

EVALUATING STEWARDS OF CHILDREN

KEY FINDINGS

JANUARY 2020

*"I am grateful that Stewards is here. It has made a difference."
- Community Focus Group Participant*

In this first rural-focused statewide evaluation of Stewards of Children in the U.S., we wanted to know:

- Does SOC help people know what to do to prevent child sexual abuse?
- Do people who attend SOC trainings take action to prevent child sexual abuse?
- What difference is SOC making in rural Oregon communities?

24,000+ people trained

73% female
23% male

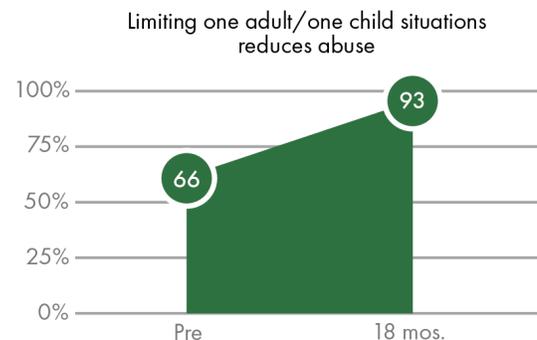
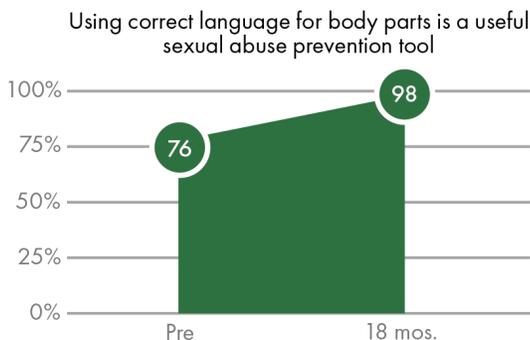
11 Oregon regions and Siskiyou County, CA

32% of participants were sexually abused in childhood

99% recommend that friends and coworkers take the training

KNOWLEDGE

Participants showed significant increases in knowledge and maintained those gains 18 months after the training.



ATTITUDES & BELIEFS

- ✓ Hopefulness that child sexual abuse can be significantly reduced increased by more than **2 times**
- ✓ Knowing what to do to prevent child sexual abuse increased by more than **5 times**
- ✓ Believing we have a plan to reduce child abuse increased by **3 times**

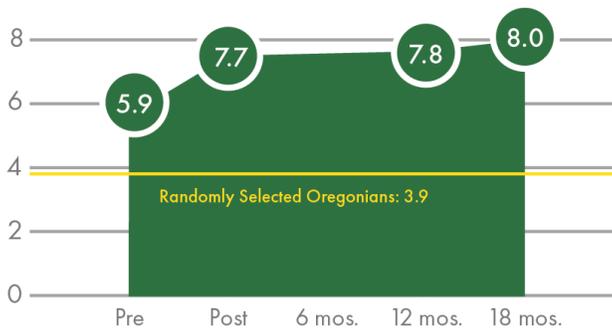
TAKING ACTION

At least 66,000 new child sexual abuse prevention actions were taken in 12 months.

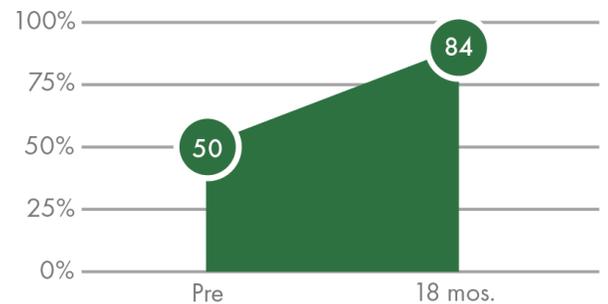
Prevention behaviors increased dramatically - and continued to increase 18 months after the training. SOC participants performed these actions at a much higher rate than randomly phoned rural Oregonians. Behaviors included:

- Talking to kids about sexual abuse
- Making policy changes at churches and schools
- Talking with neighbors and friends about prevention
- Offering advice and support to someone about child sexual abuse

Number of types of actions (like the behaviors listed above) taken:



Participants who reported they "looked for signs of sexual abuse in children in my life":



18 months after the training, SOC participants were 4 times more likely to ask about sexual abuse prevention policies than randomly phoned Oregonians.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

AWARENESS

"It has raised awareness about child abuse as an issue in our community that I'm not sure would have existed otherwise. This issue has been shrouded. I think the training has changed a lot of people's perceptions."

CATALYST

"It is . . . like propellant for starting conversations."

I have seen empowerment, people more willing to face this problem and try to help."

ENGAGING NEW PEOPLE

"We've been able to reach people that had no idea . . . People are thinking about it – including that it is the adult's responsibility, not the child."

HOPE FOR CHANGE

"SOC provides that hope; it provides solutions and gives people an opportunity to say 'I can do this.'"

IMPACT ON PROVIDER ORGANIZATIONS

"We are re-evaluating our mission... It's a cultural shift, to go from intervening to being proactive and preventing child sexual abuse."

"Collaboration has helped to make sure we're all on the same page in keeping kids safe."

**For questions or comments, please contact jtodahl@uoregon.edu
To read the full executive summary, please visit 90by30.com/stewards**