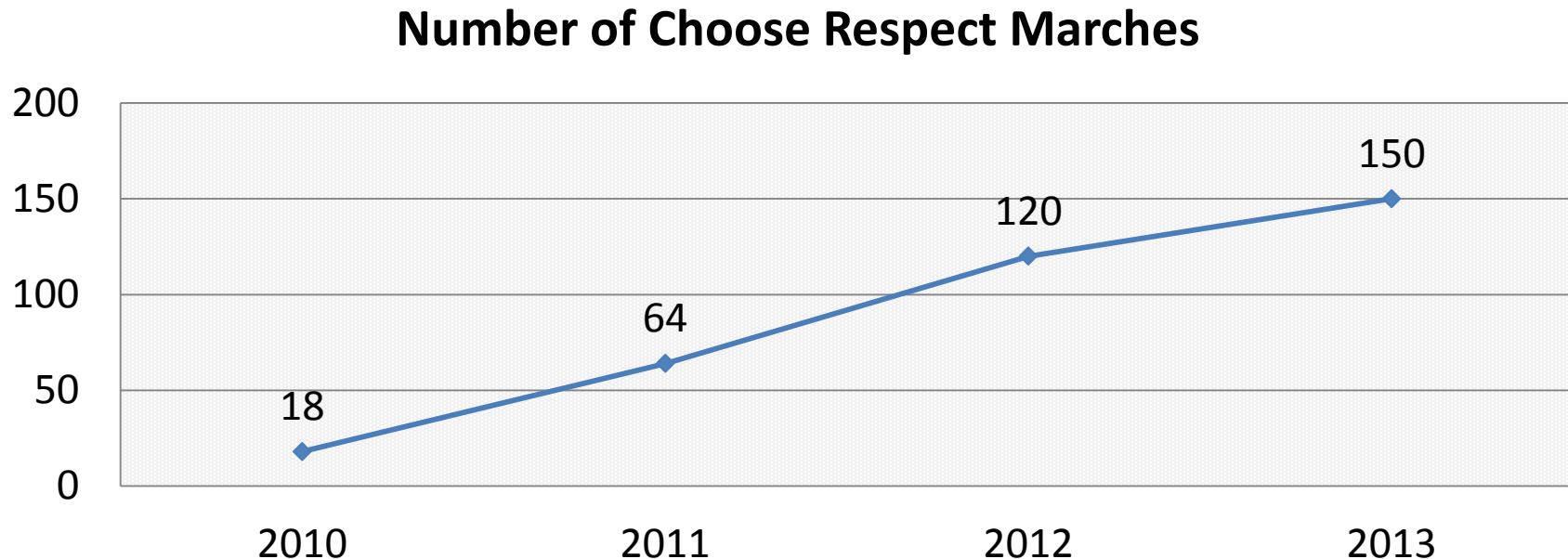
But it’s going to take everybody — it’s going to take ‘real-deal’ heroes standing up and speaking out and giving people permission to speak about these issues.”

— Governor Sean Parnell

Choose Respect Marches



150 Communities Strong



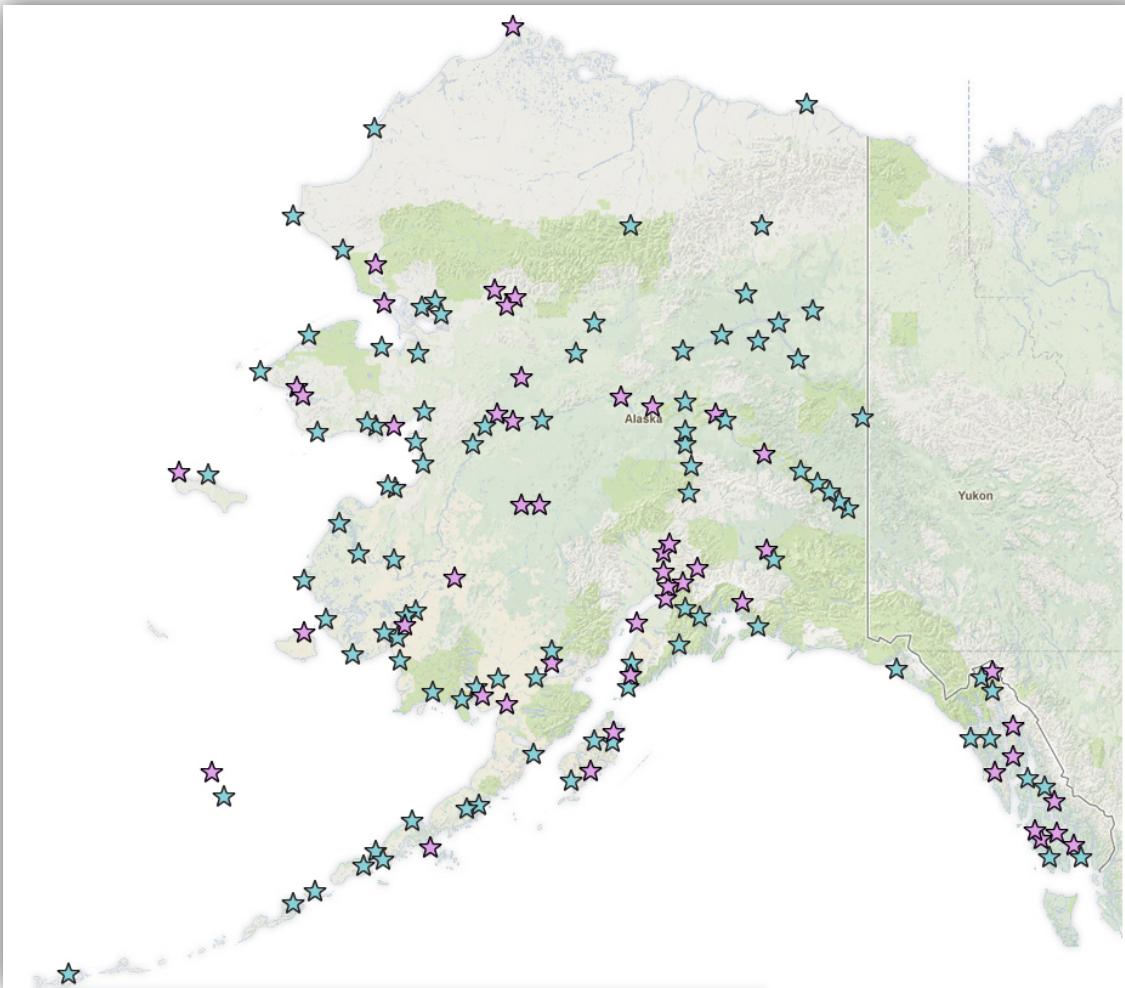
"Choose Respect has changed Old Harbor. Youth and elders interact more. The march is HUGE for us. It reminds teachers and youth to pass respect on. Everyone should choose respect."

– Chloe, Old Harbor

"Our prevention program has changed the way we do things in Old Harbor. The Choose Respect campaign has brought respect back to our community as a way of life. Respect is a foundation of all our programs."

– Old Harbor Elder

Statewide Involvement





Department of Education



Coaching Boys Into Men

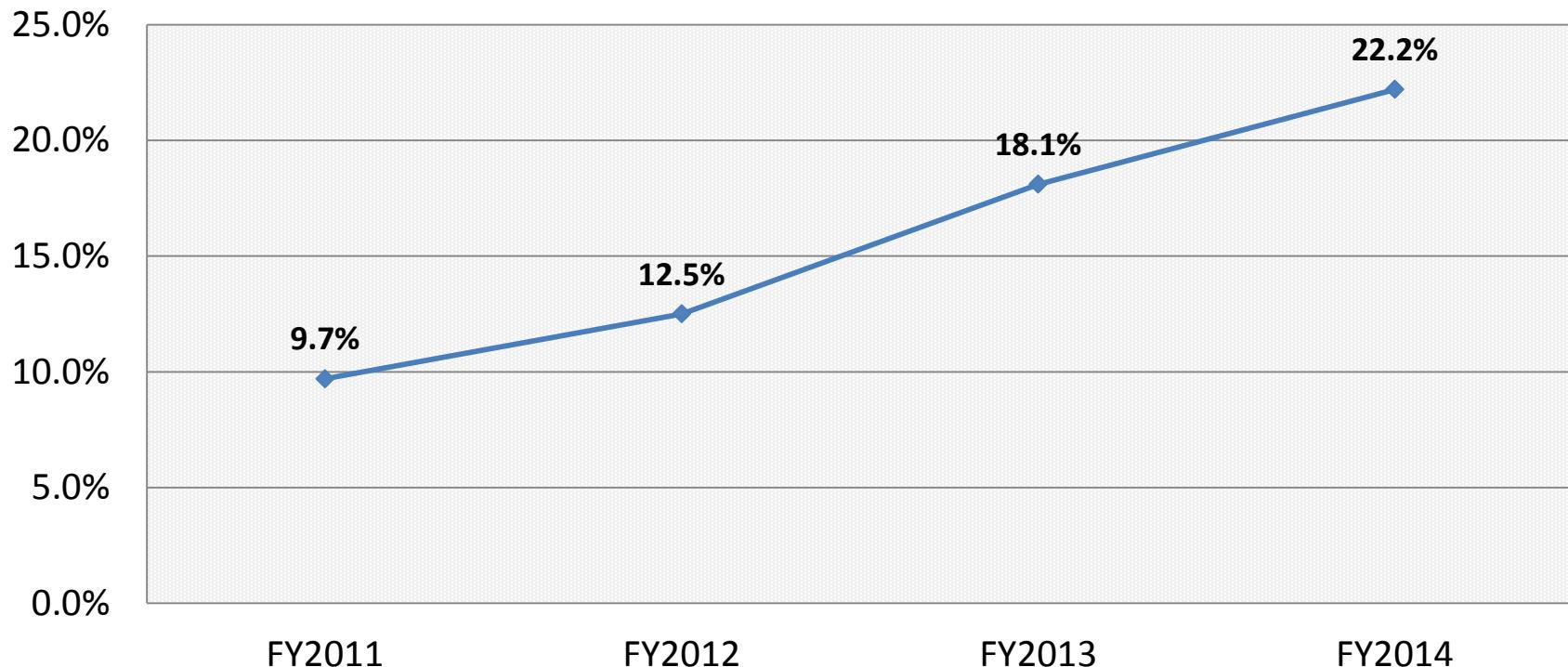
- Training and implementation with several key partners
- To date statewide trainings have been provided to 80 participants from 38 communities
- 79% of the coaches responding to the post-training surveys indicated they plan to incorporate the program into their practice



Ketchikan High School "K-Hi"

Fourth R: Healthy Relationships

Percent of Schools Implementing Fourth R Curriculum



To date, 63 schools have received *Fourth R* curricula materials, with nearly 200 school staff and 100 community partners trained to teach the program.

Fourth R: Evaluation

- Final results will be available in summer 2014
- The results will indicate whether youth at *Fourth R* intervention schools report:
 - A decrease in the rate of self-reported perpetration of dating violence and peer violence;
 - An increase in participant awareness and understanding of dating behavior, including dating violence;
 - An improvement of interpersonal relationship skills;
 - Increased healthy behaviors; and
 - Increased social connectedness.

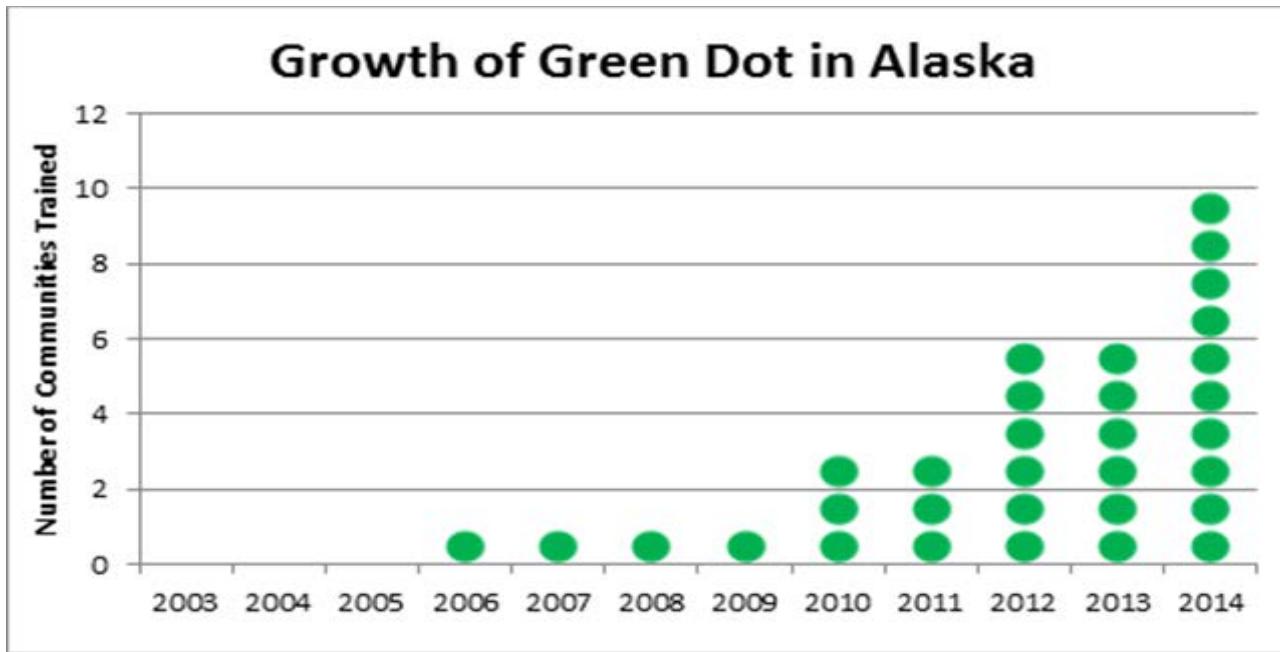


Green Dot – Alaska

- Bystander intervention program
 - Prepares communities to implement a strategy of violence prevention that consistently and measurably reduces power-based personal violence
- Six pilot sites
 - Anchorage, Bethel, Fairbanks, Homer, Kenai, Prince of Wales
 - Alaska specific curricula and Alaskan trainers

A green dot is any behavior, choice, word, or attitude that promotes safety for everyone and communicates intolerance for violence.

Green Dot Measures



Green Dot communities will

- Increase knowledge of bystander intervention behaviors

Green Dot community members will

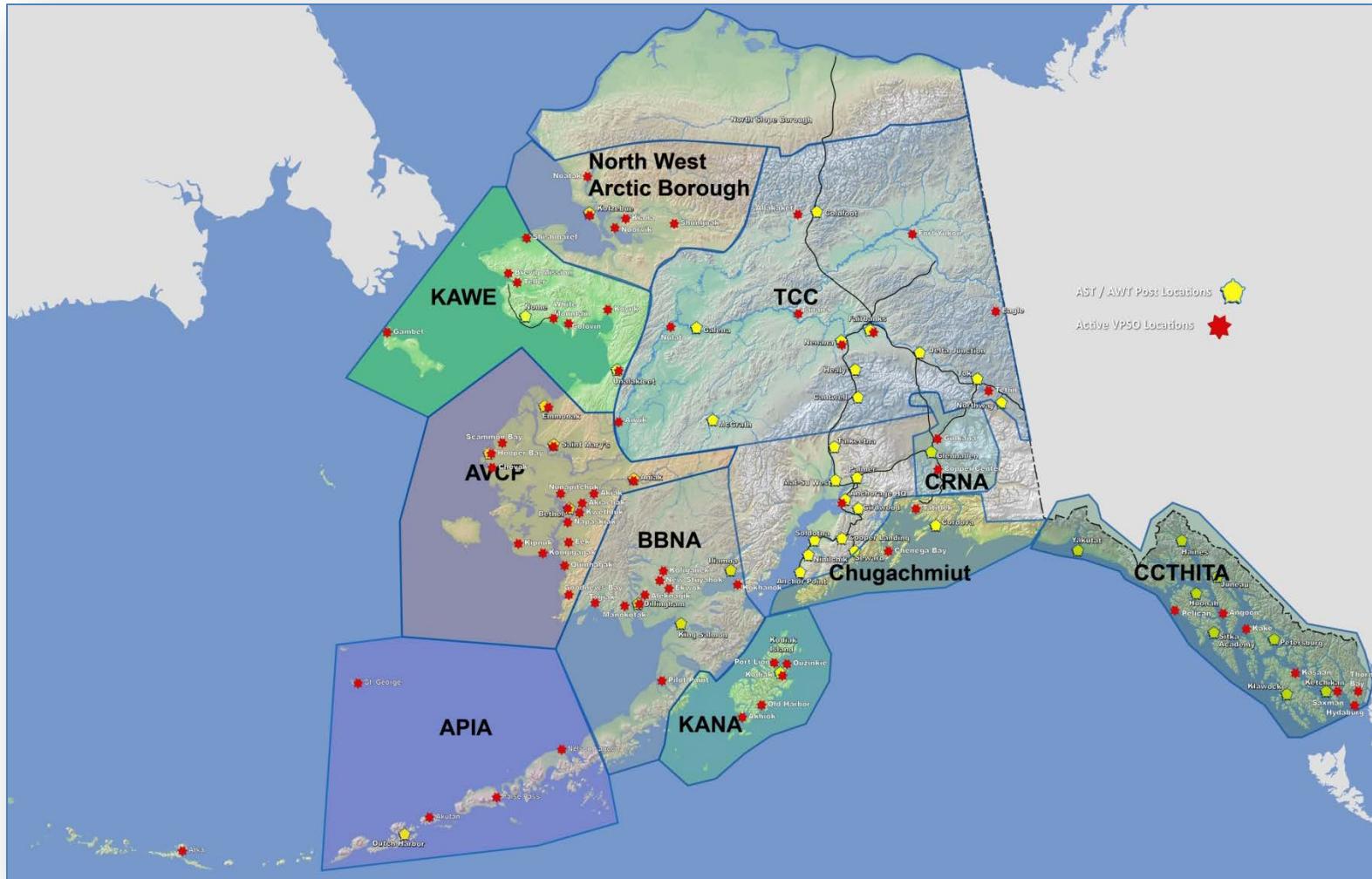
- Report having attitudes that support bystander intervention
- Report having engaged in at least one bystander behavior within the past six months



Department of Public Safety

- Provide a law enforcement presence in every community that wants one
- Increase in reporting to law enforcement
- Increase law enforcement training to enhance skills and build strong cases

Trooper and VPSO Locations



VPSO VIDEO (3:40)

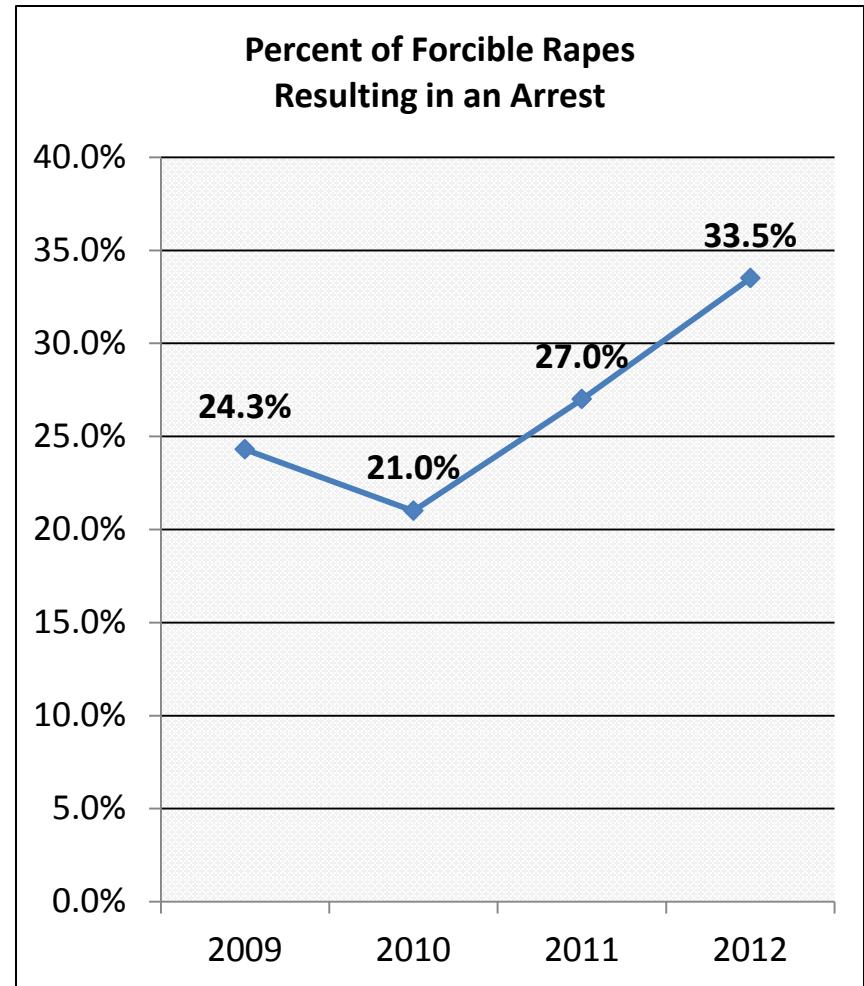
Department of Public Safety

Reports to Law Enforcement

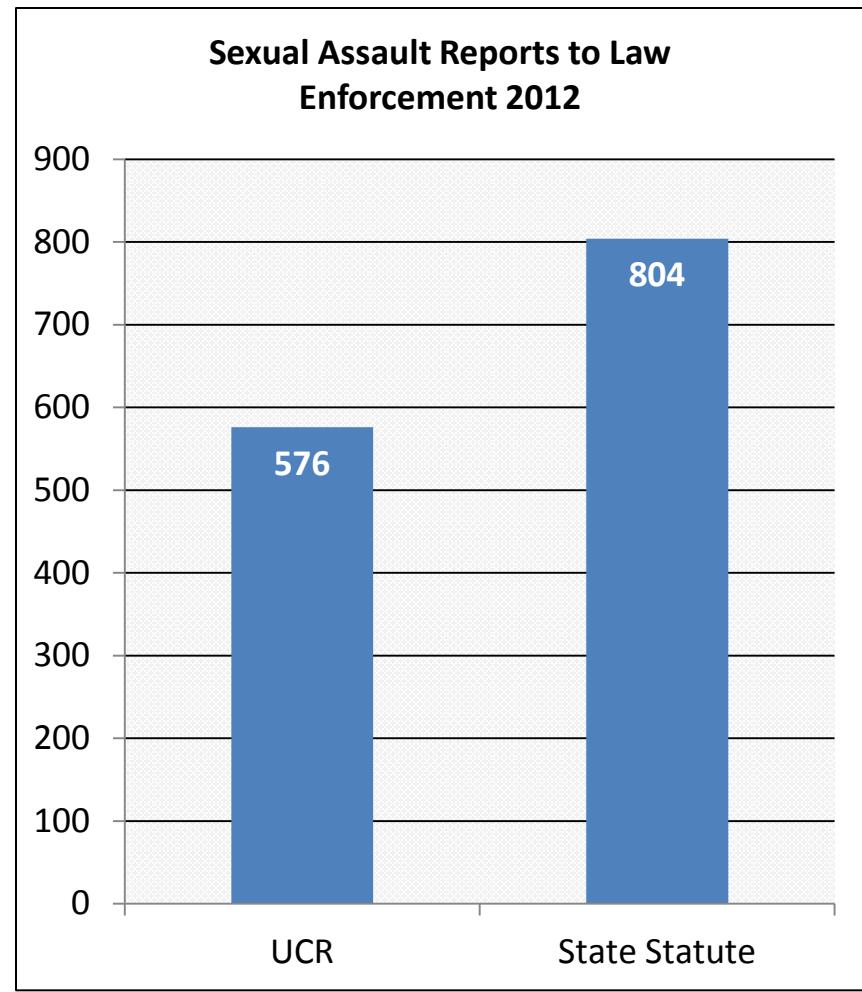
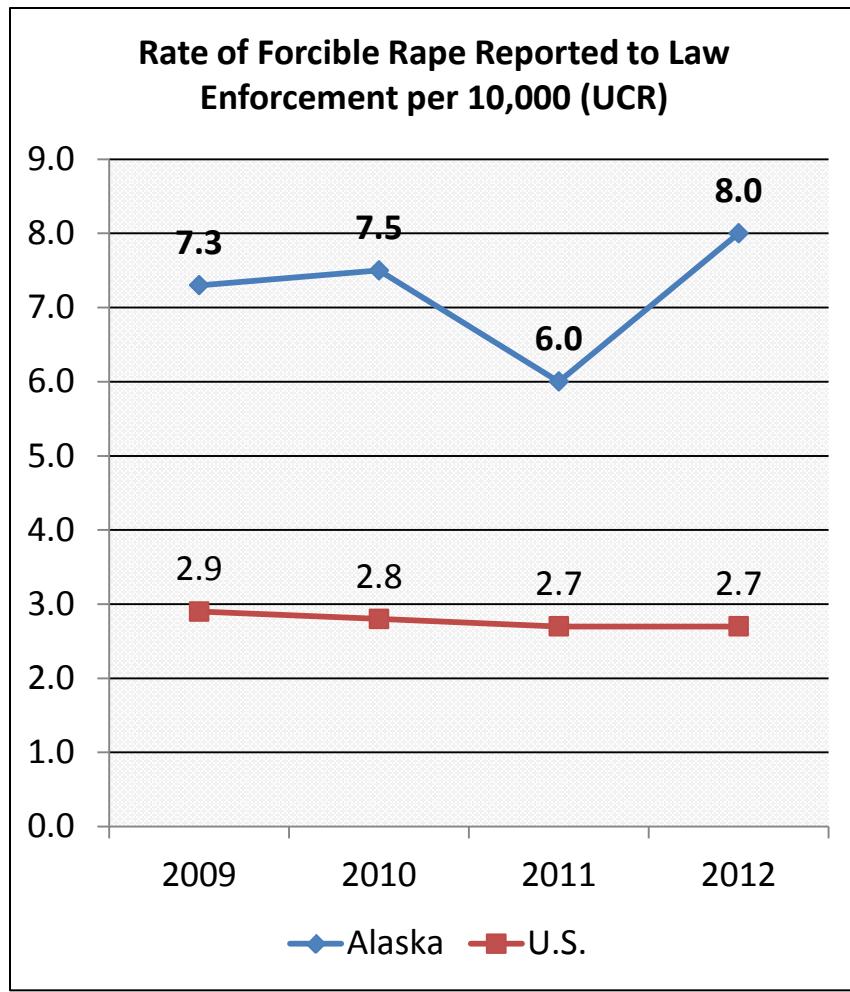
- Rate of forcible rape reported to law enforcement (#16) 

Offender Accountability

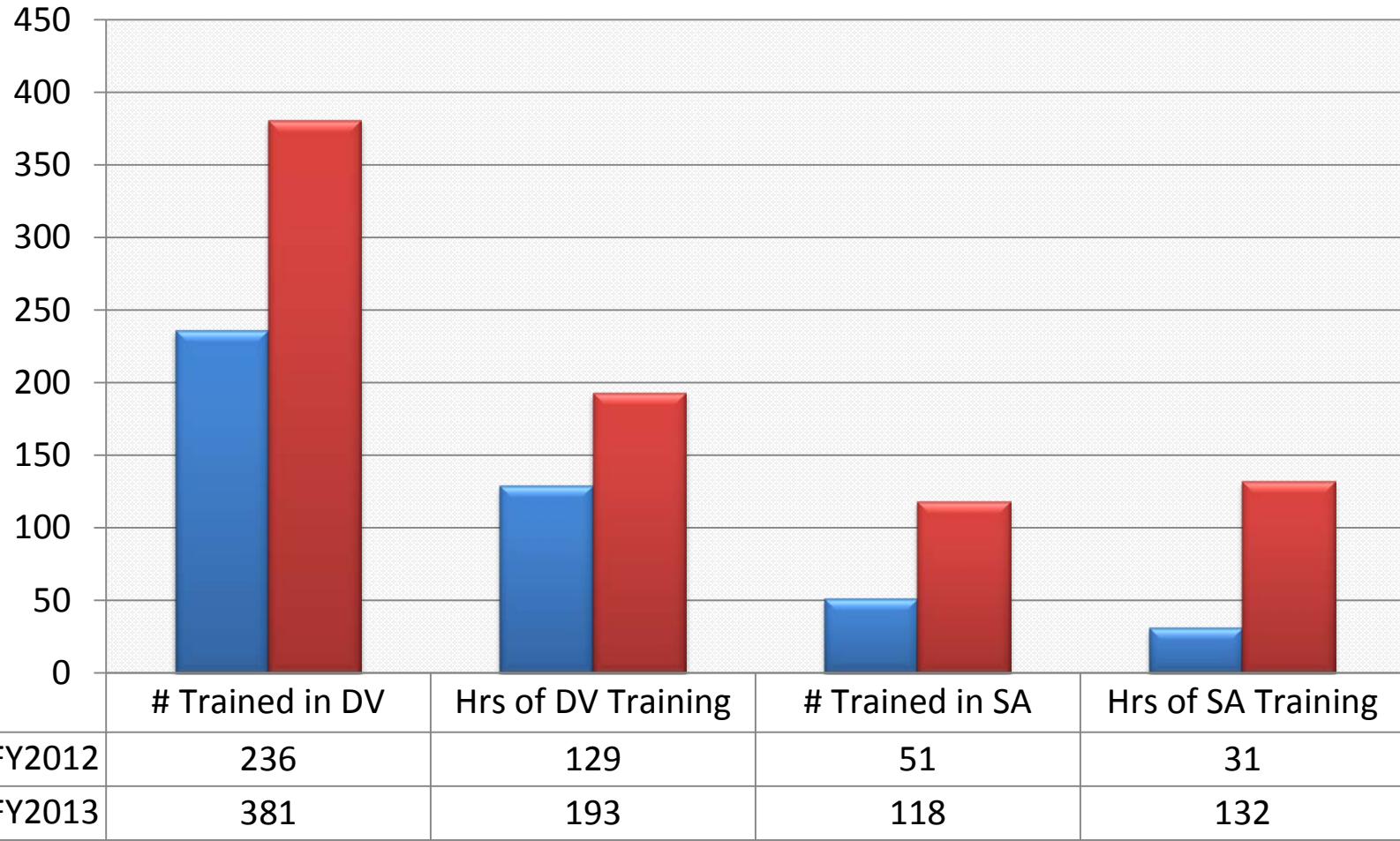
- Percent of forcible rapes resulting in an arrest (#27) 



Department of Public Safety



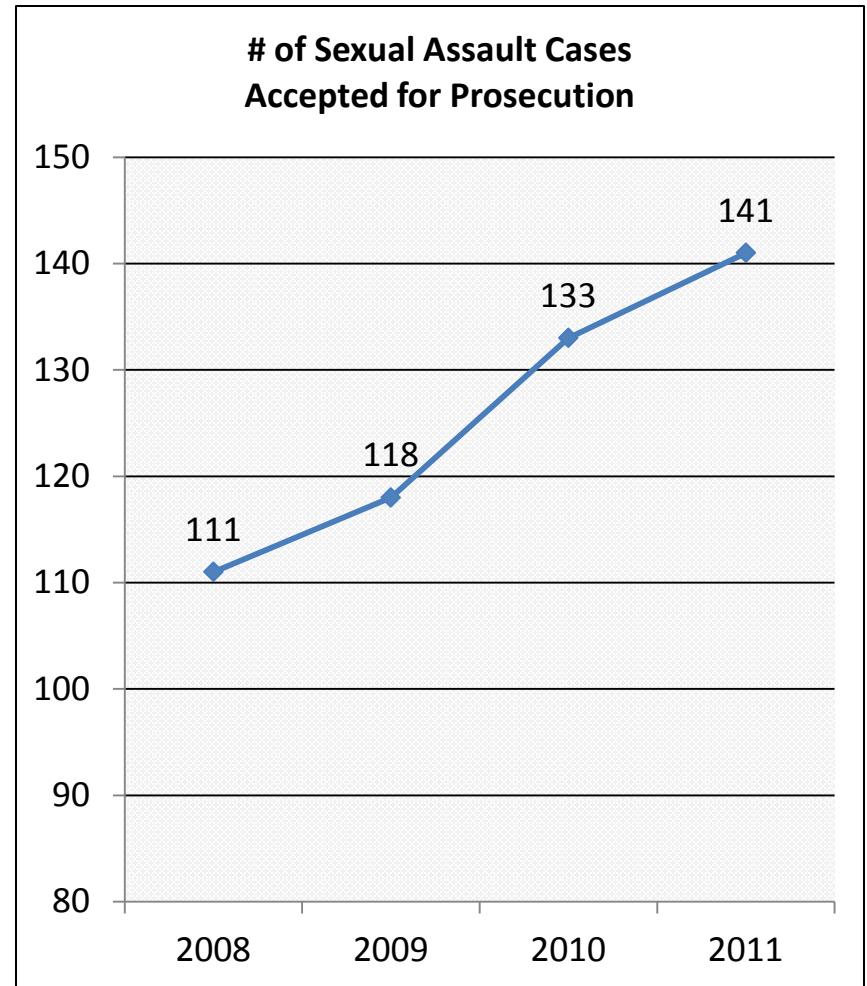
Department of Public Safety



Department of Law

Offender Accountability

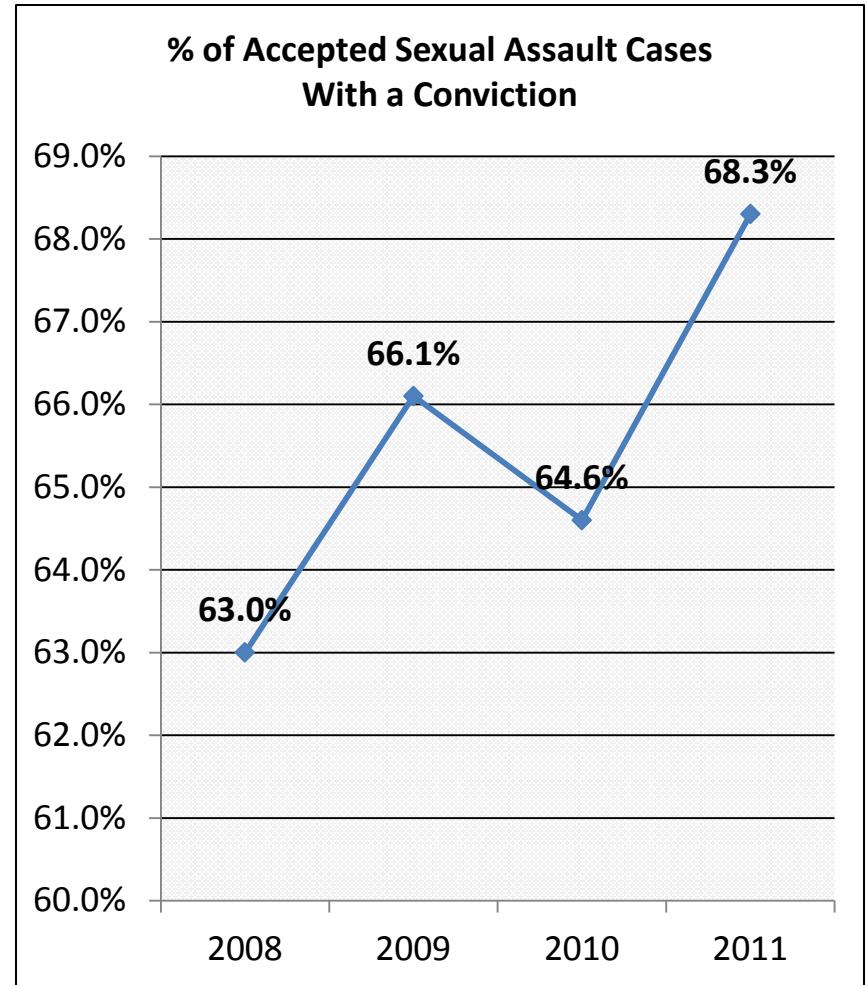
- # of sexual assault cases accepted for prosecution (#30) 
141 = 27%
- # of sexual abuse of minor cases accepted for prosecution (#32) 
144 = 32.1%
- # of domestic violence cases accepted for prosecution (#34) 
3,068 = 17.2%



Department of Law

Offender Accountability

- Percent of accepted sexual assault cases with a conviction (#31) 
+8.4% = 26 more conv.
- Percent of accepted sexual abuse of minor cases with a conviction (#33) 
-10% = 17 more conv.
- Percent of accepted domestic violence cases with a conviction (#35) 
+4.6% = 400+ more conv.



New Kotzebue Attorney

DV Assault 4 Conviction Rate



2011 – 2013 increase of 28%
of cases accepted (157 – 201)
= increased reporting

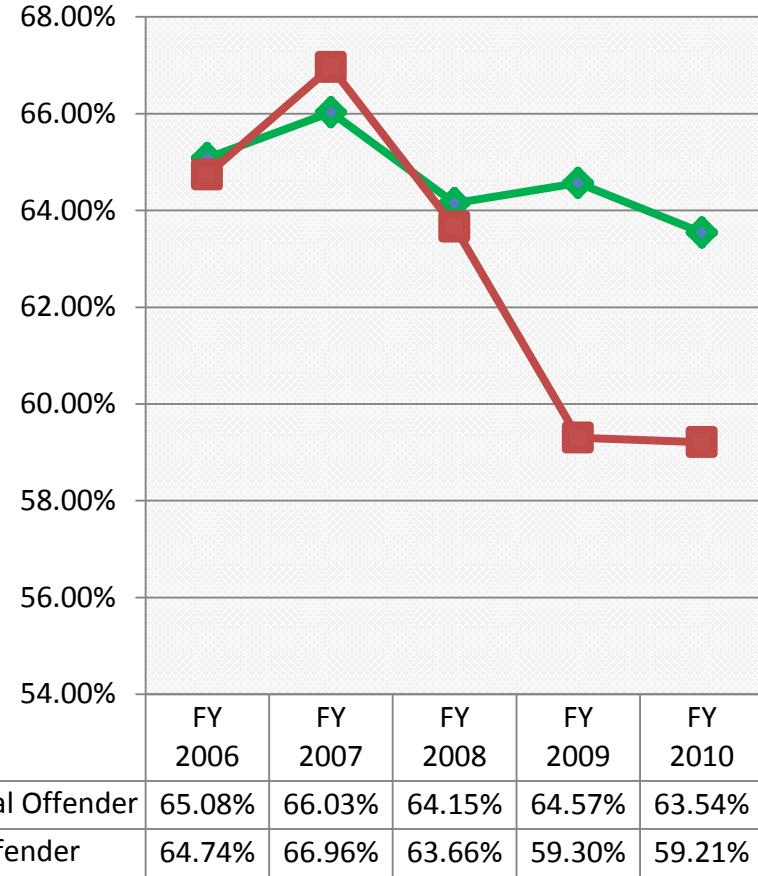
2011 – 2013 acceptance rate
remained 91% – 93%

2011 – 2013 conviction rate
increased 17%
= increased accountability as a
result of new attorney

Department of Corrections

- Since FY2006, recidivism rates for sex offenders have continued to decrease and remain below the general offender recidivism rate.
- Of those sex offenders released from custody in FY2010, less than 10 offenders returned to custody charged with a new sex offense.
- In FY2013, the institutional sex offender management program was expanded to serve an additional 30 offenders at Palmer Correctional Center.

% of Adult Sex Offenders Who Recidivate



Probation Outcomes

Reduce the number of felony DVSA technical violations of supervised probationers.

Fiscal Year	Felony DVSA Offenders Supervised	Felony DVSA Offenders Targeted for Supervised Release	Total Targeted Felony DVSA Offenders with Technical Violations
2013	719	50	22

Increase the number of DV misdemeanor probationers participating in the Probation, Accountability, and Certain Enforcement (PACE) program.

Fiscal Year	Misdemeanor PACE Participants	Total Misdemeanor PACE Participants Returned to Custody	Total PACE Participants Returned to Custody with New DV Charge
2012	8	8	0
2013	17	15	0



Department of Health & Social Services

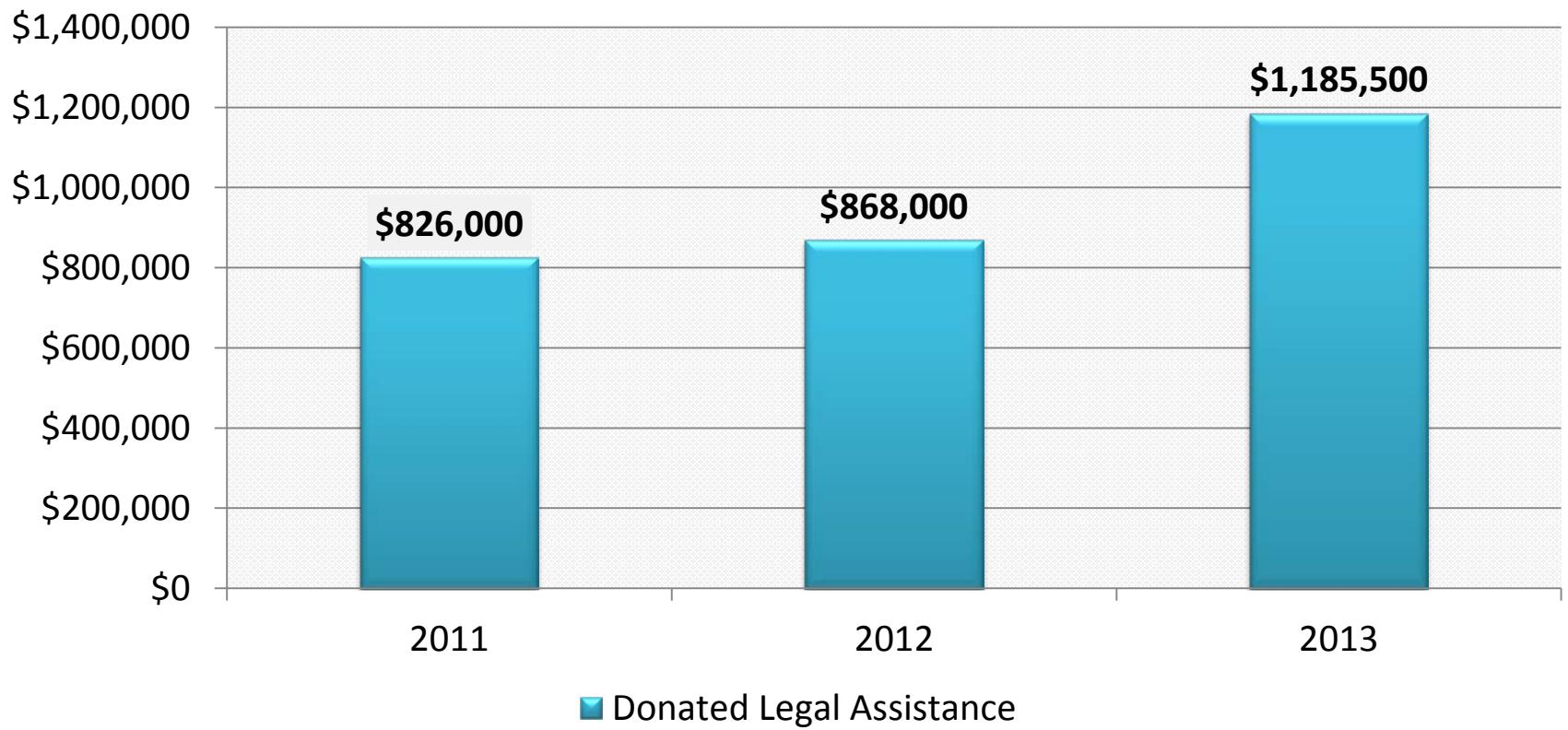
- Understanding trauma
 - Too many children in Alaska are exposed to the trauma of domestic violence
 - 75% of Alaskans seeking behavioral health help report adverse childhood experiences
 - 50% report 3 or more adverse childhood experiences
 - Through DVSA Initiative funding, more than 1,200 behavioral health staff have received Trauma Informed Care Training in the past 18 months

Trauma Informed Care

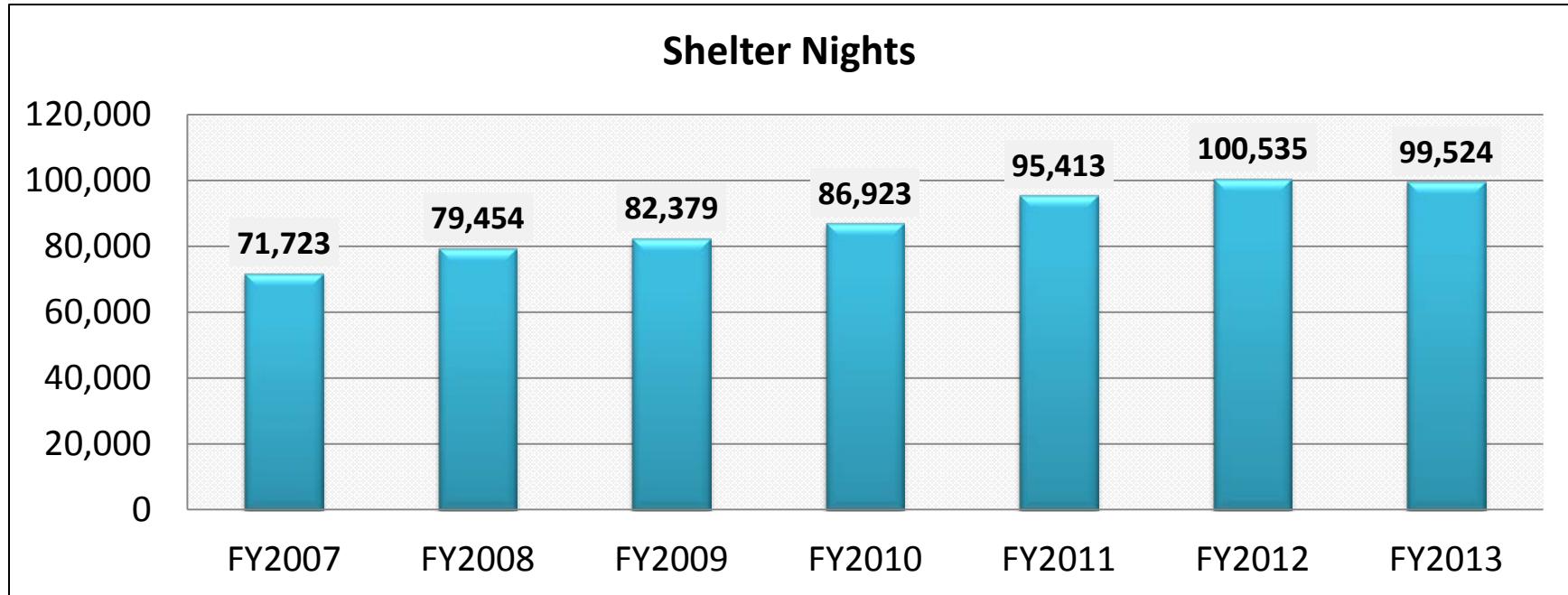
- What *happened* to this person vs. what is *wrong* with this person?
- Understanding how traumatic experiences impact brain development
- Connects trauma history, behaviors, and response to help
- Importance of teaching coping skills and self regulation, not just insight into problems

Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Pro Bono Program



Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault



- In FY2013, CDVSA provided funds to 20 victim services programs.
- Of these programs, 16 directly provide shelter to victims and their children.
- Cost of shelter nights can include beds with linens, toiletries, clothing, food, as well as advocacy, legal, medical, transportation, social services, and housing systems.

Victim Service Programs Make a Difference

Program participants are asked to rate their interactions with programs:

Safety

- (1) I know more or different strategies for safety than before working with this program
- (2) I know more about resources/help that are available and how to access those resources
- (3) I am more confident knowing which services to access for my children

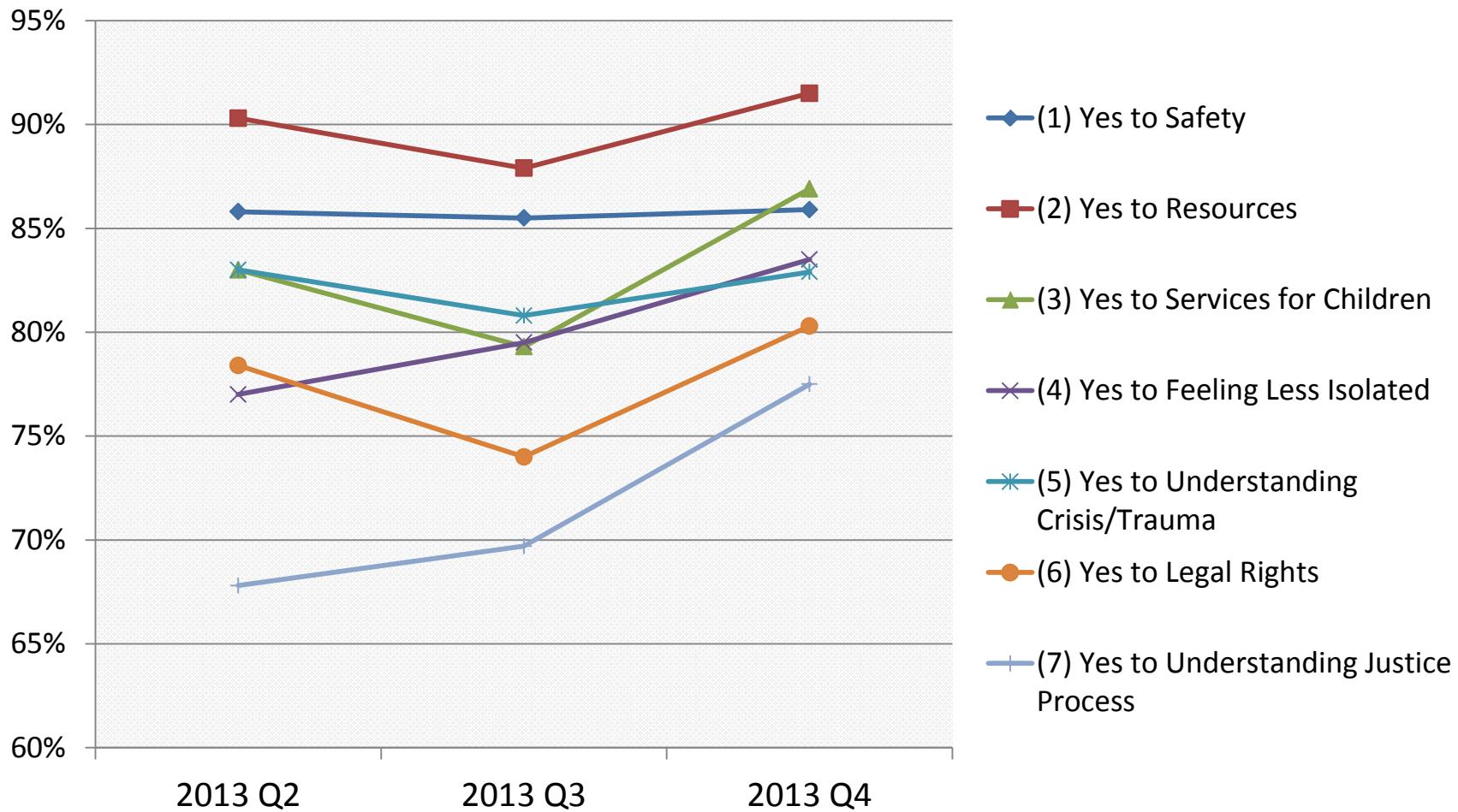
Healing

- (4) I feel less alone since working with this program
- (5) I have a better understanding of my crisis and trauma

Justice

- (6) I know more about my legal rights
- (7) I have a better understanding of how the justice process works

Victim Service Programs Make a Difference



VPSO Housing



VPSO Housing in Igiugig

- Since FY2011, twelve VPSO units have been funded through AHFC's Teacher, Health Professional, and Public Safety Housing (THHP) grant program
- Six are complete and six are under construction

AHFC Empowering Choice Housing Program

- Three-year partner program assisting victims of domestic violence and sexual assault
- Program launched Nov 2012 with \$1.34 million in state funds and a \$1 million match from AHFC's Moving to Work federal allocation
- Average assistance paid in the first year was \$920/month
- Today the average is \$707/month

Empowering Choice Housing Program

- As of Dec 31, 2013
 - 256 families were referred to AHFC
 - 135 families are receiving rental assistance
- Who we are helping
 - 89 percent of families earn less than 30 percent of area median income
 - Average annual income is \$13,506
 - Average family contribution to rent is \$323/month
 - 92 percent of families are females with children

Closing Comments

“I can’t imagine where I’d be if I never said anything! I can honestly say that I am not ashamed of this, and it’s made me a stronger person. I think the more we try to hide these things, the more power we give to it, and the weaker we get. It’s time to let go of the shame, stand strong, and stop the cycle.”

– Child sexual abuse survivor

PREVENTION VIDEO (3:20)

