# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

# ART & CREATIVITY FOR HEALING. INC. CREATIVE TOOLS FOR CHILDREN & THEIR FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

JULY 2018 - JUNE 2020

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# **INTRODUCTION**

DoctorS Nonprofit Consulting (DNC) was hired by Art & Creativity for Healing Inc. (ACFH) in May of 2020 to provide an outcome evaluation for the program's 2018-2020 Creative Tools for Children & Their Families Experiencing Homelessness data for participants in ACFH workshops. ACFH has facilitated these "Art4Healing®" workshop programs at more than 40 hospitals, treatment centers, military bases, schools and non-profit agencies throughout Southern California. Since 2000, more than 80,000 children and adults have participated in these classes and workshops.

### **METHOD**

For this project, ACFH staff entered the data from their surveys into an online computer program. DNC then downloaded data spreadsheets in both excel and SPSS formats. DNC reviewed the data and addressed any data entry concerns with ACFH staff. SPSS statistical software was used for the evaluation process which was conducted by consultants in June of 2018. For this project, the program's data collection procedures were reviewed. Initially, a series of frequency tables were run to establish basic program statistics. Following this, a series of correlations and one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) tests were computed on the data. A full statistical report of the test outcomes is included in appendix A. Correlations are useful in determining how closely one variable relates to another variable. ANOVAs are useful for comparing differences between groups.

### **DATA SET**

This data set consists of responses by 1041 Creative Tools for Children & Their Families Experiencing Homelessness referred individuals who received ACFH services between the period of July 2018 and June 2020. Of those, participants either completed the adult survey (n=422) or the child survey (n=619). Generally, when working with statistical evaluation, we like to see a large sample. Data sets of this size (n=1041) are generally regarded to be an accurate indicator of the measured items.

### **STATISTICS**

The majority of the participants in the Creative Tools for Children & Their Families Experiencing Homelessness participants were children (59.5%). The remaining 40.5% were completed by adults. Approximately 18 percent of the participants indicated their age (n=189). Of those that did include the ages ranged from 5-64, with the average age for adults was 34.22 years of age and 8.75 for children.

Hispanic/Latino(a) made up the majority of clients (60.96% for children; 44.56% for adults) followed by Caucasians (7.97% children; 31.61% adults). Thirty nine percent of the participants did not list their ethnicity.

For the adults, 28.6% of the workshop participants resided in Orange followed by Santa Ana at 16.67% and Stanton (15.37%). In contrast, the children who participated in this workshop reported Tustin as their place of residence.

When participants were asked to select their top 2 reasons for taking a workshop, the majority of the children selected "I like art" (90.44%). The adult's top answers included "own interest" (47.38%), "anxiety/stress" (49.48%), and "sadness" (40.05%).

When combining the locations for all the Creative Tools for Children & Their Families Experiencing Homelessness program participants, the majority were from the LA CADA-Allen House (25.07%) followed by Illumination Foundation Homeless Program (24.78%)/Recuperative Care Mental Health Center for the Homeless and Mentally Disabled (15.08%), OCDE ACCESS Skyview School for the Homeless (17.29%), OC Rescue Mission (15.1%), Project ACCESS Westminster (9.70%) and American Family Housing for the Homeless (5.57%). Regina House, Tustin Temporary Emergency Shelter, and the Recovery Care Center make up less than 3 percent of participants (2.49%).

# **KEY FINDINGS**

Overall, it is significant to say that 9 out of 10 (97.5%) of the Creative Tools for Children & Their Families Experiencing Homelessness participants reported that they were satisfied with their workshop.

From the adult questionnaire, 86% of participants strongly agreed that the workshop helped them express their emotions. Eighty-seven percent of participants strongly agreed that they felt better after the workshop. Ninety-two percent of adults strongly agreed that the instructor was approachable.

From the child questionnaire, 87% of participants agreed that the workshop helped them express their emotions. Eighty-six percent of child participants agreed that they felt better after the workshop. Ninety-two percent of children agreed that the instructor cared about them.

Eighty-five-point five percent of OCDE ACCESS Skyview School for the Homeless youth participants thought their workshop was great. Ninety-four percent of participants agreed that the workshop helped them express their emotions. Ninety-three percent of participants agreed that they felt better after the workshop. Ninety-five percent of children agreed that the instructor cared about them.

For future workshops, 92.1% of children and adult participants agreed that they would refer a friend or family member to this workshop.

Nine out of the 10 (96.5%) of all participants agreed that they themselves would take another workshop from the program.

The strongest correlations were the overall satisfaction and they would take another class, instructor appeared approachable & cared about me and workshop was great. Additionally, there was a strong correlation between the reported participants that felt better and the ability to express their emotions.

There were significant differences between the workshop locations and the program outcomes. Specifically, Regina House participant's responses were lower than average in 7 out of the 8 outcomes in this study.

There was one significant difference among the youth and adult participants. Adult participants reported higher averages on 1) I would refer a friend/family member to attend this workshop.