Introducing...

EPI INFO™ 7

What did sexual assault service providers have to say about Epi Info after their training?

The Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault offers technical assistance and training Epi Info 7 training for any WCASA members.

What is Epi Info?

Epi Info is a free program that can be downloaded from the CDC website onto any Microsoft Windows product. Is it used internationally in the public health field as both a database and a way to analyze data.

Why does WCASA offering this training and technical assistance?

Part of the work done at WCASA and funded by the CDC is to promote and expand the evaluation of sexual assault work. We have found that prevention educators are searching for a user-friendly, free option to enter, store, and analyze data in their prevention programming. WCASA piloted this training with nine agencies and received feedback that it was a useful tool that they would recommend to other providers. *Please see evaluation data across and on the next page.*

Doesn't ALICE already collect data?

Yes! Epi Info is not meant to replace ALICE and it is not recommended for any confidential data. We recommend it in addition to ALICE for any surveys that are done *anonymously*. Although this is most likely to include surveys done at trainings or prevention programs, it could also be used to capture anonymous client satisfaction surveys.

What would be the advantage of using Epi Info for prevention surveys or client satisfaction surveys?

Many programs are collecting survey data but are not entering them into a database. Although there are some great options in Excel, Access, or other programs, Epi Info offers an option that is less "numerical." The database is created in an actual form that looks more like a Word document. This option makes it easier to make changes to the database without altering the entire layout. Also, the analysis function is done with drop down menus and does not involve writing formulas, which is also a user-friendly option.

In the long-term, entering data into any program allows us to track changes over time, meet grant requirements, and most importantly, see where we can improve our programming.

What would I need to learn?

Using Epi Info, you will learn to create a database, enter data, and analyze results. It is possible to learn this through resources on the page and online, or to find a trainer to help. WCASA offers free technical assistance for members, with a priority given to Wisconsin sexual assault service providers.

"Very easy use data program."

"Valuable tool for collecting data – both dv + sa programs"

"Much easier than what I have been using (Microsoft

"Very helpful for entering data for high school presentations."

"Will take practice but seems worthwhile."

"Very useful application to put some science into our work."

Love it! Looking forward to using it.

"Nice to have a free option."

EPI INFO™ 7

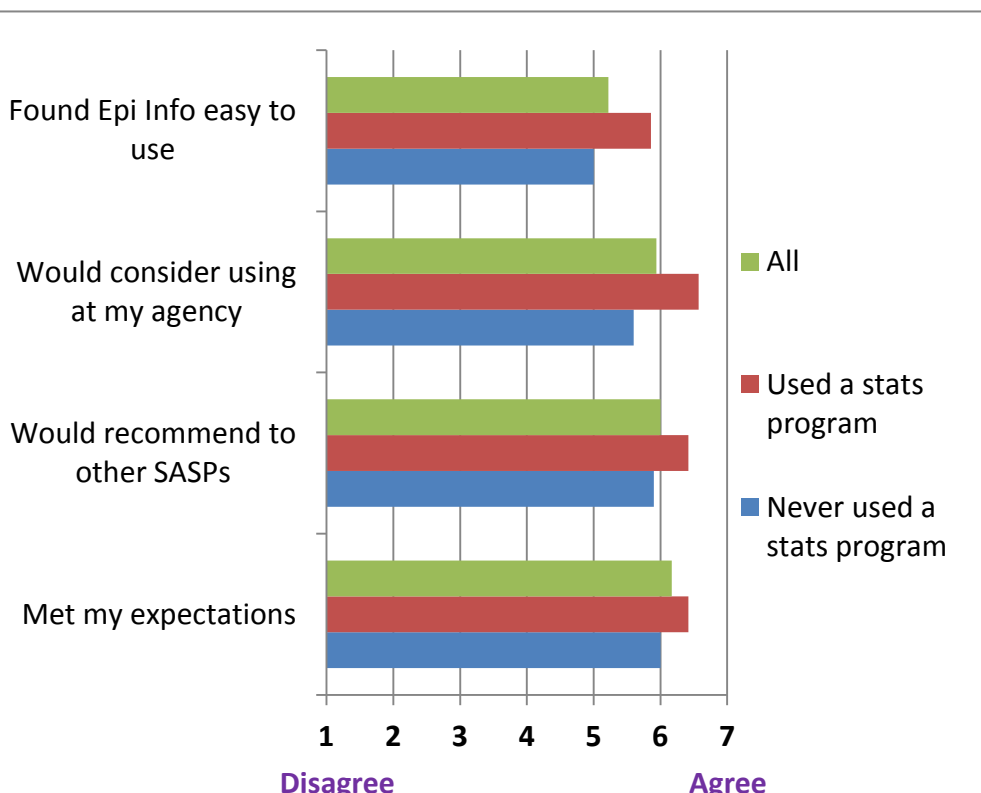Introducing…

Who at my agency would want training?

We recommend this training for prevention educators who are collecting and analyzing surveys, grant managers who are tracking any anonymous data, and any other providers who are responsible for tracking data not already collected in ALICE. Directors who are interested in this program may also be interested. Those with experience creating databases or doing analysis are likely to feel more comfortable but results below show that those without experience still recommend the program.

Where can I go to learn more?

If you're curious about whether or not this could be a good fit for your program, please feel free to check out information at the link below. You can even download the program and try it yourself using program guides offered by the CDC. http://wwwn.cdc.gov/epiinfo/7/index.htm

Results from Epi Info Training offered by WCASA*

*Responses came from 19 participants. They are divided above by all participants (green), the 39% of participants who had previously used a statistical analysis program such as SPSS, SAS, R (red), and the 61% of participants who had never used a statistical program (blue).