

## The Evaluation of a Training Program for Personnel Working with Older Adults with Hoarding and Clutter

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### Intro:

- Hoarding is associated with significant challenges for older adults<sup>1</sup>
- There is a need for community-based collaboration to address hoarding<sup>2</sup>
- This training (1) addresses gaps in provider learning opportunities focusing on hoarding among older adults and (2) encourages provider collaboration

### Methods:

- N=107; participants from various social service agencies across the Northeast USA
- Conducted paired samples t-test on mean pre-test and post-test competency scores (9) of participants of five training cohorts trained in 2019 and 2023

### Results:

- Across all competencies, pre-test to post-test competency scores significantly ( $p < .001$ ) improved from beginning skill to moderate/advanced

### Discussion:

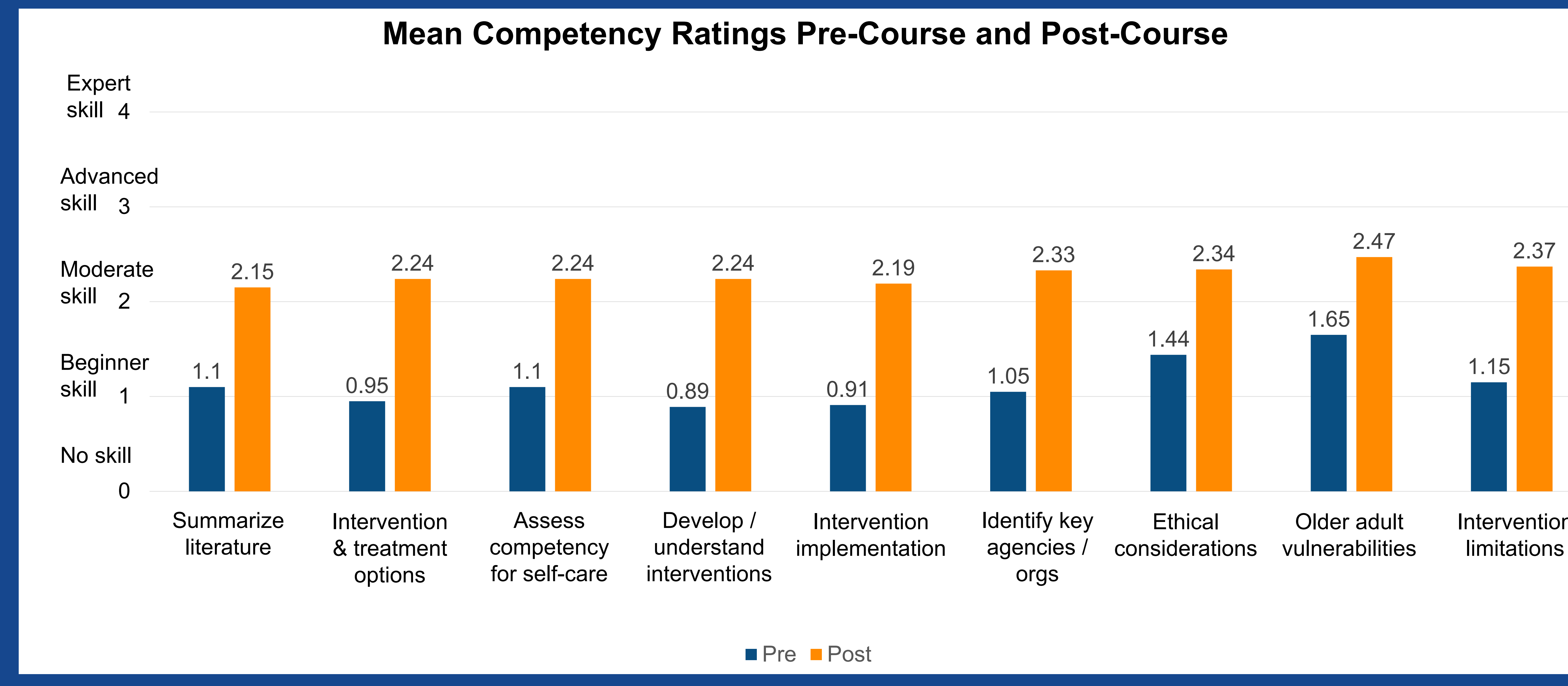
Findings suggest that individuals across various domains benefit from this course, which can serve as a model for workforce education. While client outcomes are not able to be known, results indicate improved attitudes, knowledge, and practice behaviors of a wide range of personnel who work with older adults.

### Financial Disclosure:

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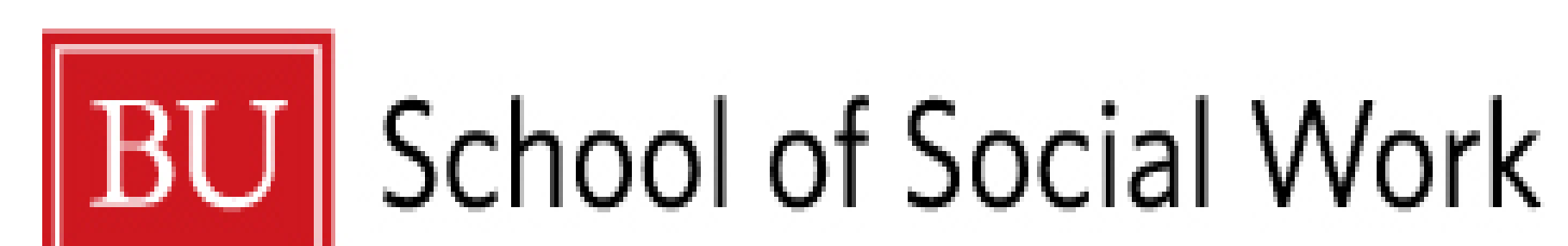
# An online hoarding training for community-based providers increases competencies of personnel working with older adults with HD.

## Increased competencies among workers may enhance HD outcomes and mitigate larger health and public health risks.



<sup>1</sup>Ayers, C. R., Najmi, S., Mayes, T. L., & Dozier, M. E. (2015). Hoarding disorder in older adulthood. *The American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry: Official Journal of the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry*, 23(4), 416-422. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jagp.2014.05.009>

<sup>2</sup>Haighton, C., Calazza, R., Neave, N. (2023). "In an ideal world that would be a multiagency service because you need everybody's expertise." *Managing Hoarding Disorder: A qualitative investigation of existing procedures and practices*. *PLoS ONE* 18(3): e0282365. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0282365>



Read about a training success story!



- 96% of participants strongly agreed training expanded knowledge & understanding
- 93% reported training will help apply new practice skills

Agency Settings (N=107)	%
Community Based Organization	43
Aging Services (AAA, ASAP, ADRC, Senior Center)	9
Housing (senior housing, assisted living, subsidized housing)	48

Participant Roles (N=107)	%
Case Manager	42
Director	9
Housing Placement & Stabilization Specialist	9
Other	4
Other - Frontline	21
Social Worker	2
Therapist / Clinician	6.5
Supervisor	6.5

*"I feel as though this course has provided a good foundation to begin addressing HD with clients if it becomes an issue they need assistance with. I feel as though I can discuss the topic without being offensive and keeping an open mind. I also think I now have basic skills to assist a client in opening up and understanding the issue and agencies to reach out to for assistance."*

-Participant