

# telling it

Arts-based interventions  
for change

## EVALUATION SUMMARY

The Telling It program continues to see the positive impact that our approach has on the emotional healing and social skills of school-aged youth. As a trauma-informed program with a staff that is trained and knowledgeable about the effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences on a growing child, we are thrilled to share our evaluation findings that affirm the work we are doing in the community.

When Telling It youth were asked what they learned about themselves from participating in the program, their answers reflected an increased sense of self worth; youth felt they were valued and respected. Telling It offered a safe space for them to share their life experiences as well as their hurts.

### KEY FINDINGS\*

#### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-AGED YOUTH REPORTED:

- 100% felt that people care about their safety and learning compared to 75% in the beginning of the year.
- Nearly all youth reported feeling pride in their schoolwork and excitement towards writing.
- 100% reported learning new ideas about people different from them over the course of the year.
- 95% agreed that they have someone they can talk to if they have a problem.
- At the beginning of the year 50% of the youth reported that they liked writing stories and poems. Post-surveys indicated that nearly all reported feeling proud of the stories and poems they wrote during the program.

#### MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL-AGED YOUTH REPORTED:

- 95% agreed that they felt safe sharing their feelings, thoughts, and ideas compared to 48% in the beginning of the year.
- The percentage of youth that felt confident in their ability to collaborate with others increased from 57% to 95% over the course of the year.
- The percentage of youth who felt pride about what they can do in school increased slightly from 81% to 90% over the course of the year.
- 79% of the youth reported they wrote about things during the year that they don't normally talk about.



\*Data based on youth self-reporting. Evaluation surveys were distributed to youth at the beginning and at the end of the academic year with a series of check-in question at the mid-point.

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