



# The Intersection between Intimate Partner Violence and HIV within a Hispanic Community in the Southwest United States

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## INTRODUCTION

Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. (CPLC) is located in the heart of Phoenix, Arizona. Initially created 50 years ago as a grass roots foundation to fight for educational equity for Hispanic individuals, CPLC's mission has now evolved to empowering individuals politically and economically through providing services to a diverse client base, including Hispanics. Based on secondary literature, the incidence of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and HIV/AIDS appear to be disproportionately affecting Hispanic/Latino(a) individuals throughout Maricopa County, Arizona, and the nation. As the third largest Hispanic-serving non-profit in the United States, CPLC has conducted a needs assessment to further understand the need of its clients it serves to get a more robust picture of the services and programming that may be required. Specifically, the community needs assessment evaluated the following:

- ❖ The gaps in services and the needs of CPLC clients
- ❖ Understanding the amount of knowledge already known about HIV/AIDS and Intimate Partner Violence
- ❖ Understanding if CPLC clients are aware of the intersection between Intimate Partner Violence and the risk of HIV/AIDS
- ❖ Understanding if CPLC clients are prone to adhering to traditional gender norms

## METHODS

### ❖ Client Community Needs Assessment Survey

In total, 40 respondents completed the Community needs assessment survey. All were receiving services either through a predominantly Hispanic-serving HIV clinic and/or receiving services for intimate partner violence. All respondents were residents of Maricopa County. 96% were Hispanic/Latino and 84% of respondents were middle-aged Females. **Forty-eight percent of respondents noted that they were HIV positive and 74% stated they had experienced intimate partner violence within their lifetime.**

### ❖ Client Focus Groups

All focus group participants (n=15) were middle-aged, Latina women who were currently receiving community-based services for intimate partner violence education and resilience building. All clients' primary language was Spanish.

### ❖ Frontline Staff Interviews

All participants were frontline staff members and/or directors of programs who serve survivors of domestic violence or individuals living with HIV/AIDS.

Figure 1. Proportions of Identified Daily Stressors

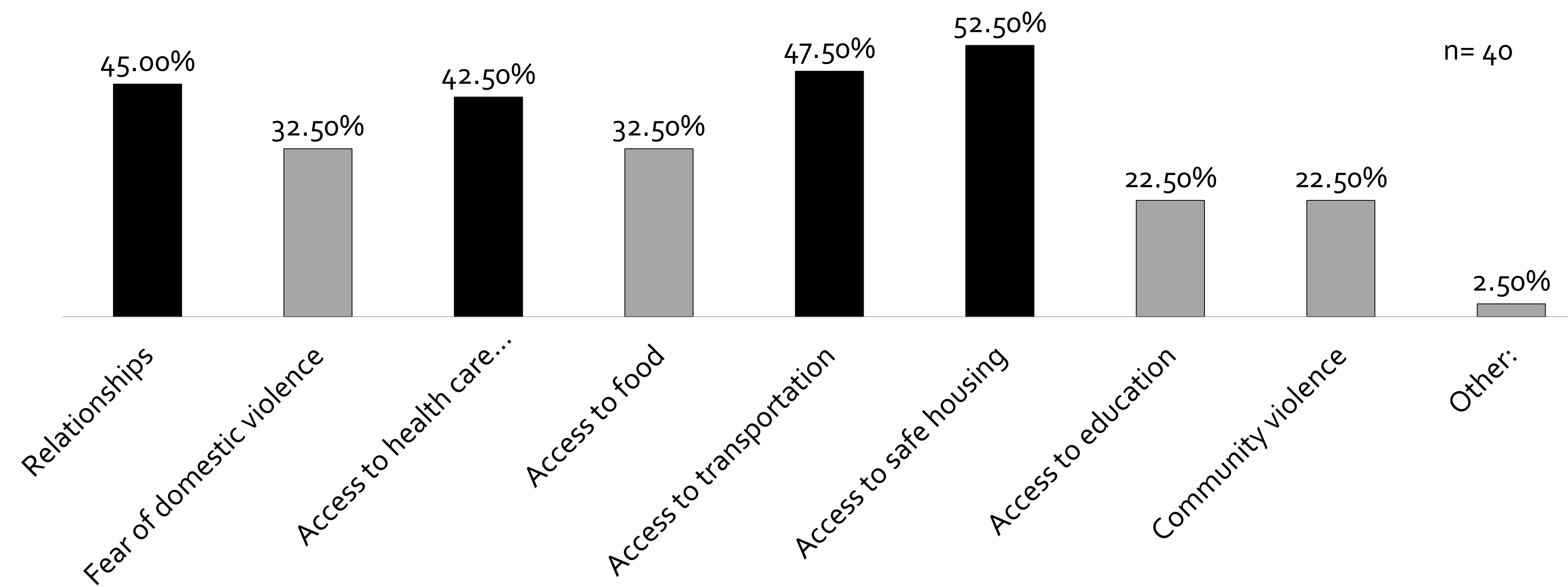


Figure 2. Proportion of respondents who identified language barriers in their community

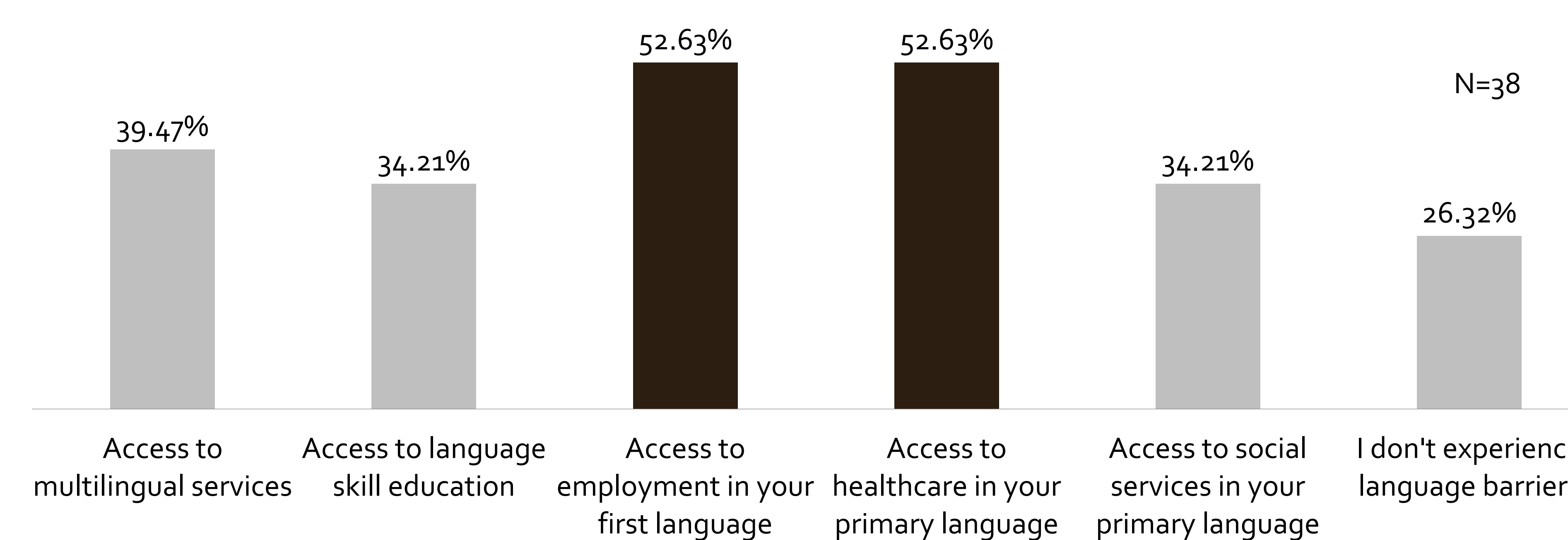
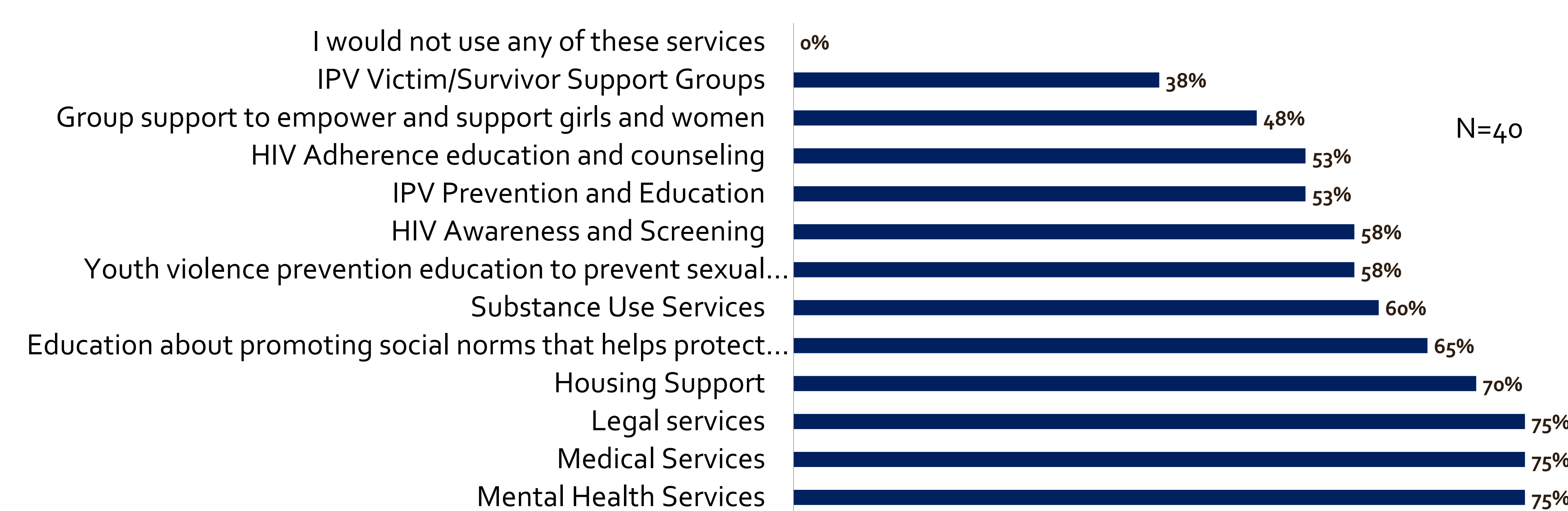


Figure 3. How many of the below services do you believe you, a family member, or a friend would utilize if available?



**“Many of the women that we serve have contracted HIV due to forced sexual activity with partners who have had sex with other people.”**

-Director of CPLC LUCES

## ANALYSES AND RESULTS

Three major themes were identified by almost all mediums of sources collected throughout the assessment:

- ❖ Housing
- ❖ Education Services for Prevention of IPV and HIV
- ❖ Immigration & Legal Services

## DISCUSSION

The only way that we as a society can hope to thrive is through seeing all members having equitable access and having a similar quality of life. How this starts to happen is through partnerships and having supportive services that understand what their most underrepresented populations require.

### Limitations:

- ❖ Small Samples across all collecting mediums, may not be reflective of the greater population
- ❖ Descriptive and qualitative in nature, no causal relationships

### Future Directions:

- ❖ Creating specific curricula/programming tailored to the intersection of IPV and HIV and the need for preventative measures
- ❖ Cross-sector partnerships
- ❖ Increase diverse impact
- ❖ Adding HIV-specific education services for IPV clients
- ❖ Increase Youth & Adult knowledge on risks of HIV and IPV

## REFERENCES

- ❖ Armknecht, K., Iwinski, V. & Arvizu, A. (2019). Chicanos Por La Causa IPV/HIV Community Needs Assessment. Chicanos Por La Causa Research & Evaluation. Phoenix, AZ
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