### **From Inkling to Evidence**: *Filling the Hmong Data Gap through a Behavioral Health Needs Assessment*

**CUPH Virtual Seminar Series** 

May 20, 2022





Data-driven. Evidence-based. Community-engaged.



#### Presenters



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HMONG AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION INC.



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#### Overview

- Hmong American Friendship Association (HAFA)
- Brief history of the Hmong people
- Why a behavioral health needs assessment?
- Survey development
- Participant recruitment
- Select results
- Use of findings & next steps



This project was funded by the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services.





#### **Hmong American Friendship Association**

- Mutual assistance agency founded by and for Southeast Asian refugees in 1983.
- Mission: to improve the selfsufficiency of the Southeast Asian community and to preserve and share its culture throughout the Greater Milwaukee Area.









#### **Hmong American Friendship Association**

- Services provided include:
  - Translation/Interpretation Services
  - Employment Services
  - Sexual Assault Victim Services
  - Southeast Asian Food Pantry
  - Housing Counseling
  - Programs for Youth & Elders





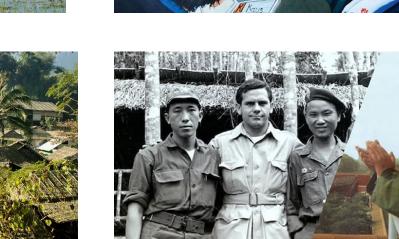




#### A Brief History of the Hmong People













#### Why a behavioral health needs assessment?



#### A nurse's story



#### Fill a data gap



Develop and fund programs/services

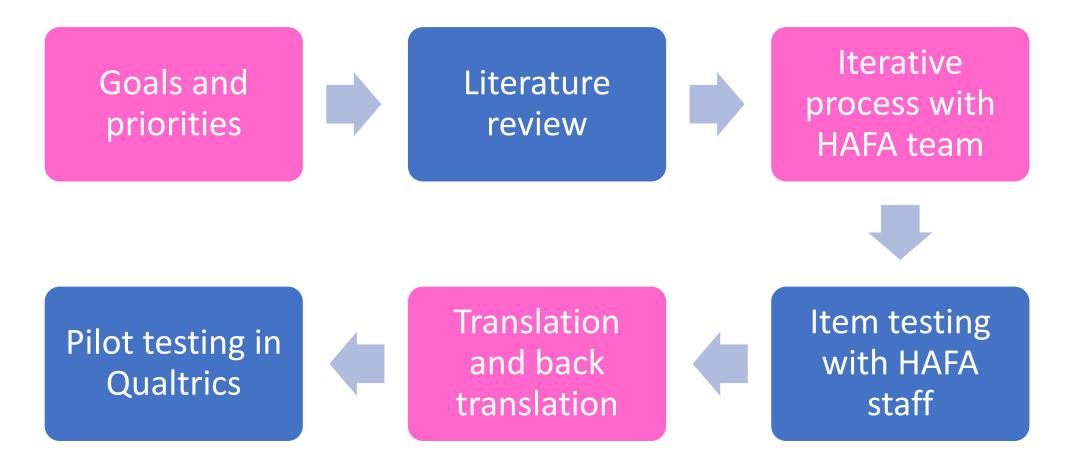


Support provider education





#### Developing the Needs Assessment Survey







#### **Developing the Needs Assessment Survey**

- 61-items covering:
  - demographics
  - experiences of trauma
  - PTSD, depression, and anxiety signs/symptoms
  - substance use
  - coping strategies and emotional support
  - experience reaching out for, and/or receiving, behavioral health treatment
- Available in English and Hmong

#### Goal of 1,000 completed surveys





#### Participant Outreach and Recruitment

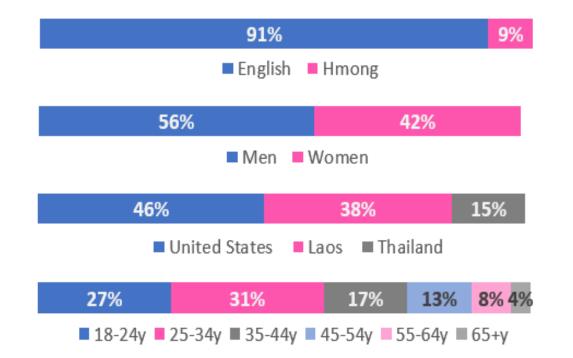
- Nyob Zoo Milwaukee TV social media
- One-on-one outreach
- Promoted by other Hmong-serving organizations and clan leadership
- Raffle to win \$500 gift card

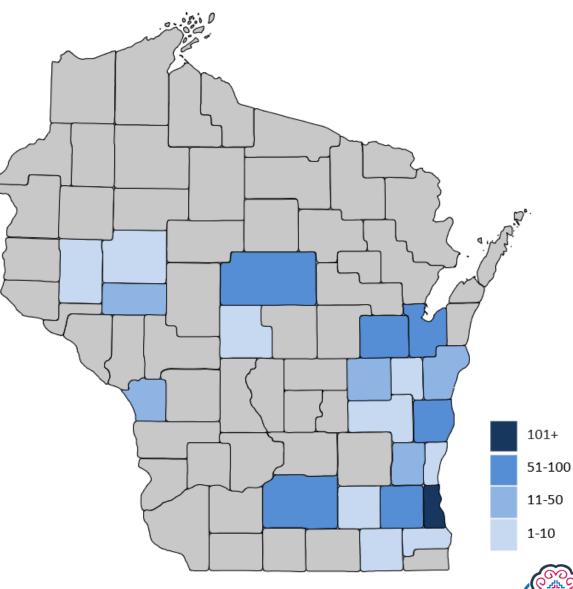


1,073 complete survey responses in 2 months!





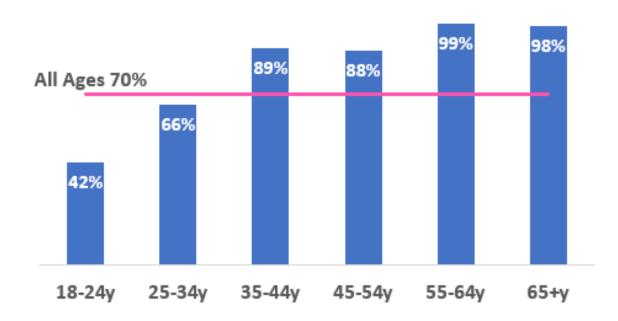






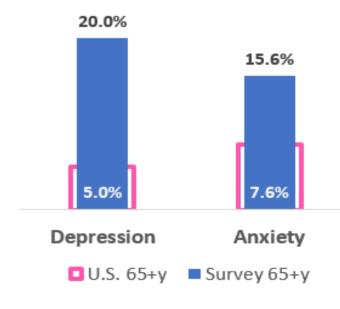
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Any Traumatic Experience



# 7.0% 6.3% 7.3% 3.1% 3.1% 3.5% Depression Anxiety PTSD U.S. Population Survey Participants

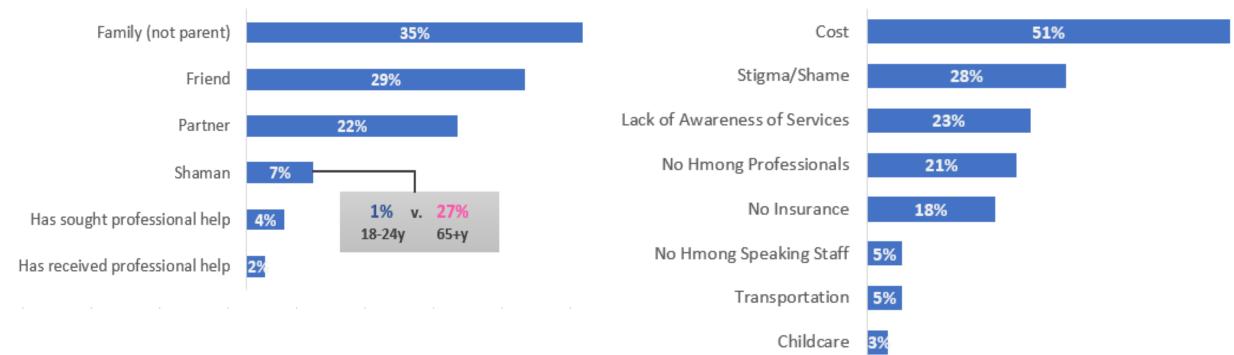
20.7%







#### Sources of Emotional Support







**Barriers to Treatment** 

Among respondents who reported seeing a professional:

45.5% "They understood my culture and way of life."
60.9% "They understood my problems or concerns."
69.6% "They respected my culture and way of life."
73.9% "It was easy for me to contact them when I needed to."
73.9% "I would recommend these services to my family or friends."





## Use of Findings & Next Steps

- Dissemination
  - 2021 Needs Assessment Highlights data brief
- Provider Education
  - "A Protocol for Working with Hmong Clients: Guidance for Behavioral Health & Substance Abuse Professionals"
- Funded Grant Proposals
  - 3-year Community Health Worker Elder Outreach and Navigation - WI-DOA Equitable Recovery Grant Program
- Program Development
  - Analyses focused on elders









## Thank you!

## Questions?

