

## **Type of Event:** Breakout Speech (CEU)

**Audience:** Healthcare providers, mental health professionals, daycare/child development providers, teachers/educators, school counselors, county workers, law enforcement, justice system professionals, clergy, foster-care providers, victim service providers, hospital administration, youth serving organizations, all interested community members. 78 questionnaires filled out, approximately 5 left blank/not turned in

**Topic:** *Trauma Bonding Using Real Life Examples*

**Speaker:** Healing TREE Founder + CEO Marissa Ghavami

**Time:** 1 ½ hours including Q&A

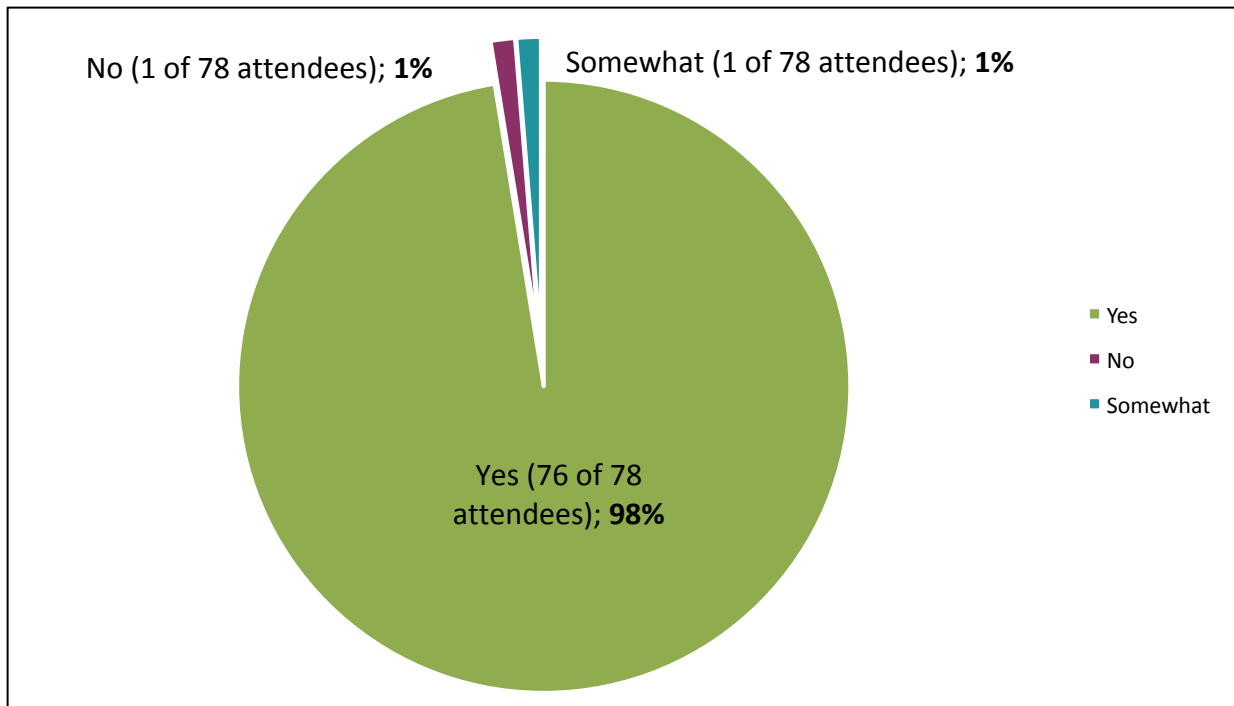
**Venue:** Trauma Informed Symposium

**Location and Date:** Oshkosh, WI 4.11.17

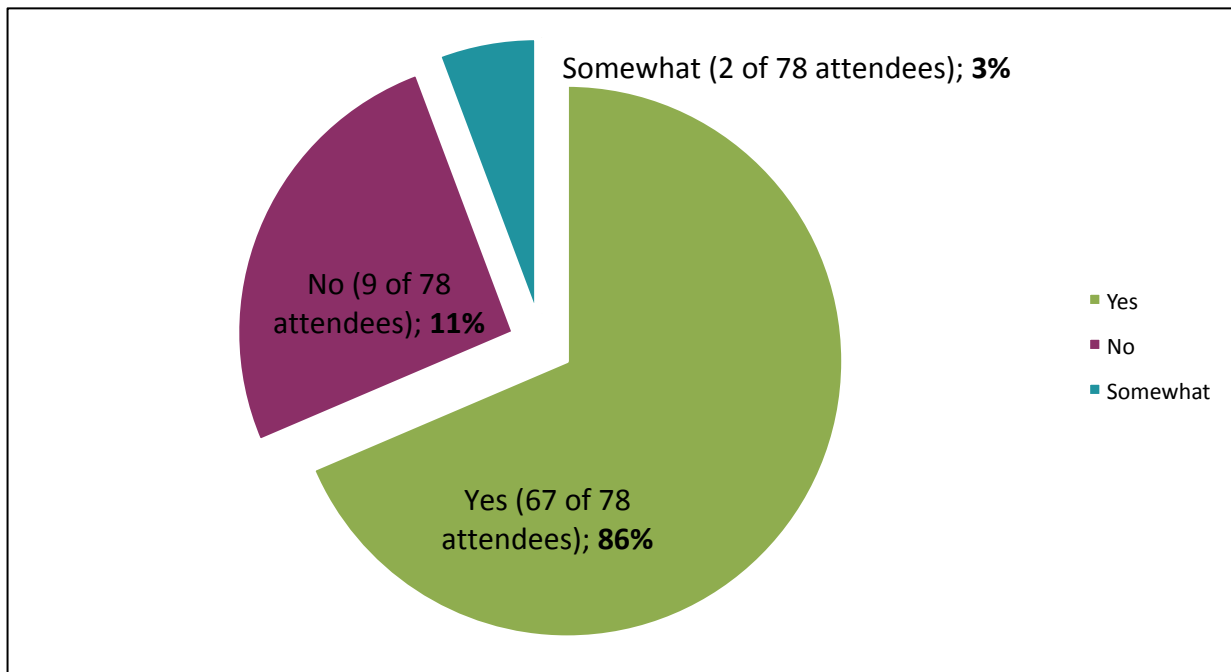


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RESOURCES,  
EDUCATION &  
EMPOWERMENT

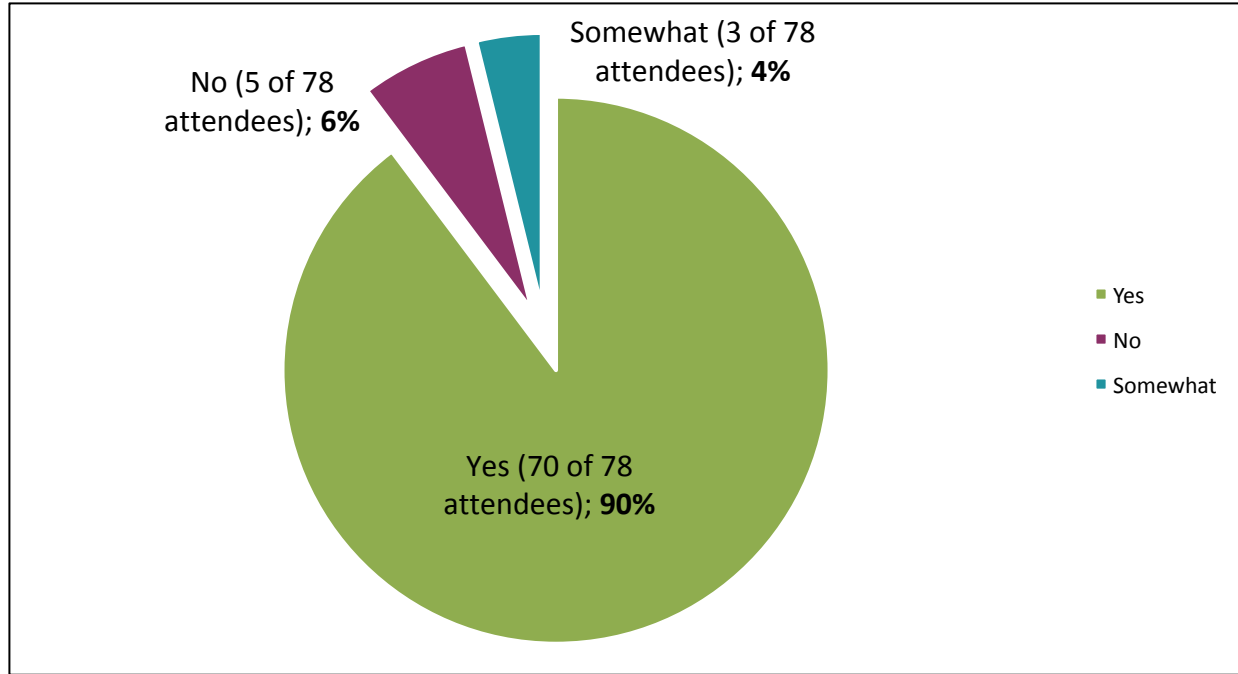
**1. Do you feel better prepared to recognize the signs of trauma bonding after attending today's breakout speech?**



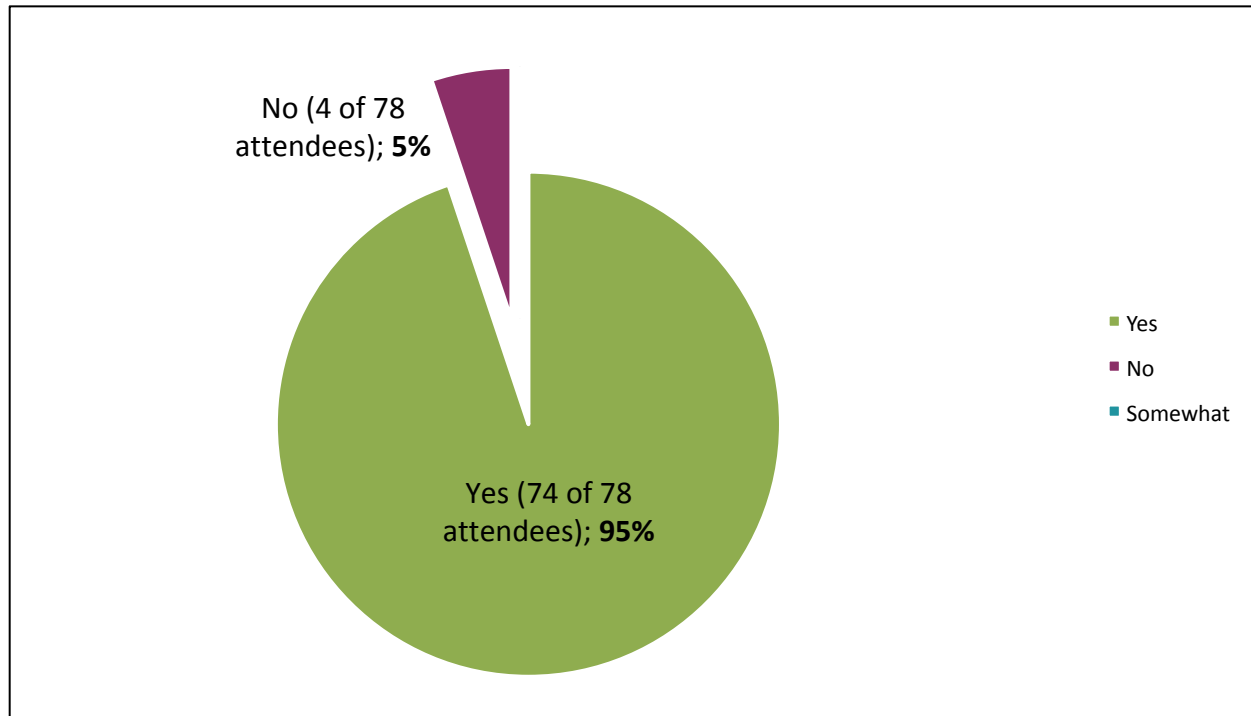
**2. Do you feel better prepared to apply effective intervention for those who are trauma bonded after attending today's breakout speech?**



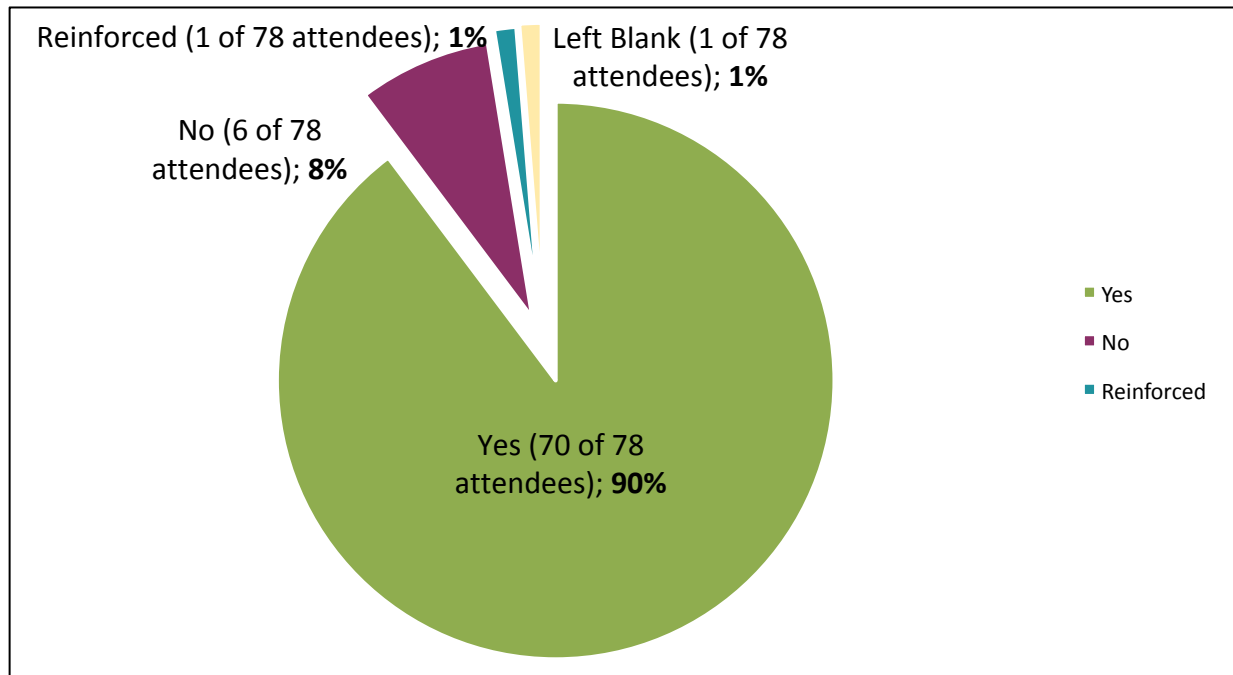
**3. Do you feel better prepared to describe to those who are trauma bonded the basics of the science behind the symptoms to allow for further intervention after attending today's breakout speech?**



**4. Do you feel better prepared to identify and help connect those who are trauma bonded with resources for healing after attending this breakout speech?**



## 5. Did you learn about something today that you weren't aware of before?



### 5. If yes, what? Comments included:

"The science behind trauma bonding and how to approach it. I feel so [much] more prepared to speak with someone [who is undergoing] trauma bonding in an effective way."

"Definition and much deeper understanding of a trauma[ti]c relationship and approach to effectively support the person."

"A better understanding of trauma bonding."

"I have never heard of trauma bonding before and see it in a student I have."

"Cycles of abuse."

"What trauma bonding is and how prevalent it is in the world."

"What trauma bonding means and how to recognize [it.]"

"Basic brain science and acknowledging that providers can do more harm than good."

"How to approach trauma bonding."

“‘You deserve more’ could make the victim feel as though they are doing something else wrong.”

“All of it - the best thing I learned were the ‘do’s and don’ts’. We’ve all seen unhealthy relationships but never knew how we could help.”

“I was able to learn about friendship dominance.”

“How to better explain the brain processes behind trauma bonding. I’m the program manager at a domestic violence agency so this information is incredibly useful and will be utilized daily.”

“The importance of explaining science.”

“What trauma bonding really is. The science behind it.”

“I wasn’t aware of what trauma bonding was, or how often I have witnessed/ experienced it now that I do understand what it is.”

“Trauma bonding is not a cognitive process [and it] cannot be addressed by cognitive interventions.”

“Various levels, that trauma bonding affects so many people.”

“I have an understanding of domestic violence but not to this extent. Just because this is 2017 doesn’t mean we know everything about trauma. Great job!”

“Trauma is happening in survival part of the brain therefore trying to use logic with people will not work for healing purposes.”

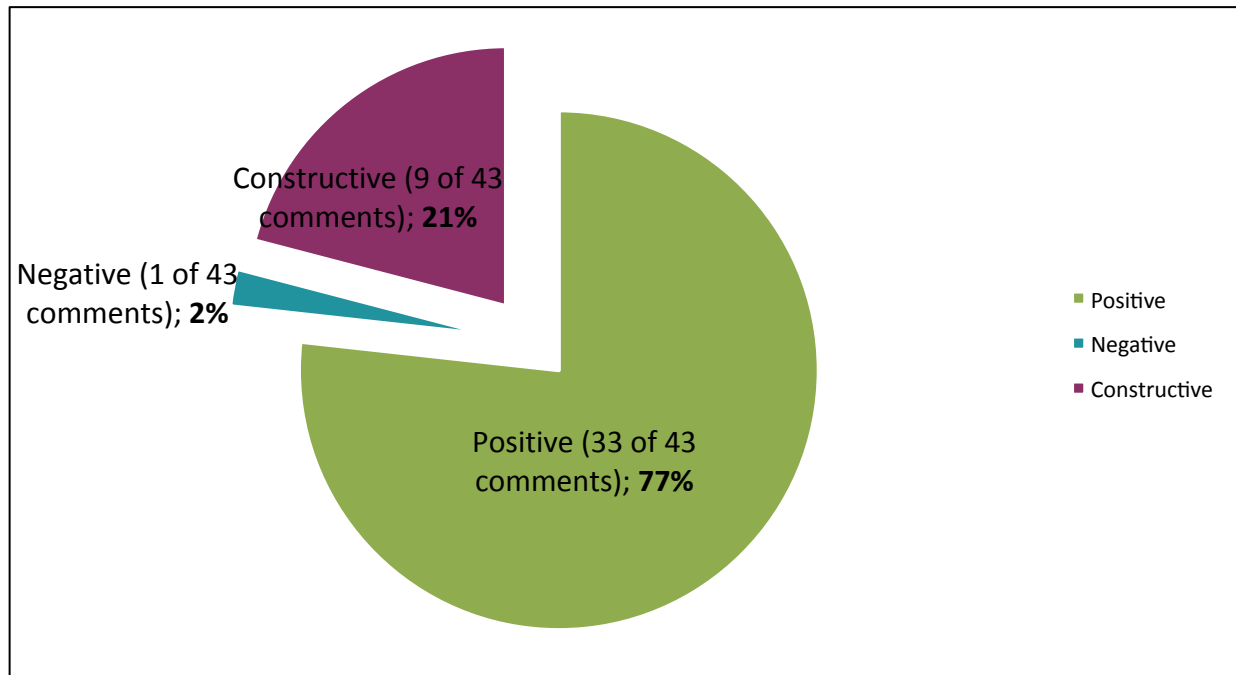
“I had never heard of this concept. Thank you for introducing me to it.”

“Interventions in abuse situations shouldn’t directly place blame on the abuser because this can push the victim away because of their trauma bond with the abuser.”

“I knew very little about trauma bonding. Also, how to address the victim with a listening approach and not [make] them feel under attack.”

“The term ‘trauma bonding’ is new to me. I work with young children who are often removed from abusive/ neglectful homes. I am constantly wondering why they want to remain with their parents/ families when they have other loving, nurturing environments to go to. I get it now.”

## 6. Additional Comments. (Types of comments left.)



### Positive comments included:

“This topic was far more intricate than I ever realized and I am feeling very confident in my knowledge and understanding of trauma bonding after this [presentation]. I will definitely look more into the suggested articles.”

“Concise presentation.”

“Powerful story and important for people to hear.”

“[Healing TREE Founder + CEO] Marissa does a great job breaking stereotypes and opening eyes to see the impact of trauma bonding and all the types of relationships it affects.”

“Very motivating. Thank you for taking the time to share your story. I am so glad you are safe today and able to make a full recovery. Very eye opening!”

“[Healing TREE Founder + CEO] Marissa is an absolutely incredible speaker with an amazing understanding and personal experience with trauma bonding. Her willingness to share her story give me, as a provider, additional knowledge and hope. Everyone should hear this!”

“Thanks for sharing your story!”

“Seeing the power of healing is so inspiring. My husband and I are expecting our first baby and we couldn’t be more excited. I feel like what I learned today will make me a better parent and can help my future teen with the right education.”

“I’ve been learning about trauma for the last 5 years, I was first introduced to this topic in grad school for counseling, and this was the best presentation I’ve seen. Very clearly articulated, very practical applications.”

“This was very helpful and I am thankful for [Healing TREE Founder + CEO Marissa’s] personal testimony.”

"[Healing TREE Founder + CEO Marissa] was engaging, knowledgeable and enthusiastic.”

“It’s unfortunate that trauma bonding isn’t discussed more in our field - it makes absolute sense. [Healing TREE Founder + CEO] Marissa is very, very knowledgeable but shared the information in a way that was easily understand. Fantastic and engaging presenter.”

“Bravo! As a victim, I am hopeful that awareness will continue.”

“Very well done. [Healing TREE Founder + CEO] Marissa’s story and approach is refreshing and brave. The world needs more of this.”

“Great new things to come with your program.”

“Thanks so much - great presentation.”

## **7. Would you like to join Healing TREE’s Mailing List?**

41 Joined the Mailing List