

Cultivating social connectedness among Graduate Medical Education programs

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Background

- **Introduction:** Graduate Medical Education (GME) social connectedness is often siloed within a single department. Creating connections across specialties could benefit residents and fellows and play an important step in developing cross departmental collaboration while improving well-being and patient care.
- **Objective:** The goal of this innovation was to increase social connectedness, cultivate professional relationships and improve well-being in MCWAH's Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs through mini awards that would allow members to interact with each other outside their work routine.

Methods

- Requests to apply for awards was emailed to the GME community. Up to \$500 could be awarded per application.
- 11 proposals were selected, and 17 unique programs were represented.
- Post event feedback from participants and organizers were collected through two separate questionnaires. Likert-type questions and open-ended texts were collected, reviewed and analyzed thematically.

Programs	No. of attendees
MCW OB/GYN & Columbia St. Mary's Family Medicine	18
Psychiatry & Internal Medicine	18
Medicine-Geriatrics Residency Program	10
Geriatric Medicine Fellowship	
Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship	
Geropsychiatry Fellowship	
Gen. Surgery & Emergency Med	16
Gen. Surgery & Anesthesiology	13
Cardiovascular & Critical Care Med Fellowships	15
Med-Peds & Internal Medicine	12
Anesthesiology Residency CA2/3 classes & All Saints Family Medicine Residency	13
Orthopedic Surgery & Plastic Surgery	30
Physical Medicine Rehabilitation & Internal Medicine	25
Med/Peds, Internal Medicine & Cardiology Fellowship	7

Building social connectedness across GME specialties is highly valued and should be continued.



“Overall, this event was extremely well received. It was, objectively, the most eventful and well attended extracurricular resident gathering that the Anesthesia department has seen in years. The attendees were very thankful, and I received many complements for organizing such an enjoyable event.”

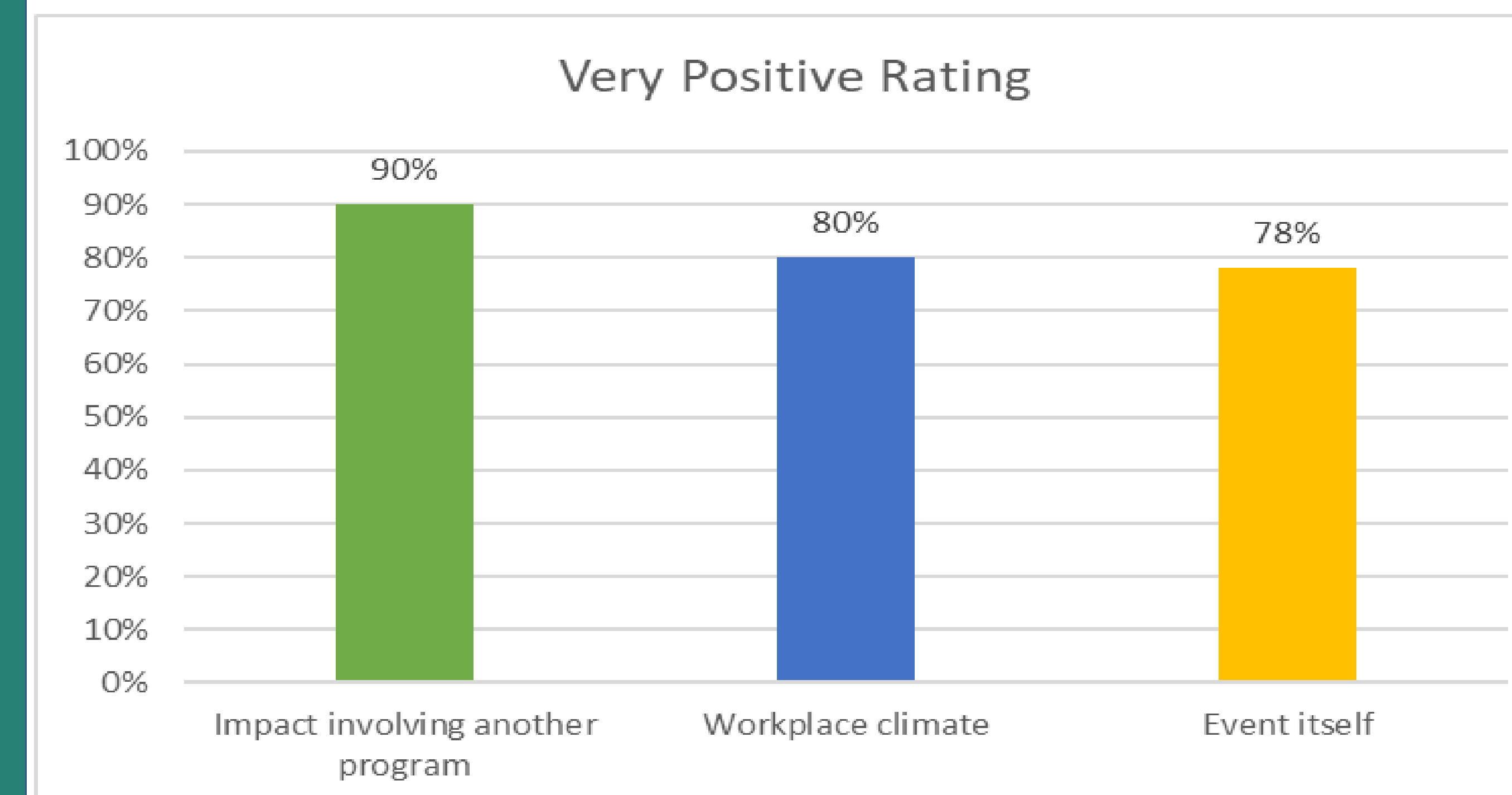
-Anesthesiology Resident



“The Surgery residents had a blast, enjoyed the socializing and the drinks. It was particularly nice to get to socialize with other residents, especially since anesthesia residents are also in the OR and understand the unique stressors that occur intra-operatively. Many residents have asked us to have a second event due to its success” -Surgery Resident

Results

- The short-term goal of bringing together different department was met successfully. A majority of attendees (**77%**) reported the event helped build community between the programs. An overwhelming majority (**88%**) rated the impact of event highly positive to their personal well-being.



Discussion

- A small investment resulted in creative events and impactful interactions across programs. Those who attended found the events to improve relationships and well-being.
- We plan to continue this opportunity and find ways to demonstrate the impact of this intervention on longer term outcomes such as well-being, culture and impact on patient care.

Acknowledgements

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