

### BACKGROUND

- Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is a leading cause of death and disability in the United States. However, because there may be no visible signs of injury, TBIs are frequently unreported or misdiagnosed.
- We conducted a series of TBI and quality of life screenings that identified individuals with potential brain injuries; provided referrals to a primary care provider; and trained a cadre of future health care professionals

### METHODS

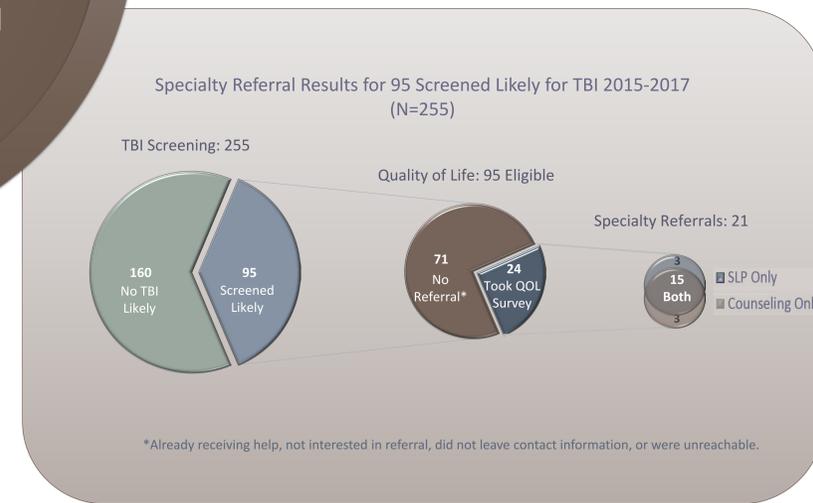
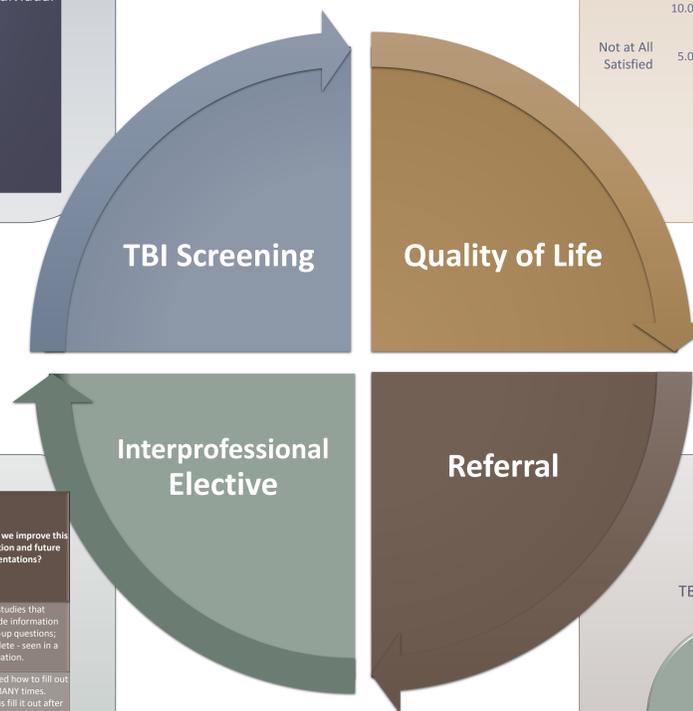
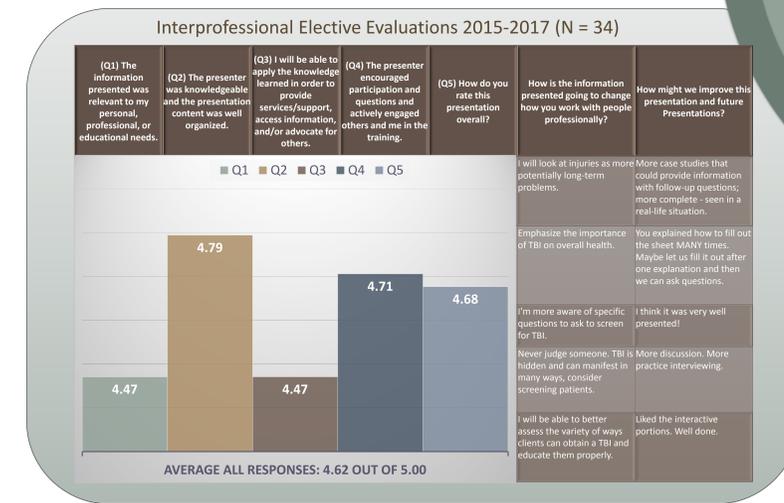
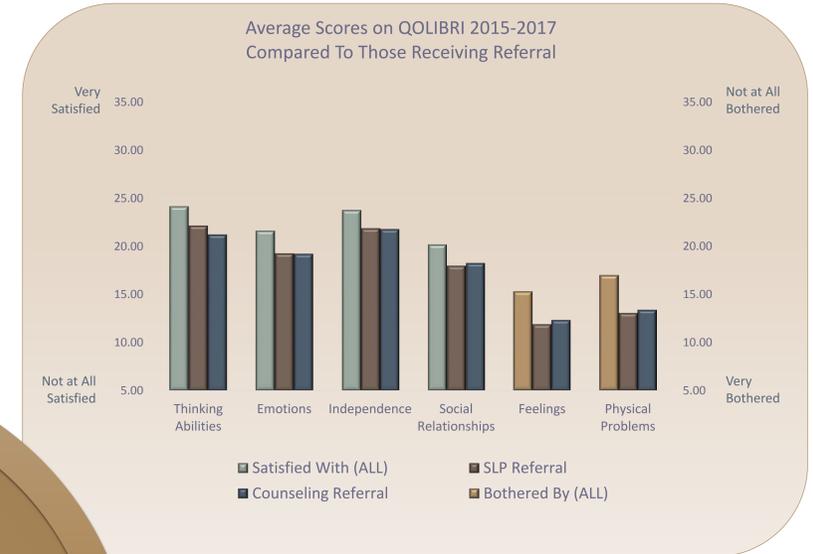
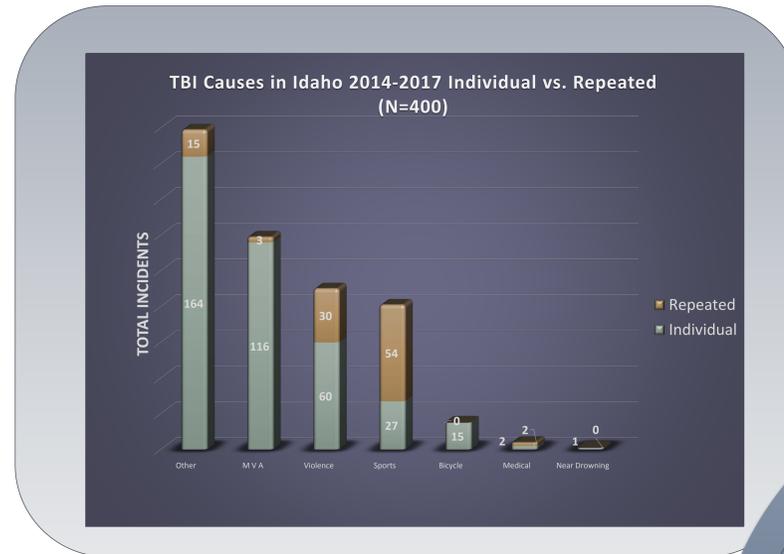
- Used the Ohio State University TBI Identification Screening Method (OSU-TBI) to screen for potential brain injury
- Trained students administered the OSU-TBI at 14 CHS events in Meridian, Boise, Nampa, and Pocatello
- Participants with a possible TBI were contacted again (if they requested a referral), usually within two weeks, to complete the supplemental follow up Quality of Life After Brain Injury (QOLIBRI) survey.
- The QOLIBRI was developed to further identify needs in domains such as relationships, cognitive functioning, and mood regulation.
- Results from both instruments were used to indicate the need for referrals.
  - To Health West in Pocatello, and Unity Health in Meridian for free to low cost primary care services.
  - To ISU's speech and language and/or counseling clinic for free to low cost services provided by Master's level students

### PURPOSE

- Train and educate future healthcare professionals on the impact of a traumatic brain injury to be equipped to provide effective treatment
- Screen and identify individuals who may have a "hidden TBI"
- Develop and maintain a TBI referral system for individuals who have limited access to health care via the free community health screenings (CHS) offered by ISU

### CONCLUSIONS

- A reliable referral pathway to healthcare services for TBI has been implemented
- The TBI support system is strengthened by training student professionals from multiple disciplines
- The project will continue to identify additional TBI specialty providers for follow-up care



### INTERPROFESSIONAL ELECTIVE

- A comprehensive training module on the use of the OSU-TBI screening interview.
  - Disciplines represented include counseling, dentistry, nutrition, physician assistant, pharmacy, and nursing
- These trainings further build and maintain a TBI infrastructure, and serve to establish TBI as a public health issue.

### RESULTS

- 24 completed the QOLIBRI survey and were automatically offered a primary care referral
  - Highest possible overall Quality of Life score is 185 (Extremely Satisfied in all areas)
  - Participant scores ranged from a high of 179 to a low of 80, with an average score of 122
- 18 scored  $\leq 28$  in Thinking Abilities triggering a Speech Referral
- 18 scored  $\leq 18$  in Social Relationships and/or  $\leq 15$  in Feelings triggering a Counseling Referral