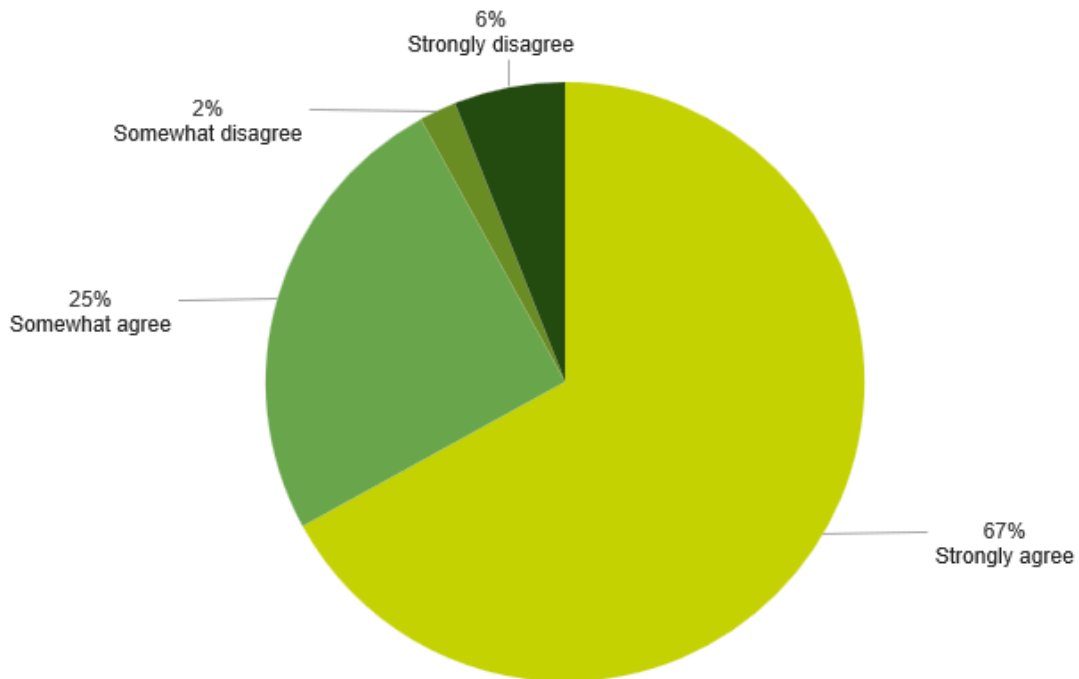# Mandated Reporter Training for Youth Programs: End-of-Course Survey Results as of September 28, 2023

PURPOSE AND OVERALL RATING

The Minnesota Child Welfare Training Academy (MNCWTA) offers a free, self-paced "Mandated Reporter Training for Youth Programs" course for professionals who work in youth programs. This training is designed for employees or supervisors in private or public youth recreation programs who are obligated by law to report suspected or known child maltreatment. The training is available on the MNCWTA website. Upon the conclusion of the training, participants are prompted to provide feedback through a survey. By late September 2023, 1,011 of the learners had shared their insights to some or all of the items on the survey. This report provides survey feedback data collected between February 5, 2023 and September 28, 2023.

Of the respondents who provided feedback on the overall usefulness of this training experience, a significant 92% found the training useful — 67% (or 610 out of 911 respondents) *strongly agreed* with the statement about the usefulness of the training and another 25% (or 229 respondents) *somewhat agreed*. A minority, comprising 2% (or 17 respondents), *somewhat disagreed*, while 6% (or 55 respondents) *strongly disagreed,* as shown in Figure 1*.*

Figure 1. OVERALL RATING: THIS TRAINING EXPERIENCE WAS USEFUL FOR ME

PRE/POST RATINGS OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL

In the survey, respondents were asked to select their level of agreement (*strongly disagree, somewhat disagree, somewhat agree,* or *strongly agree*) to a series of statements. For each statement, respondents were asked to first think about how they were before the training and rate themselves in the Pre (Before the Training) section. Then, they were asked to think about how the training may have changed their knowledge and skill in that area and rate themselves in the Post (After the Training) section.

Table 1 shows the percentage of respondents selecting each response option (*strongly disagree, somewhat disagree, somewhat agree,* or *strongly agree*) for each statement in both the Pre and Post options. The total number of respondents was approximately 900 (it varied somewhat for each item and from the Pre to Post options). For example, for item a ("I can classify the duty of a mandated reporter in a youth program"), 30% of the 890 respondents in the Pre condition selected *strongly agree*, whereas 95% of the 872 respondents in the Post condition selected *strongly agree*.

In addition, Table 1 includes a column that shows the percentage of respondents who selected *somewhat* or *strongly agree* combined for each statement in both the Pre and Post conditions, as well as the percentage difference between those Pre- to Post-ratings. For example, for item c, the percentage of respondents who selected *somewhat* or *strongly agree* increased 26 percentage points from before to after the course (73% *somewhat* or *strongly agreed* before as opposed to 99% after).

Two key take-aways from this survey data include:

- 95% or more of the respondents *strongly agreed* to each statement in the Post category, but the percentage of respondents selecting *strongly agree* to these statements in the Pre category ranged from 28% to 55%.
- For all statements, there was an increase in the number of people selecting *somewhat* or *strongly agree* (combined) in the Post condition as compared to the Pre condition. The increases ranged from 10 (for item b) to 26 percentage points (for item c).

Table 1. PRE/POST RATINGS OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL

Statement		Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree	Total Somewhat /Strongly agree	Pre/Post Difference Somewhat /Strongly agree
a. I can classify the duty of a mandated reporter in a youth program.	Pre (*n*=890)	7%	13%	50%	30%	80%	19%
	Post (*n*=872)	1%	0%	4%	95%	99%	
b. I understand that abuse is the type of maltreatment that I must report.	Pre (*n*=888)	4%	7%	34%	55%	89%	10%
	Post (*n*=873)	1%	0%	2%	97%	99%	
c. I can identify what information needs to be included in a report.	Pre (*n*=886)	7%	20%	45%	28%	73%	26%
	Post (*n*=874)	1%	0%	4%	95%	99%	