

RCORP 2022 Reverse Site Visit: Evaluation Survey

KEY FINDINGS

- There were 707 RCORP grantees who registered to attend the Reverse Site Visit (RSV), and 532 (75%) responded to the online evaluation survey.
- Over half of grantees who responded to the survey agreed that the RSV met all five desired objectives to a great extent or quite a bit.
- Comments from participants about what was most helpful were most frequently about themes of connecting with other grantees. These included: networking, learning about work being done nationally, and sharing success stories and challenges. Participants also valued the opportunity to apply the conference lessons to their own work.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The most frequent suggestions from participants were about improving the roundtable discussions – both that there were difficulties with using the Wonder.Me platform and that they needed more structure and/or a session moderator.
- The next most frequent suggestion was to hold the next visit in-person, but there were still a number of comments that found the virtual format effective and hope to have a virtual option in the future.

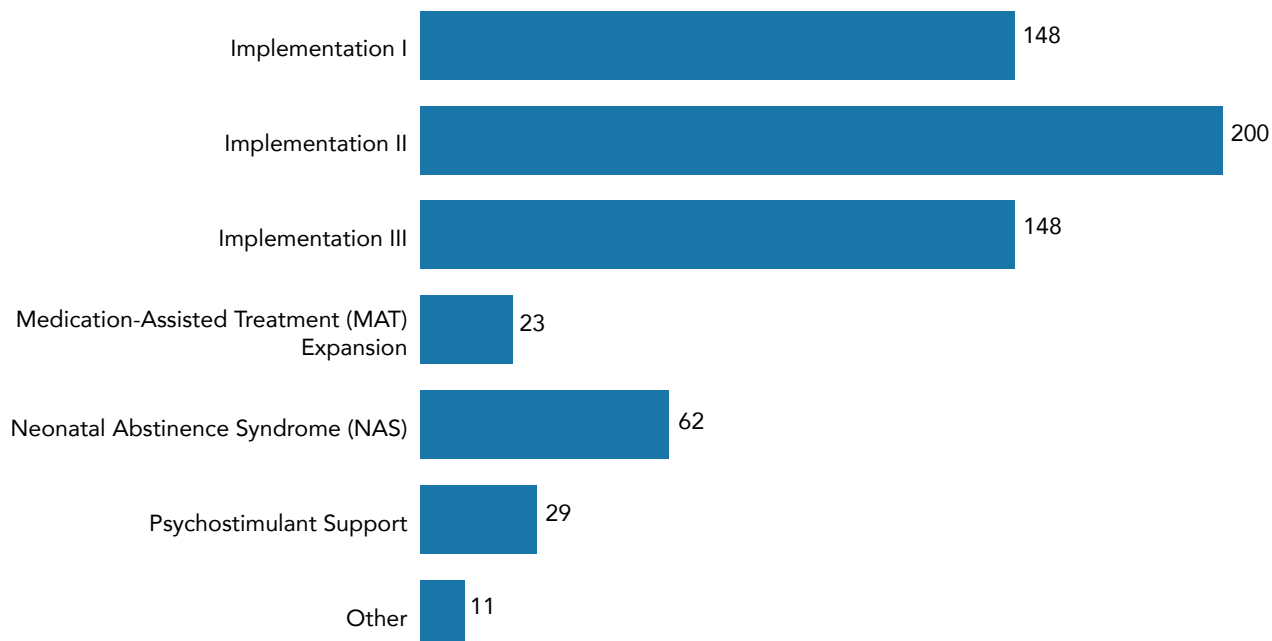
The Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) 2022 Reverse Site Visit (RSV) was hosted virtually by the JBS International Technical Assistance (TA) team from April 5th – April 7th 2022 on the Socio platform. RCORP grantees from various cohorts were invited to attend. The RCORP-TA Evaluation team developed an online, anonymous survey to get feedback from grantees on the effectiveness of the RSV. The following report summarizes the results of the evaluation survey, including select comments from RCORP grantees.

CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE AND SURVEY RESPONSE

A total of 707 participants registered to attend the RSV and were invited to complete the evaluation survey. Out of these participants, there were 532 responses from grantees (complete or partial) to the online evaluation survey (75% response rate). Figure 1 shows the breakdown of survey respondents by RCORP grant.

“Learning about other grantee’s successes and challenges really helps to open our team’s eyes to the national level of work that is happening to address the morbidity and mortality associated with OUD/SUD.”

Figure 1. Survey Respondents by RCORP Grant* (n=532)



*The grants categories in figure 1 are non-exclusive because some respondents were awarded more than one grant. Most respondents reported to be recipients of only one grant (85%). However, 13% reported to be recipients of two grants, and approximately 1% reported to be recipients of three and four grants respectively.

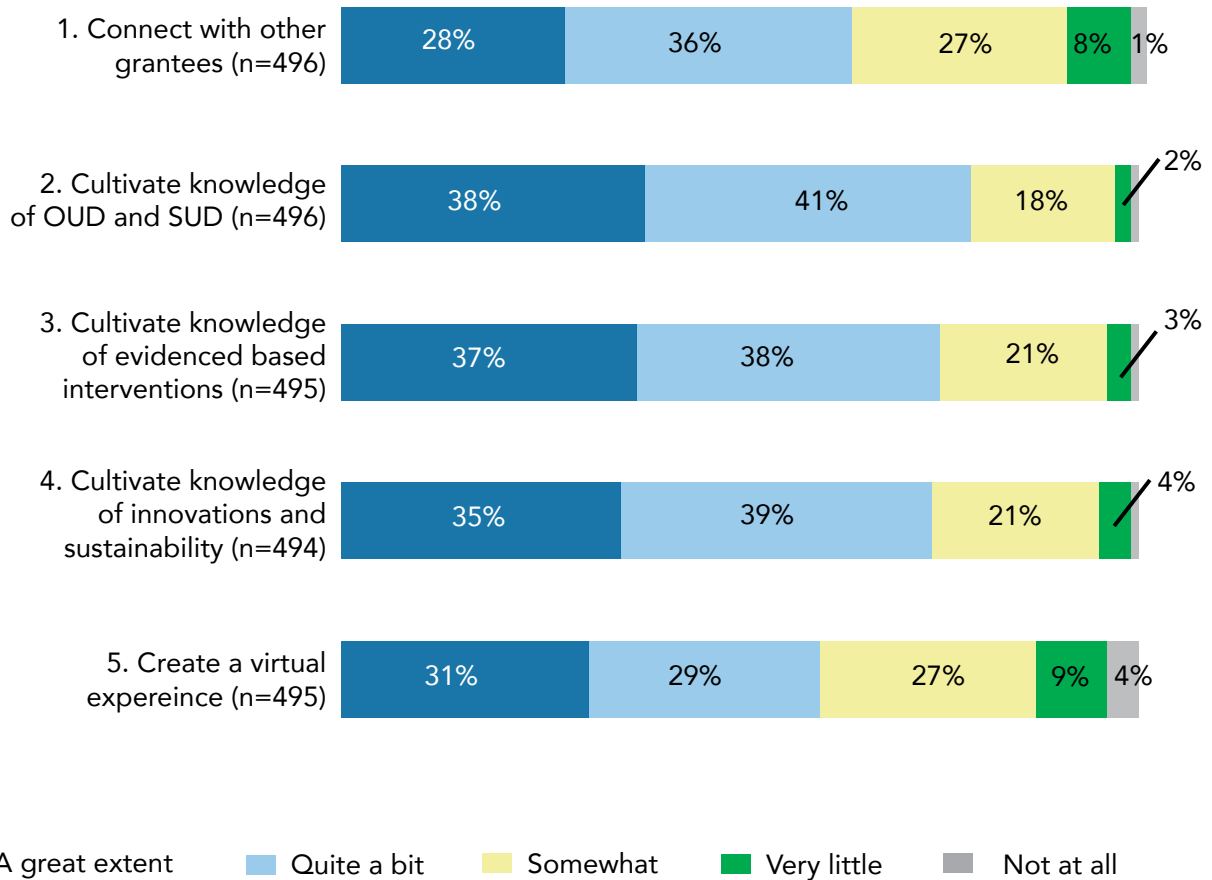
OBJECTIVES

We asked survey respondents to rate to what extent the RSV conference met the following five objectives:

1. Connect you with other grantees to share best practices, troubleshoot challenges, and leverage resources
2. Cultivate your skills and knowledge related to opioid use disorder (OUD) and substance use disorder (SUD)
3. Cultivate your skills and knowledge of evidenced based interventions for OUD and SUD
4. Cultivate your skills and knowledge of program innovations and sustainability
5. Create a virtual conference that replicates the features of a live conference

Respondents rated to what extent the RSV met each objective on a scale from 1 to 5: (5) a great extent, (4) quite a bit, (3) somewhat, (2) very little, and (1) not at all. Figure 2 summarizes the respondent ratings for each objective.

Figure 2. To What Extent the RSV Conference Met Desired Objectives as Reported by Survey Respondents



Over half of respondents rated that all five objectives were met to either a great extent or quite a bit. *Cultivating skills and knowledge of OUD and SUD* was the most highly rated objective by participants (79% rated the conference as meeting this objective to a great extent or quite a bit).

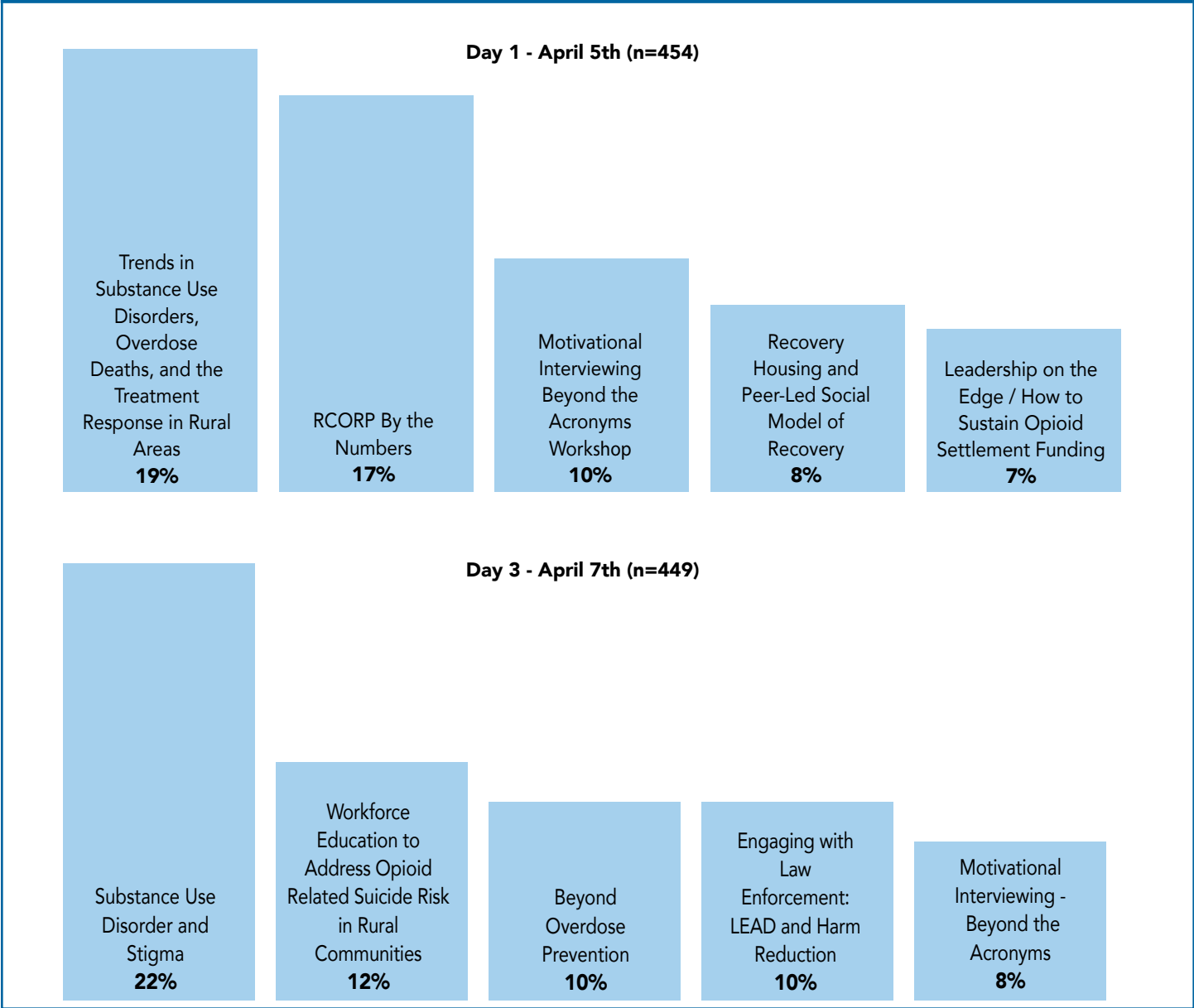
"The topics, presentations and speakers were fabulous. Despite it being virtual, I'm leaving feeling inspired and motivated. I look forward to sharing a lot of the info with our Consortium, with the theme "What's Next for Us!" because there's so much more work to be done, and so many great information and ideas came from the RSV."

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

We asked survey respondents to select the most helpful breakout session they attended each day of the conference. The top five most helpful breakout sessions for day one and day three of the conference are summarized in Figure 3. This question reflected which breakout sessions were most highly attended and which were found to be the most helpful by respondents.

"The breakout sessions were engaging. I wish many of them were offered more than once. I am glad that the recordings will be available. It was difficult to make choices."

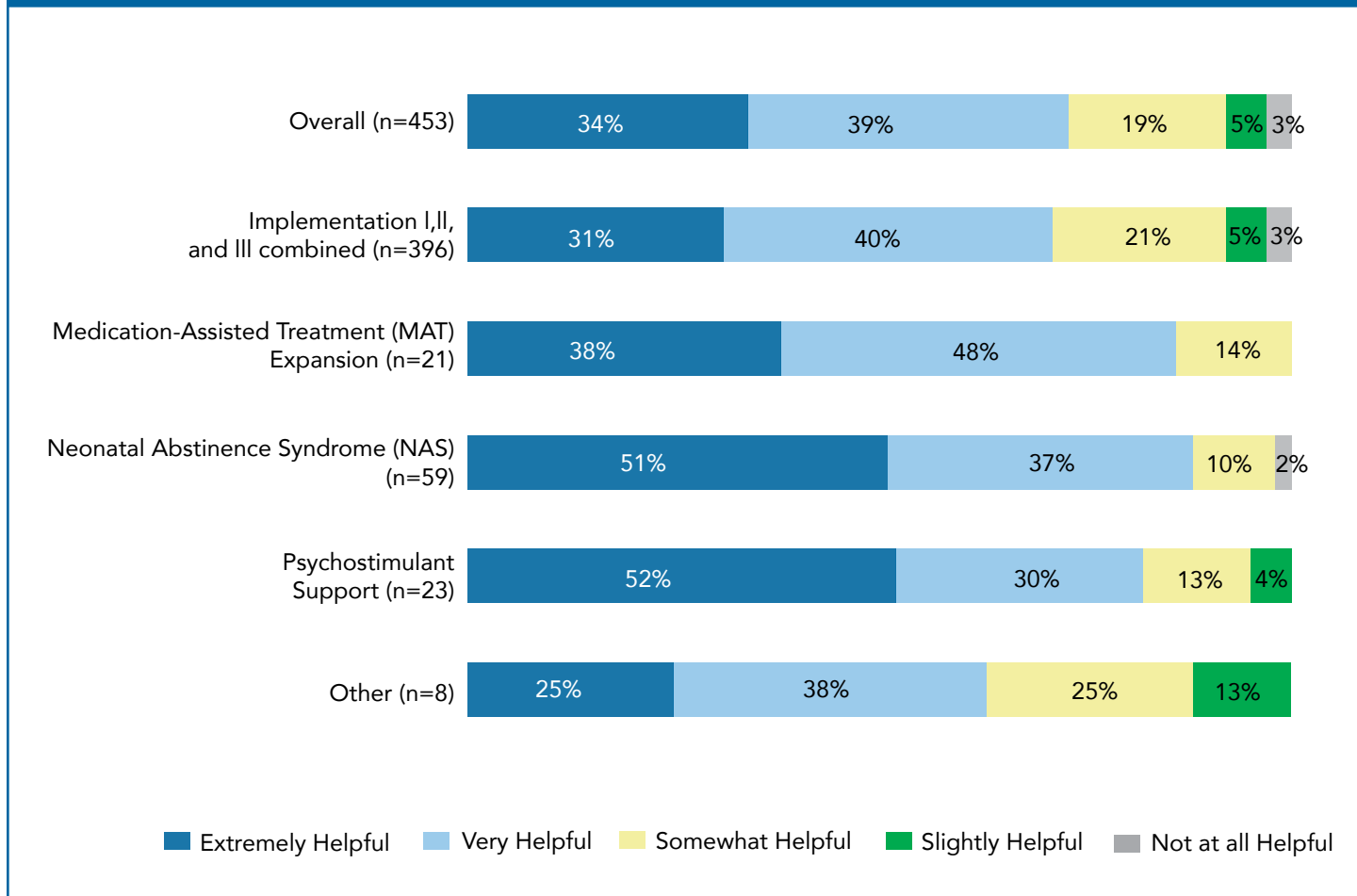
Figure 3. Top Five Most Helpful Breakout Sessions by Conference Day as Reported by Survey Respondents



COHORT SPECIFIC SESSIONS

We asked survey respondents to rate the helpfulness of the cohort specific sessions they attended on day two of the conference (April 6th). Eighty five percent of survey respondents reported attending the cohort specific sessions (n=453). Respondents rated these sessions on a scale from 1-5: (5) extremely helpful, (4) very helpful, (3) somewhat helpful, (2) slightly helpful, and (1) not at all helpful. Figure 4 summarizes the rating of the cohort-specific sessions overall and separated by grant cohort.

Figure 4. Reported Helpfulness of Cohort Specific Sessions, Overall and by RCORP Grant



"I was able to connect with others who have the same or similar grants. I am meeting with some of them after the RSV in order to continue support."

Comments from respondents about the cohort specific sessions were overall positive. There were also some comments about specific cohort sessions and their speakers:

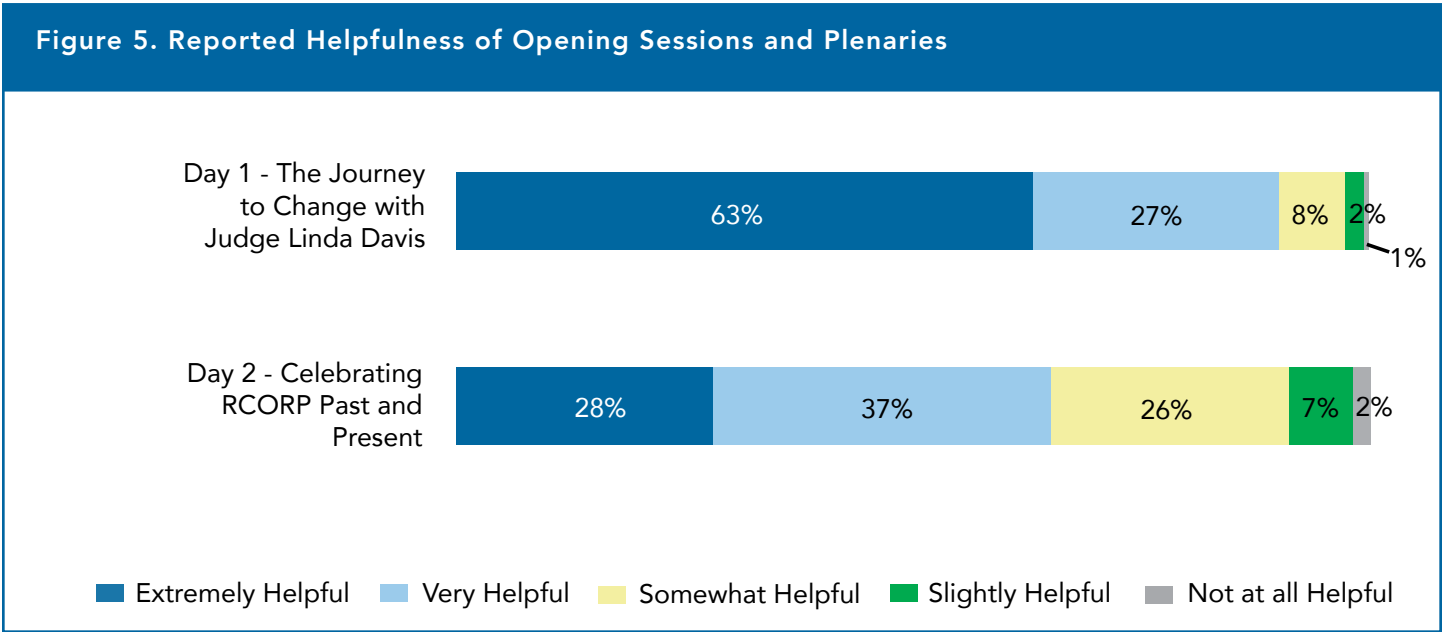
- "Dr. Terplan was amazing" – RCORP-NAS Grantee
- "I found helpful the ... content provided about the new psychostimulant response and intervention." – RCORP-PS Grantee

ALL CONFERENCE SESSIONS

We also asked survey respondents to rate the helpfulness of the all-conference sessions on a scale from 1-5: (5) extremely helpful, (4) very helpful, (3) somewhat helpful, (2) slightly helpful, and (1) not at all helpful. The following figures summarize the respondent ratings of each session.

Opening Sessions and Plenaries

Most survey respondents reported attending the opening session and plenary on day one (84%, n=456) and the plenary session on day two (82%, n=446).



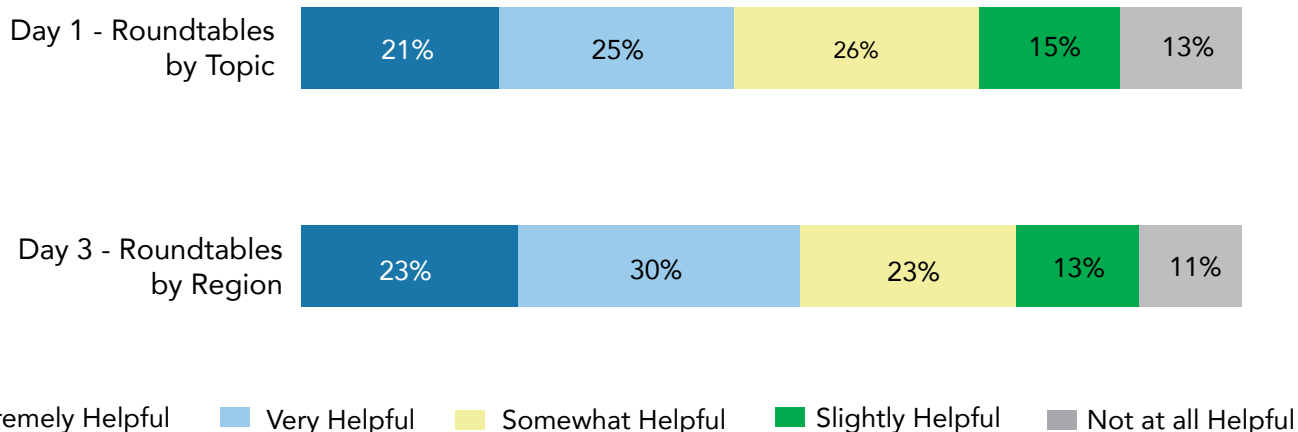
Many respondent comments remarked on the helpfulness of the conference plenaries, in particular the presentation by Judge Linda Davis, and also the overview of RCORP:

- "I found [Judge Davis'] story to be the most empowering in trying to help us make access a reality for those struggling."
- "The story [from Judge Davis] ... was incredibly eye opening, and a great story that highlights just how big of a barrier stigma can be."
- "Also inspiring to have sessions featuring people with lived experience. Dr. Davis, for instance, ended up not only inspiring but showing concrete measures that are helpful on the ground."
- "I enjoyed hearing about the evolution of the RCORP initiative from the federal perspective. It made me feel like HRSA was listening to the data and the conversations it was having with grantees."

Roundtable Discussions (via Wonder.me Platform)

About two-thirds of survey respondents reported attending the roundtable discussions by topic on day one (69%, n=372) and the roundtable discussions by region on day three (66%, n=351).

Figure 6. Reported Helpfulness of the Roundtable Discussions



Many comments from respondents found networking at the RSV to be helpful (see Table 2). However, many of the comments with suggestions for improvement were about the roundtable discussions – in particular the Wonder.Me platform and the need for more structure and/or a moderator in these sessions. Themes that emerged on improving the roundtables specifically are summarized in Table 1 (a complete list of themes with suggestions for conference improvement is in Table 3, page 11).

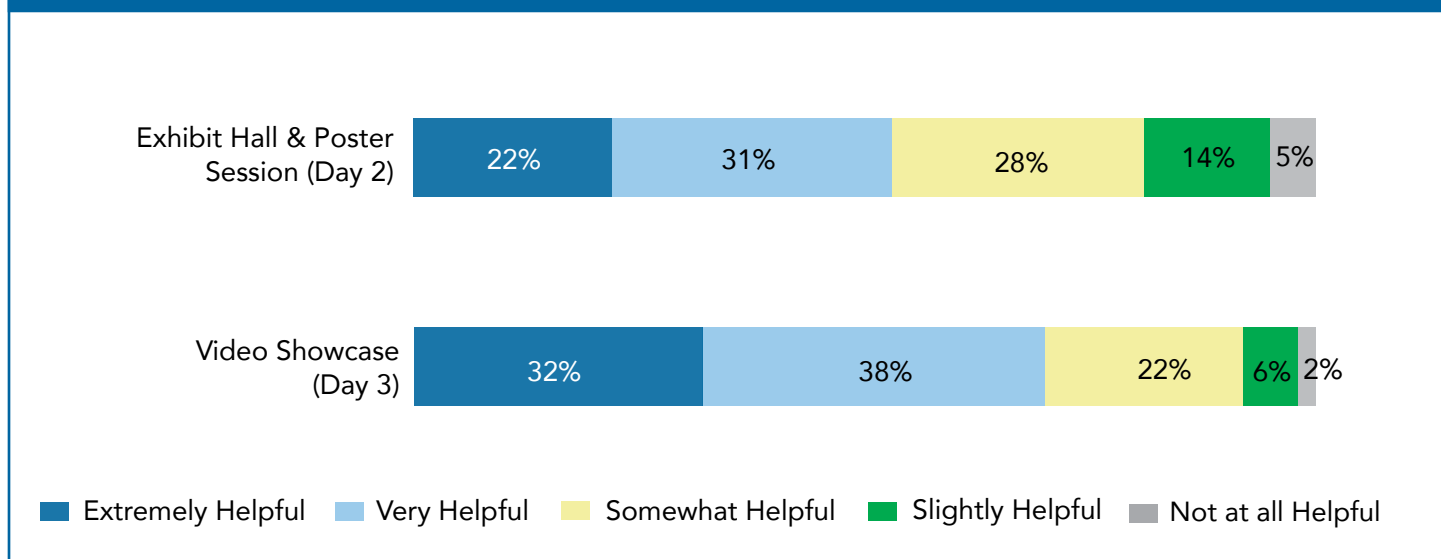
Table 1. Selected Themes of Suggested Improvements for the Roundtable Discussion Sessions and Selected Comments

Theme	Select Respondent Comments
Roundtables – overall improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “I think that the round table discussion format was awkward and unexpected. It worked well once I figured out how to access the different discussions.” “Enable more tables in the roundtable networking. I got thrown out of a table during a great discussion and could not get back into that table. Then could not join another table as they were all full.”
Roundtables – need moderators or structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “The Wonder.me platform is very good, but more structure or a facilitator might be helpful. The first day I wandered through numerous tables and ... crickets.” “The networking sessions have a great platform, but they need a bit more structure to be successful. If there were sample questions to help guide the conversations, that would be helpful.”
Roundtables – difficulty with platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Roundtable discussion tech did not work very well on my computer and required a fast-processing system.” “I wasn’t able to get the program for the roundtable discussion to work for me. It was frustrating.”

Other Sessions

A majority of survey respondents reported attending the exhibit hall/poster session on day two (69%, n=369), and the video showcase on day three (71%, n=376).

Figure 7. Reported Helpfulness of the Exhibit Hall/Poster Session and the Video Showcase



There were a few comments on the helpfulness of the poster session/exhibit hall and video showcase:

- "The exhibit hall with each site's poster. It helps to see how folks are implementing their opportunity in their area. It helps get out of our own perspective, see what others are doing and inspires new ideas."
- "The posters were also a nice way to get to know what some of the other grantees are doing and how their work parallels ours."

OVERALL PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

We also gave survey respondents the opportunity to provide written comments to two open-ended questions:

1. What did you find helpful at the 2022 Reverse Site Visit?
2. What suggestions do you have for improving future RCORP Reverse Site Visits, including topics, format, or any other areas?

What did you find helpful?

We received 323 comments to the question about what respondents found helpful at the 2022 RSV (61% of all survey respondents). Table 2 summarizes the major themes identified and select participant comments.

Table 2. What Respondents Found Helpful at the 2022 Reverse Site Visit, Themes and Selected Comments

Theme	Select Respondent Comments
Networking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I have a list of contacts to follow up with to discuss priority areas of focus in our target counties. I appreciate all of the opportunities to network during the meetings." • "The sessions I found most helpful were the networking sessions. I think many of us have opportunity to attend educational sessions, but the networking was unique. I took so much away from hearing of others' experiences and lessons learned."
Apply learnings to their work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "The sessions gave many great examples of programs, strategies or tips that we can take back to our local effort as a means to accelerate implementation or to overcome challenges."
Learning about work being done nationally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "So enjoyed hearing what other grantees are doing" • "It was helpful to hear about the work that is being done across the country as a way of reinvigorating our own efforts."
Sharing of success stories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I loved hearing everyone's successes. It was so nice to hear and see all the difference that really has been made!"
Hearing shared challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Hearing from peers helped me realize that others were having the same challenges." • "Hearing what others are doing around the country and realizing that we all have a lot of the same issues that we're dealing with...stigma and limited services in rural communities."
Energizing, motivating, or inspiring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Just connecting with everyone that is obviously passionate about what they do and how energizing it is hearing all the speakers, validating what we are doing or pushing how we can do better." • "The RSV served as a nice reminder of our important mission and purpose. It also focused me again on approaches to this perplexing problem."
Sharing of personal stories or lived experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "This has been an effective balance of personal stories and perspectives on the experience of substance use and sharing of work being done across the country." • "The lived experience shared was the most impactful part of the entire visit."

Table 2 continued on the next page

Table 2 continued

Theme	Select Respondent Comments
General meeting organization (format, logistics)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"This RSV was so well organized and thoughtfully presented. It is clear how much time, effort, dedication, expertise went into it."</i> • <i>"I thought the format of everything was very helpful. I felt that the pace and organization of everything was easy to keep up with."</i>
Effective virtual format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"Interface was flawless, I can tell that the organizers invested a great deal of time into ensuring a productive experience."</i> • <i>"I really enjoyed the format; it was engaging and didn't feel like I was in a zoom meeting all day. The content was great, it resembled the in-person reverse site visits which was helpful as well."</i>
Gained knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"Wonderful presentations and information! Very validating for the work that we are doing and also received a lot of new information."</i>
Gained resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"I received a lot of helpful information and tools to expand our services."</i> • <i>"Stigma is a huge hurdle we face; I learned a lot of good ways to address it and learned of resources we can use."</i>
Great presenters or presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"Many of the speakers were excellent and obviously are very passionate about their work."</i> • <i>"The speakers had a wealth of information to share."</i>
Variety of topics covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"The selection of options for break out rooms was a nice range that allowed for me to sit in things that were tailored to my grant while I could also choose to learn something completely new."</i> • <i>"The workshops were excellent, and the variety was tremendous."</i>
Information about stigma / Resources to reduce stigma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"The...presentation on stigma that covered the history of how SUD treatment is stigmatized and racialized was PHENOMENAL. It was transformative for me."</i> • <i>"As one of the first implementation cohorts it was exciting to see the progress we have made in sharing best practices for stigma reduction..."</i>
Information about data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"The sessions on data collecting and how this can help now and with future funding."</i>
Information / Ideas on sustainability planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"The data and reporting and sustainability plan guidance was helpful. I'm appreciative of that assistance."</i>

What suggestions do you have for improvement?

We received 314 comments to the question asking about suggested improvements for future RCORP reverse site visits (59% of all survey respondents). Table 3 summarizes the major themes identified and select participant comments.

Table 3. Suggested Improvements for Future Reverse Site Visits, Themes and Selected Comments

Theme	Select Respondent Comments
Technical difficulties (overall)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I had a lot of technical difficulties and missed some content as a result." • "I experienced connection issues in our small rural community."
In-person next year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Please consider bringing the conference back in person next year. I've attended one in person and two virtually and although the virtual platform works, being in person with colleagues is so much better!" • "It is very hard to put the full attention to the virtual conferences. Looking forward to being back in person."
Keep virtual option	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I would like to keep these virtual, or at least have a virtual option. It helps me and my family that I don't need to travel to an in-person conference."
If virtual: shorten conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "If a virtual format will be provided moving forward, consider shortening the duration of the conference a bit since virtual won't always mimic in-person setting." • "Three days is too long to stay engaged virtually."
Longer or more breaks, start earlier in the day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "[I] needed longer breaks between sessions. Hard to sit and look at a computer screen for hours." • "I'd prefer a longer lunch break on all three days. 30 minutes isn't enough down time to walk away."
Ability to attend more sessions (too many concurrent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I would've liked to have an opportunity to experience more sessions but because I participated in the MI session, I probably missed some valuable sessions, maybe the MI training can take place as a Pre-Conference Session in future RSV because it is certainly valuable." • "There were several sessions I wanted to attend but they were at the same time."
Provide session resources/slides at time of presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I [wish] that resources from the sessions were more readily available...I hate waiting for them to be posted at a much later date." • "Having to wait weeks for slides/information is problematic if we want to adopt an idea immediately but can't access the tool or whatever we learned about."
Training in advance for how to use platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I had IT problems on the first day and was unable to participate in the Wonder.me session. Is there a way to 'test' applications you're going to have us use in advance, so we can troubleshoot problems before the conference and not miss out on sessions?"
More interaction with cohort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "[It] would have been great to have more interaction with those working on the same grants. We had some but it was quite limited."

APPENDIX: SURVEY METHODS

The RCORP-Technical Assistance (TA) evaluation team developed an online, anonymous survey to obtain feedback on the RSV from grantees. The survey included questions about which RCORP grants participants were awarded, to what extent the RSV met conference objectives, the helpfulness of various conference sessions, the most helpful breakout sessions they attended each day, and two open-ended response questions about what was helpful at the current RSV and what could be improved with future TA events. Respondents were not required to answer any of the survey questions to complete the survey. Online survey data was collected and managed using REDCap electronic data capture tools hosted at the Institute of Translational Health Sciences at the University of Washington.

The JBS International TA team posted the link to the online survey at the closing session of the RSV on April 7th on the announcements section of the Socio platform. The RCORP-TA evaluation team sent three follow-up email reminders to RSV participants to complete the survey on April 11th, 14th, and 18th. The survey was left open for participants to complete until April 20th.

After closing the survey, 541 complete or partial responses were obtained from RSV participants. We excluded 9 survey responses from individuals who did not identify as being a RCORP grantee (selected “NA – not applicable” or left blank the first survey question asking which grants they were awarded). In total there were 532 complete or partial responses to the online survey (75% response rate). Frequencies of responses to each question were calculated using SAS version 9.4.

To analyze the responses to the open-ended questions, two members of the WWAMI RCORP-TA evaluation team reviewed responses and independently identified themes emerging from the comments. The two reviewers then met to consolidate the themes they identified and find agreement on which theme comments included. The reviewers selected 1-2 quotes that included each theme.

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