

Learning about the Survivors Speak Program

Educators' perceptions of program impact



The ultimate goal of the Survivors Speak program is to learn about the Holocaust to simultaneously decrease anti-Semitism and inspire moral courage & civic responsibility, while honoring Survivors. In order to accomplish this impact, program leadership recognized they must achieve the following outcomes: 1) enable meaningful first-hand encounters between students/teachers & survivors to enhance the desire and capacity of schools to meet the mandate of teaching the Holocaust; 2) activate Survivors as Holocaust and anti-Semitism educators, thereby also maintaining their vitality; and 3) increase students' and teachers' exposure to the Jewish community and Federation.

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HOW MUCH we did in 2018



6,987 students reached



40 schools

This compares to 34 schools in 2016-17, 26 schools in 2015-16 and 24 in 2014-2015. 43 presentations were made overall. We do not have impact data for these other populations.

including



**23 repeat schools &
17 new partners.**

featuring



35 Survivor participants

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Overall Program Rating:



8

High School teachers

5

Middle School teachers

5

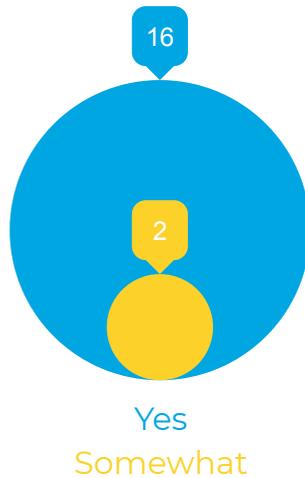
Elementary School teachers

6

Program First-timers

14 of the 18 teachers teach English or Social Studies. Most find out about the program from a referral (a colleague, a parent, a Federation affiliate). But 4 of the 18 teachers found out about the program from the Holocaust Council website.

Did this program enhance your capacity to meet the State of New Jersey's mandate of teaching the Holocaust?



Teacher Takeaways

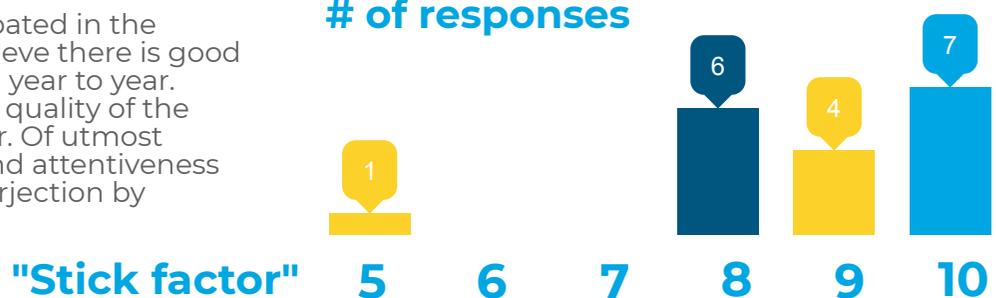
- ★ "To make sure nothing like this happens again"
- ★ "The authenticity of the event and allowing the students to experience something tangible was the number one takeaway"
- ★ "That we must continue to tell the incredible histories of these survivors"

15 of 17 of teachers had opportunities for post-program reflection.

On a scale of 1 to 10, how much do you think the program's messages will "stick" with your students?

Teachers who have participated in the program before overall believe there is good consistency in quality from year to year. Differences depend on the quality of the speaker and the moderator. Of utmost importance is the clarity and attentiveness of speaker and limited interjection by moderator.

of responses



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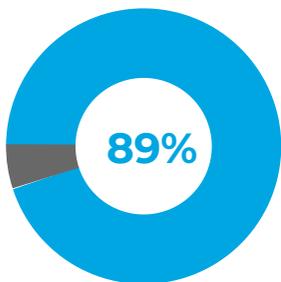
Educators (continued)

Educators' perceptions of differences in students

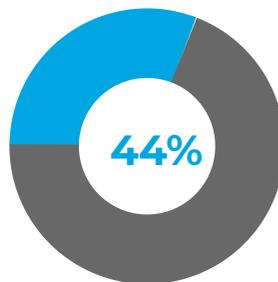


Central to the goals of the Survivors' Speaks program is for the Survivors' messages to inspire action in the students. The majority of teachers have noticed "some differences" in students in areas of moral courage, civic responsibility and sensitivity to anti-Semitism. Examples of these differences are largely students showing more compassion, more support and more kindness to others. A few also mentioned their students are showing more tolerance and acceptance of others.

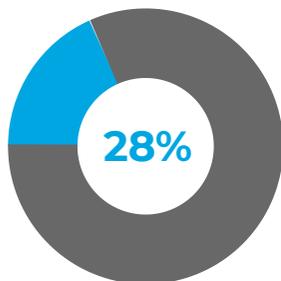
Educators' perceptions of the ripple effect



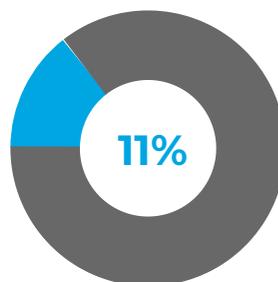
89% (17 out of 18 teachers) see evidence of students talking about the program with other students and/or teachers



44% (8 out of 18 teachers) have heard parents acknowledging the program



28% (4 out of 18 teachers) see evidence of students exemplifying more "upstander" behavior.



11% (3 out of 18 teachers) see evidence of stereotypes regarding minorities or the Holocaust dispelled

So what?

The power in the ripple effect is mostly through evidence of the stories being shared with others.

Less evidence is present in inspiring specific actions by students.

Student reflections suggest the same learnings - most students mention they have told others about the presentation, but many acknowledge they have not changed their behaviors.

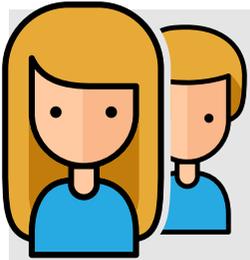
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"Just the facts" by school level

	Elementary School Teachers	Middle School Teachers	High School Teachers
First-timers	0 out of 4	2 out of 5	2 out of 8
# feel more qualified to teach Holocaust	4 out of 4	4 out of 5	8 out of 8
# notice significant differences in students	0 out of 3	2 out of 5	2 out of 8
# who rate program a 10	2 out of 4	5 out of 5	7 out of 8
# find materials extremely helpful	3 out of 4	4 out of 5	5 out of 8
Expected "stick factor" (out of 10)	8.3	8.4	8.9

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Breathing Life into Numbers: Educators' Voices

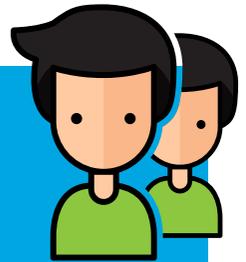


"Putting a face to the stories make such an impact on students. Rather than reading from a book or an article, to have a real person tell their story is incredible!"

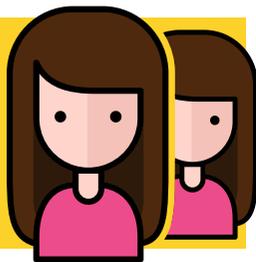
"It is so important for the students to hear a first hand account of something that happened in history. We need to continue to remind students that history can repeat itself, and this encourages them to be pro active !"

"It is vital for as many people to hear the firsthand accounts of Survivors so we will never forget and we can continue to tell these stories to educate."

"Such a powerful program. My only hope is that we have the oportunity to bring this again next year. The students, faculty, and parents who attended knew how fortunate they were to experience these stories first hand. Thank you for all you do."



"The life long lesson lesson that people matter"



"The personal experiences - loss of family, physical and emotional suffering, how others helped them survive, their ability to endure. No source can match that."

"Several teachers (mostly math and science) who came down with their classes stayed through their prep periods because they were so fascinated. For two days in a row it has been a topic of discussion in the faculty room."