SRAENE
Sexual Risk Avoidance Education
National Evaluation

Using your logic model to create strong research questions

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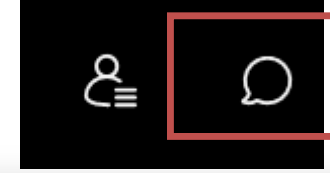Public Strategies

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As you enter the room …

Share your name, organization, what you are most looking forward to this summer

Asking questions

- **Ask questions any time using the chat by toggling the chat button at the bottom of your WebEx window or share verbally using the hand raise feature**
    - If using the chat, please select "Everyone" in the dropdown menu
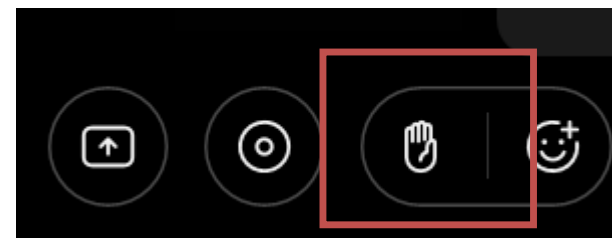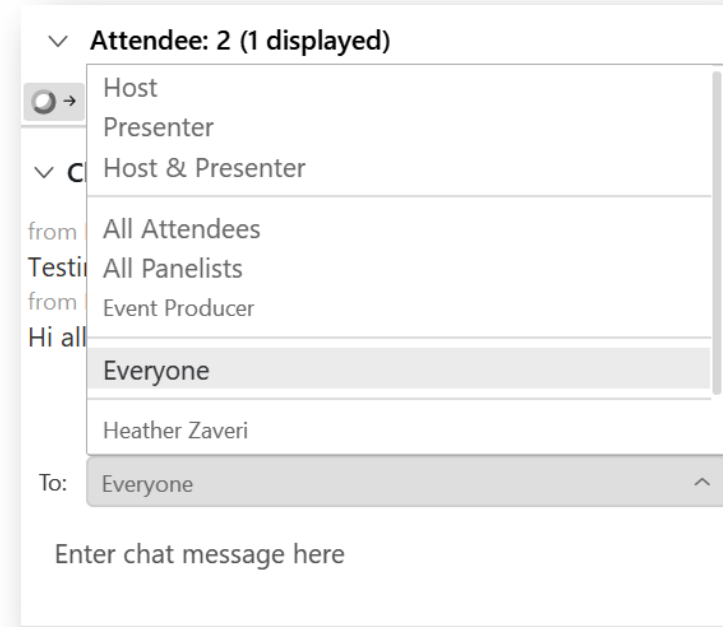
Participating in polls and activities

- **We will use Slido during today's session for polls and activities**

- **Slido should automatically appear in your righthand panel on WebEx when the poll is launched**

- **If it does not, toggle it by clicking the "apps" button at the bottom of the screen and select Slido**
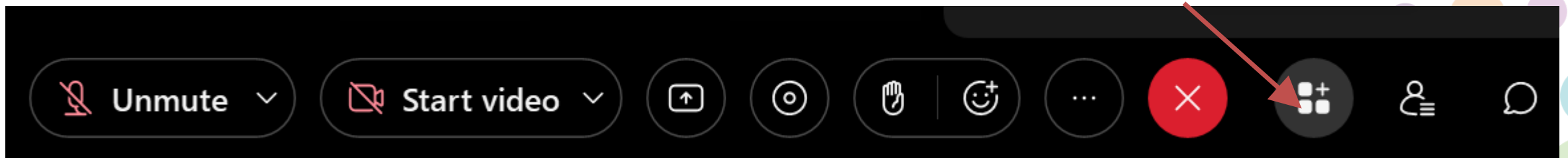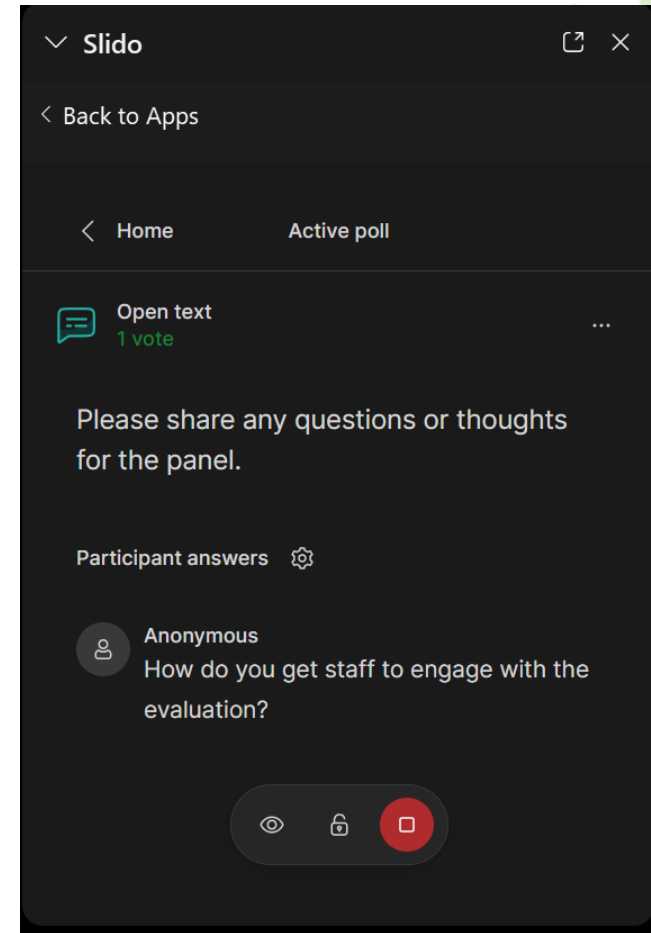
Give us feedback!

- **We will stop 5 minutes before the end of the session to give all attendees time to complete a feedback survey for today's session**
  - These surveys help us to learn and improve on how we use this time!

- **Again, Slido should automatically appear in your righthand panel on WebEx when the poll is launched**

- **Your feedback to us is anonymous, so please be honest**
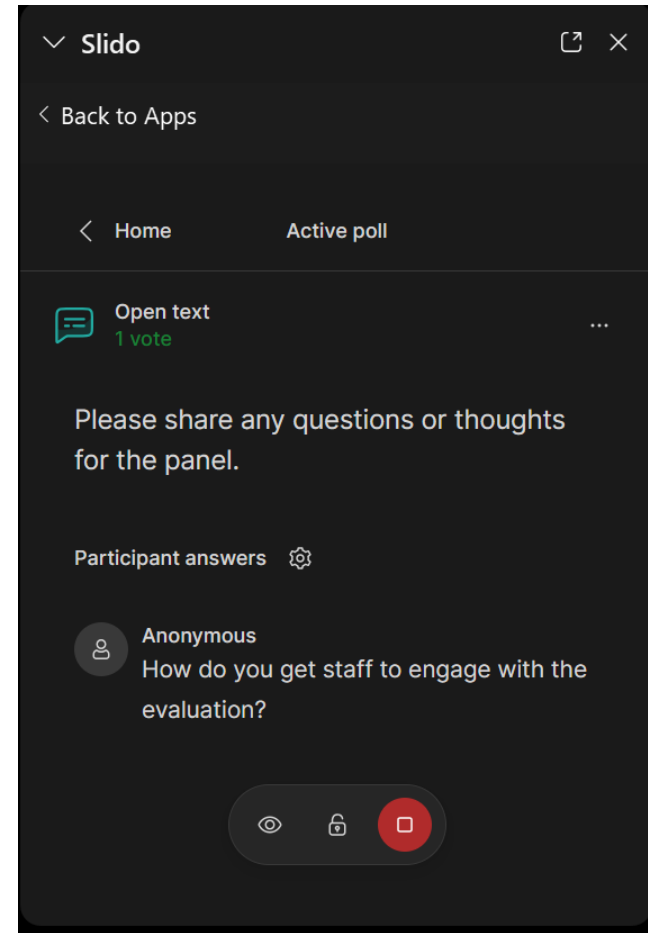
Disclaimer

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Introduction to SRAENE coffee breaks

- **Today is the first of multiple coffee break sessions focused on strengthening descriptive studies**

- **Sessions will be interactive, including a mix of content and activities**

- **Sessions are intended to be short and provide an overview of bite-sized topics**

- **Sessions will wrap up with a feedback survey so we can improve future coffee breaks**
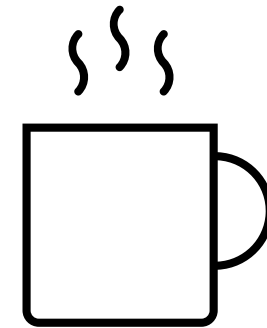
Descriptive studies may include…

- **Describing program implementation and/or operations**

- **Measuring pre-post changes in youth outcomes**

- **Measuring longer-term changes in youth outcomes**

- **Examining correlations between youth or program characteristics and outcomes**
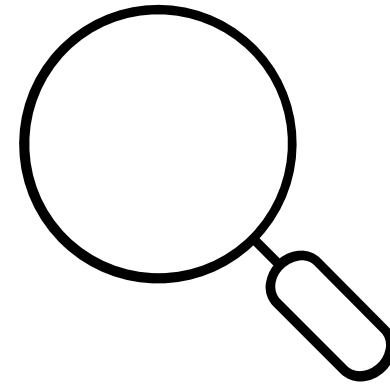
Today's learning objectives

By the end of the presentation, participants will be familiar with:

- **Using your logic model to develop questions about program implementation, outputs and outcomes**

All activities associated with today's presentation are optional.

Future SRAENE coffee break topics

- **Aligning data collection plans with research questions for descriptive studies**

- **Identifying sources for youth survey items**

- **Linking youth data over time**

- **Tips for data collection**

- **Data analysis**

Using your logic model to develop questions for descriptive studies

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What is a logic model?

- **A logic model is a graphical representation of what a program will do and what is expected to happen as a result**

- **It can be used for multiple purposes including:**
  - As a programming tool
  - A continuous quality improvement (CQI) tool
  - An evaluation tool
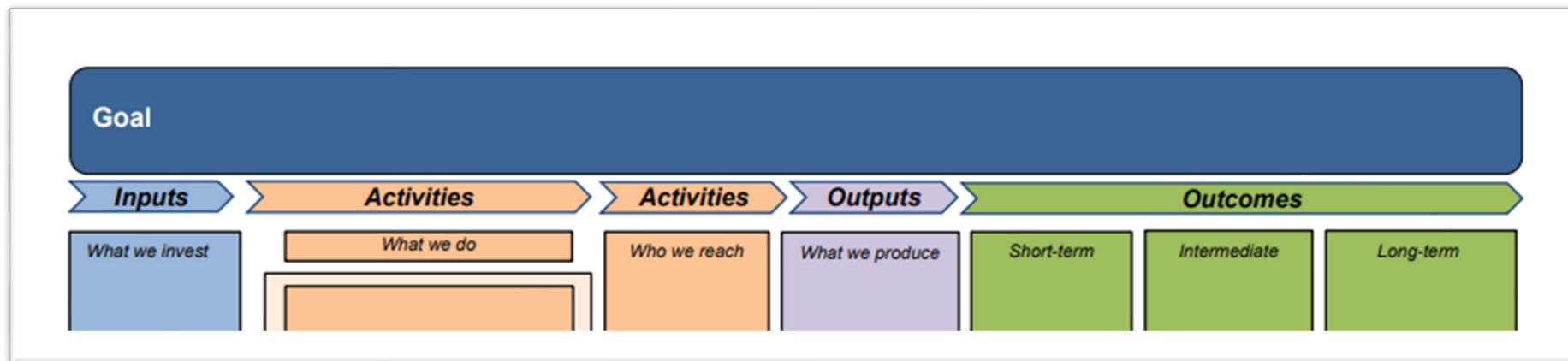
What are research questions?

- **Research questions specify what you want to learn about your program**

- **They usually start with words like "what, when, where, who, why, or how"**

- **Research questions should:**
  - Be clear, specific, and well-defined
  - Be measurable, when possible
  - Be aligned with your logic model
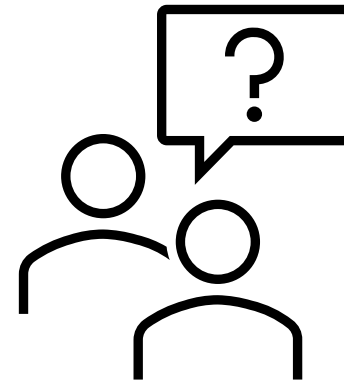
What are examples of research questions for descriptive studies?

- **Specify what you want to learn about what happened in your program, such as:**
  - How the program was implemented
  - What outcomes youth receiving the program achieved

- **For example:**
  - To what extent was the program implemented as intended?
  - How many members of the target population were served by the program?
  - Did knowledge of risks of early sexual relationships increase after participating in the program?
  - How did [outcome] differ for different subgroups?

Why is it important to align your logic model and research questions?

- **Shows the logical and consistent connection between what is intended to be happening in your program and what you want to learn about your program**

- **Guides the development of study plans that are feasible, and will provide relevant and useful information**

Strategies for developing research questions for descriptive studies

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Developing research questions for descriptive studies focusing on **implementation**

- **Review your logic model to help identify the program inputs or activities operations you want to know more about**
  - Specify what you want to know about the inputs or activities
  - Identify what inputs or activities are critical to your program's success and what questions are most relevant to your program at this point

Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	
• Partners • SRAE curriculum • Staff training	• Classroom workshops • Goal coaching	• 14 workshops offered to at least 1,200 high school-age youth	**Short-Term** • 75% of youth complete the program • 80% of completers	**Long-Term** • Youth form healthy relationships
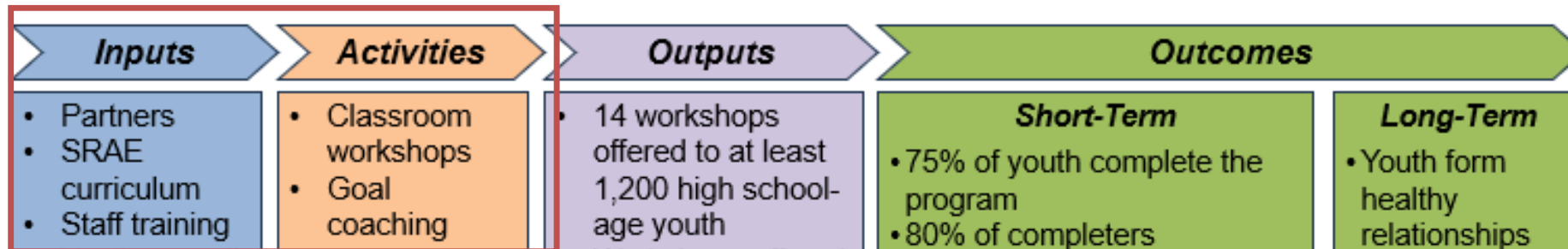
Developing research questions for descriptive studies focusing on **implementation**

- **Focus on the who, what, when, why, or how many of program inputs and activities**

  - To **what** extent are program facilitators implementing the curriculum with fidelity?

  - **What** variations in implementation, if any, occur by school? **Why** are variations occurring?

Developing research questions for descriptive studies focusing on **outputs and outcomes**

- **Review your logic model to identify the program outputs and outcomes you want to know more about**
  - Consider where you expect to see change within the timeframe of your program and study when developing research questions
  - Identify what questions are most relevant to your program at this point
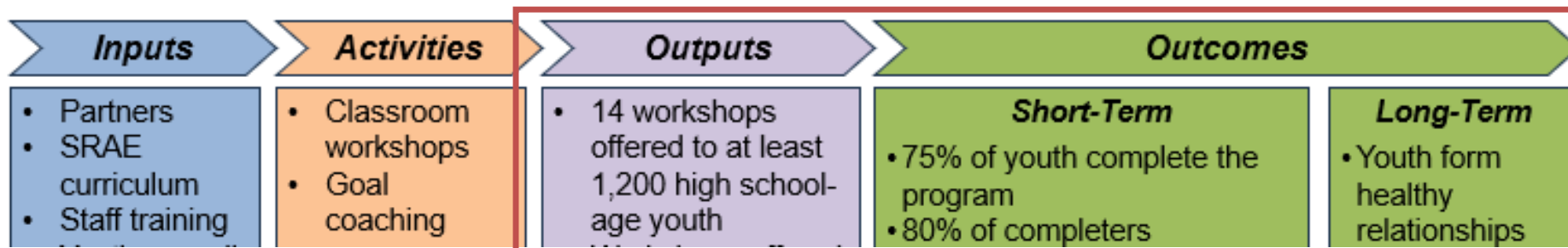
Developing research questions for descriptive studies focusing on **outputs and outcomes**

- **Focus on whether anticipated outputs and outcomes were achieved, changes in program outputs and outcomes, or whether they were the same or different for subgroups**
  - Was [anticipated output] achieved?
  - Did program participants feel more confident in their [skill outcome] after program completion?
  - Did program participants increase their understanding of [knowledge outcome] after program completion?
  - Were changes in [knowledge outcome] different by [program participant characteristic]?

Slido poll

Have you used your logic model to identify research questions for a descriptive study?

a. Yes, for questions on program implementation

b. Yes, for questions on outputs or youth outcomes

c. Yes, for questions on both program implementation and outputs and outcomes

d. No, not yet for either implementation or outputs and outcomes

To participate in the poll:
- Respond using the widget that opens on your right-hand panel
- Or click the link in the chat

Using your phone?
- Go to Slido.com and type code 3261 428
- Or scan the QR code below

Activity

Sample simplified program logic model

Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	
• Partners • SRAE curriculum • Staff training • Youth council	• Classroom workshops • Goal coaching	• 14 workshops offered to at least 1,200 high school-age youth • Workshops offered in 10 school and community settings • Engage 600 youth in goal coaching	**Short-Term** • 75% of youth complete the program • 80% of completers demonstrate intentions to delay sexual activity • 80% demonstrate increased knowledge about the risks of early sexual relationships • 80% demonstrate improved healthy relationship skills • Youth demonstrate improved goal setting	**Long-Term** • Youth form healthy relationships • Youth refrain from non-marital sexual activity • Youth achieve goals

Understanding implementation

Inputs	Activities	Output		Long-Term
• Partners • SRAE curriculum • Staff training • Youth council	• Classroom workshops • Goal coaching	• 14 workshop[s] offered to at [least] 1,200 high s[chool] age youth • Workshops offered in 10 school and community settings • Engage 600 youth in goal coaching	• 80% of completers demonstrate intentions to delay sexual activity • 80% demonstrate increased knowledge about the risks of early sexual relationships • 80% demonstrate improved healthy relationship skills • Youth demonstrate improved goal setting	• Youth form healthy relationships • Youth refrain from non-marital sexual activity • Youth achieve goals

Implementation/Process studies ask questions about inputs and activities

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What are potential research questions about implementation?

Inputs	Activities
• Partners • SRAE curriculum • Staff training • Youth council	• Classroom workshops • Goal coaching

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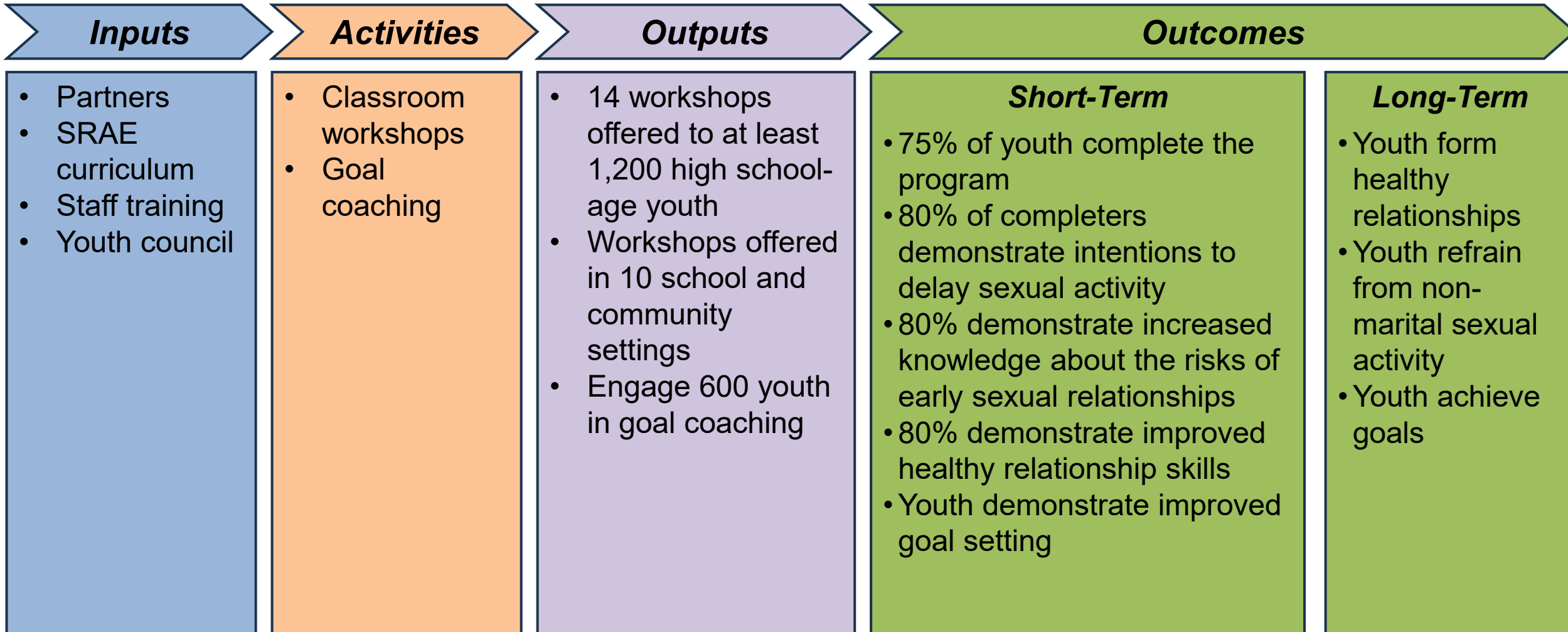- Go to Slido.com and type code 3261 428
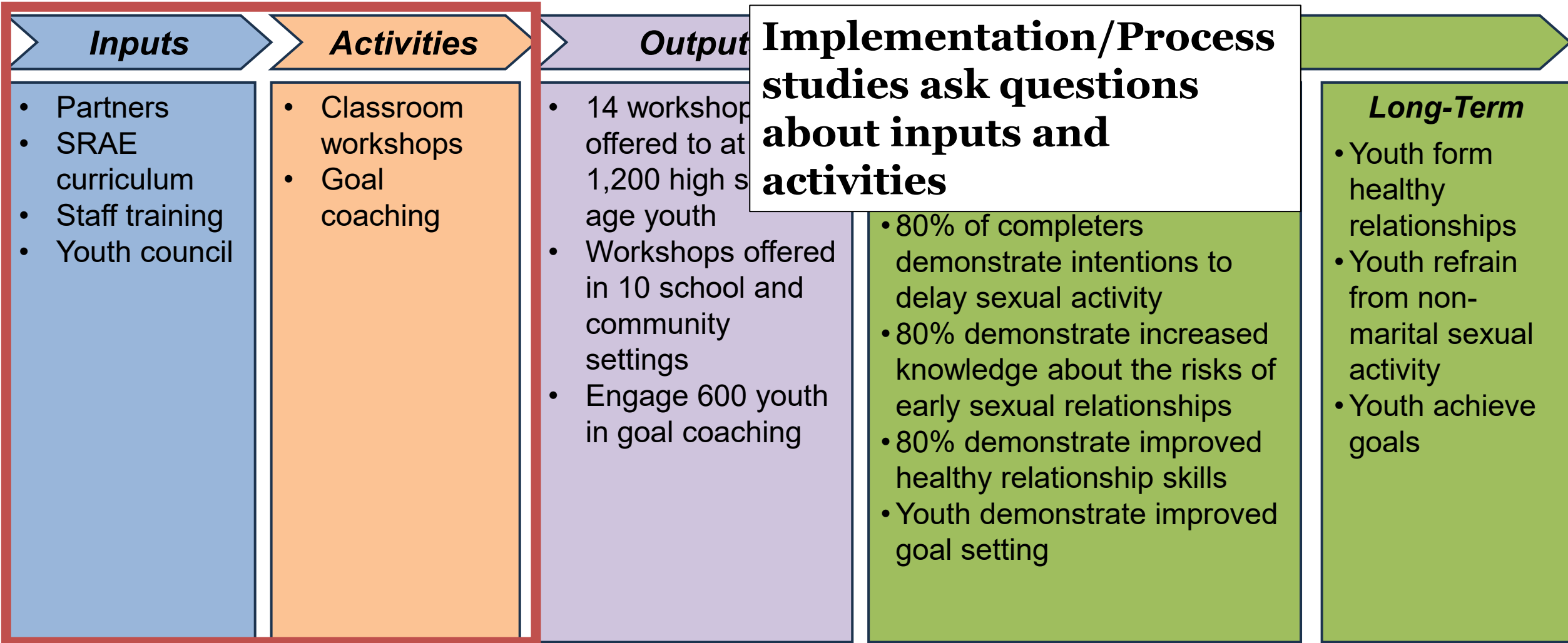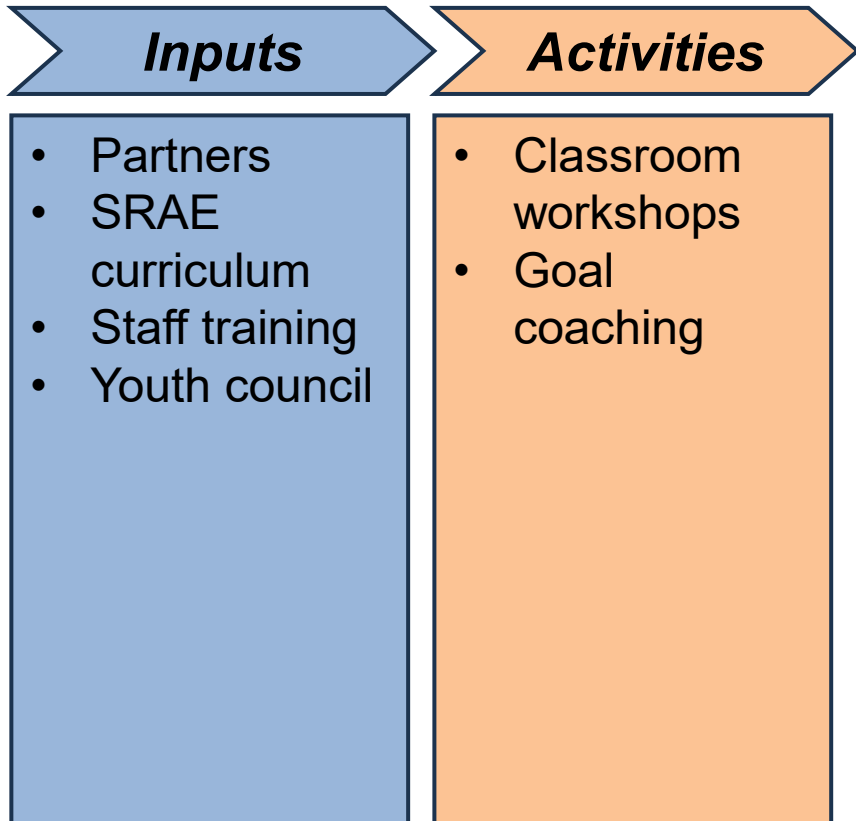- Or scan the QR code below

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Poll responses: Implementation

How consistent were the class settings?

What opportunities were available for the youth council to participate?

How many partners, schools, and organizations have been contacted to participate in facilitating curriculum?

How many staff were trained. How long was the training.

How many workshops were conducted by each partner

Which partners do we wish to include in our project that would help us support our project?

What partners will be most effective in implementing classroom workshops?

How consistently are the SRAE program components being delivered across different sites?

How many partners that we originally partnered with continued throughout the program?

Poll responses: Implementation (cont.)

How was the SRAE curriculum implemented in the workshop?

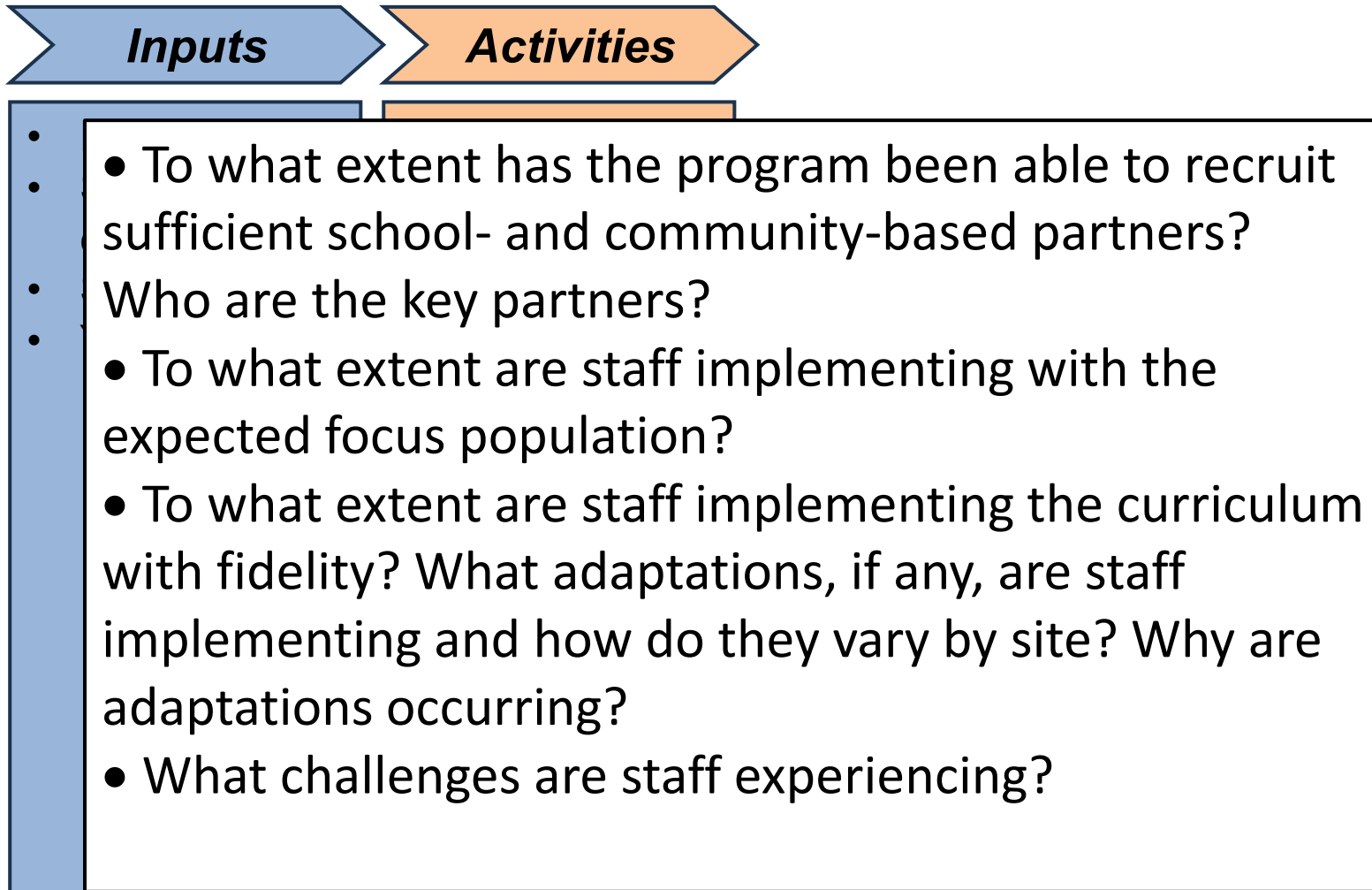What opportunities were available for the youth council to participate?

How successful was the training for the classroom workshops?

Was the SRAE curriculum effective to reduce X/increase X among participants from intake to program completion?

How many staff were trained?

Potential research questions

Inputs	Activities

- To what extent has the program been able to recruit sufficient school- and community-based partners? Who are the key partners?
- To what extent are staff implementing with the expected focus population?
- To what extent are staff implementing the curriculum with fidelity? What adaptations, if any, are staff implementing and how do they vary by site? Why are adaptations occurring?
- What challenges are staff experiencing?

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Understanding outputs and outcomes

Output and outcome studies ask questions about outputs and short- and long-term outcomes

Outputs

- 14 workshops offered to at least 1,200 high school-age youth
- Workshops offered in 10 school and community settings
- Engage 600 youth in goal coaching

Outcomes

Short-Term

- 75% of youth complete the program
- 80% of completers demonstrate intentions to delay sexual activity
- 80% demonstrate increased knowledge about the risks of early sexual relationships
- 80% demonstrate improved healthy relationship skills
- Youth demonstrate improved goal setting

Long-Term

- Youth form healthy relationships
- Youth refrain from non-marital sexual activity
- Youth achieve goals

What are potential research questions about outputs or outcomes?

Outputs

- 14 workshops offered to at least 1,200 high school-age youth
- Workshops offered in 10 school and community settings
- Engage 600 youth in goal coaching

Outcomes

Short-Term
- 75% of youth complete the program
- 80% of completers demonstrate intentions to delay sexual activity
- 80% demonstrate increased knowledge about the risks of early sexual relationships
- 80% demonstrate improved healthy relationship skills
- Youth demonstrate improved goal setting

Long-Term
- Youth form healthy relationships
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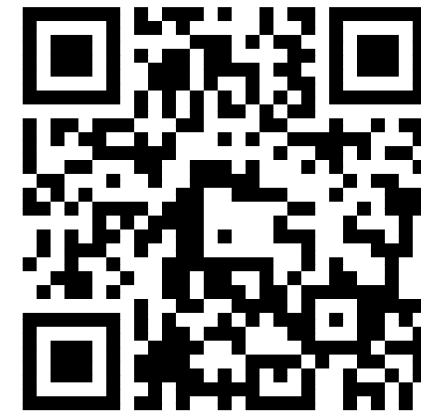- Youth achieve goals

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What are potential research questions about outputs or outcomes?

%change in the responses from pre to post survey for youth having understanding healthy relationships

For those that completed the program, what % of youth indicate intentions to delay sexual activity?

What percentage of youth refrained from non-marital sexual activity?

How many youth did we reach? How many schools and community-based partners successfully implemented the curriculum? What are the differences between pre-program and post-program responses?

Is there an association between abstaining from sex and improved healthy relationships?

Do the positive behavioral changes observed during the program persist over time?

What are potential research questions about outputs or outcomes?

What age groups benefited the most from the workshops as indicated by their increased knowledge or behavioral changes?

Are there differences in youth planning to abstain from sex by race or by other background variables?

Were reductions or increases reached due to implementation?

How long are the workshops?

How many youth report an increase in understanding healthy relationships?

Are participants more likely to abstain from early sexual behavior as a result of this program?

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Potential research questions

Outputs	Outcomes	
	Short-Term	**Long-Term**
• 14 workshops		

- How many youth are engaging with goal coaching?
- Did program participants show an increase in knowledge of the risks of early sexual relationships after program completion?
- Did youth demonstrate reduced intentions to engage in risky sexual behaviors by the end of the program?
- How do outcomes differ for those who received the program in school-based vs. community settings?
- Did youth report refraining from non-marital sexual activity 6 months after program completion?

Q&A

Resources

Resources

Topic	Link
Logic models	https://sraene.com/index.php/resource/Using%20Your%20Logic%20Models%20as%20a%20Tool
Logic model development guide	https://wkkf.issuelab.org/resources/10124/10124.pdf
Developing research questions for different types of studies	https://americorps.gov/sites/default/files/document/2015_04_16_AskingtheRightResearchQuestionsSlides_ORE.pdf
Developing implementation evaluation questions	https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/evaluation/pdf/brief4.pdf
Planning for an implementation evaluation toolkit	https://sraene.com/resource/Toolkit%201%3A%20Planning%20for%20an%20implementation%20evaluation
Using logic models for program refinement and evaluation	https://rhntc.org/resources/using-your-logic-models-tool-guide-tpp-program-refinement-and-evaluation-webinar

Feedback survey

We want your feedback!

- **Using Slido, let us know what you thought of the session and how we can improve**

- **The survey should less than 5 minutes to complete**

- **Your responses are anonymous**

To participate in the poll:
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- Or click the link in the chat

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Contact information

- **Send questions, comments, concerns to the SRAE mailbox:**

  SRAETA@mathematica-mpr.com