

# A Community Supporting Every Generation

Impact of Intergenerational Living on Attitudes and Mental Health of University Students and Older Adults

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## Purpose

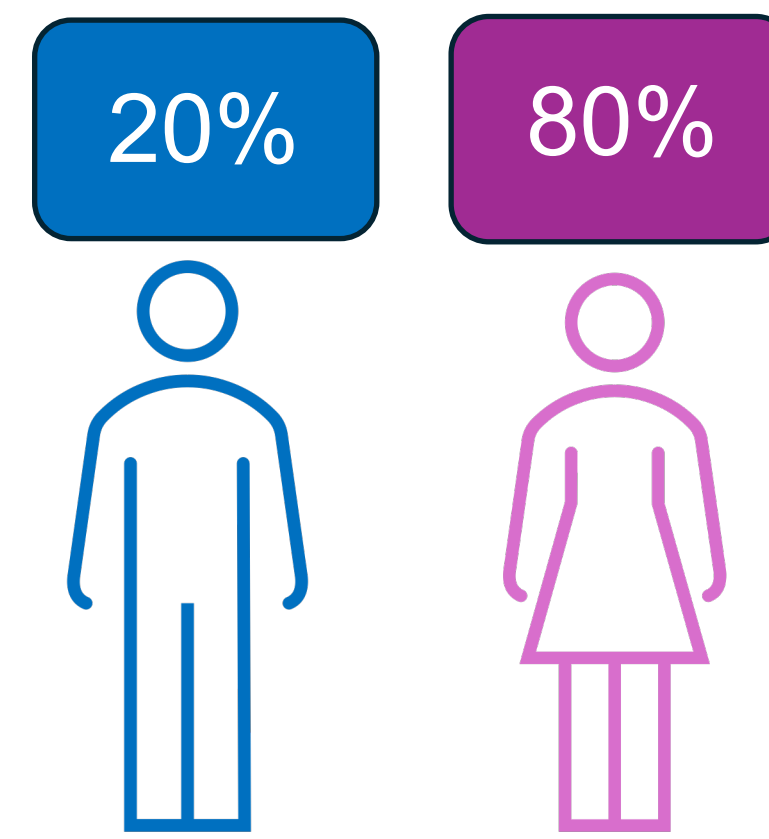
Describe the self-perceived impact of intergenerational living on quality of life  
Evaluate the effects of intergenerational living on student attitudes about aging and ageist behaviors

## Background

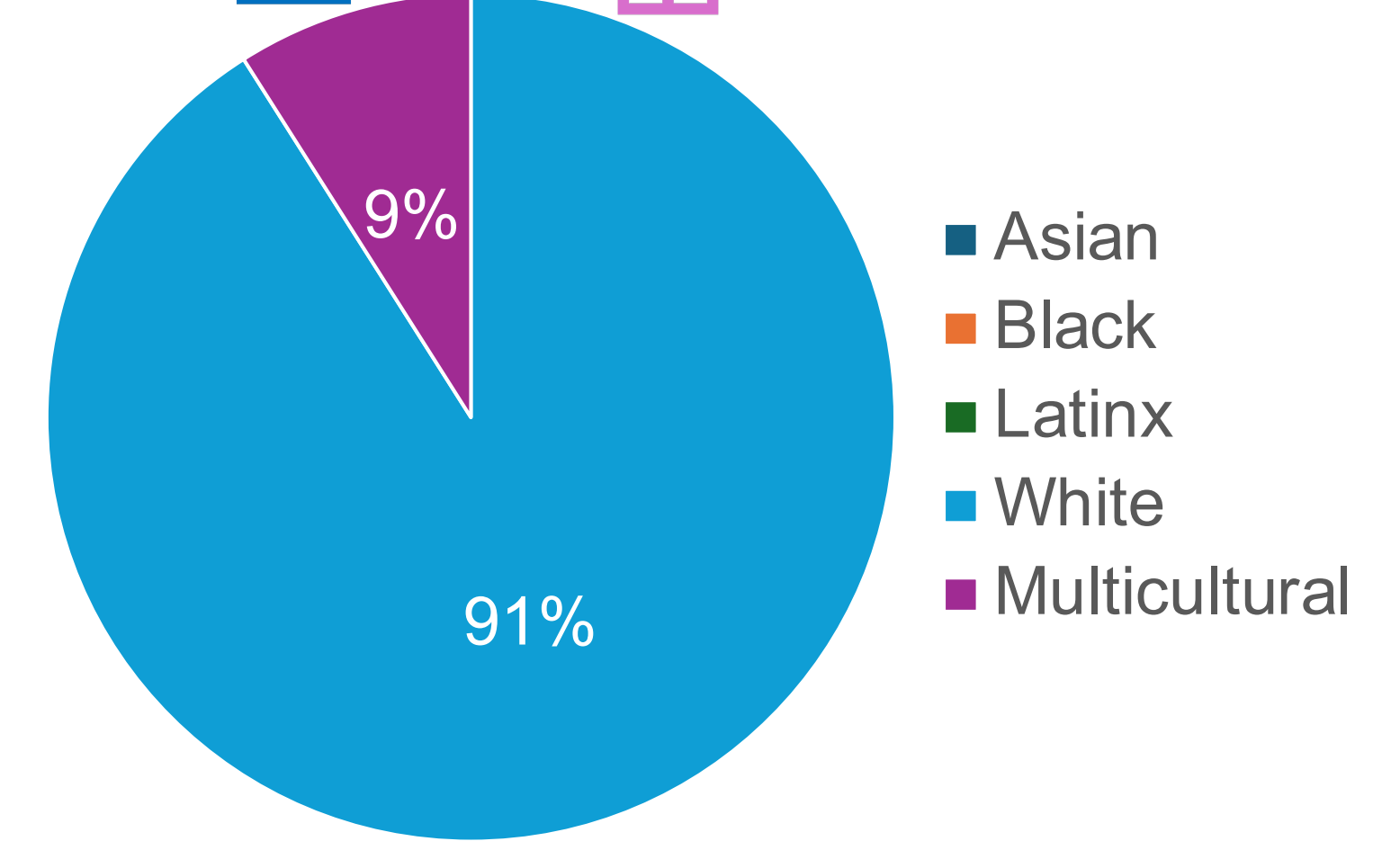
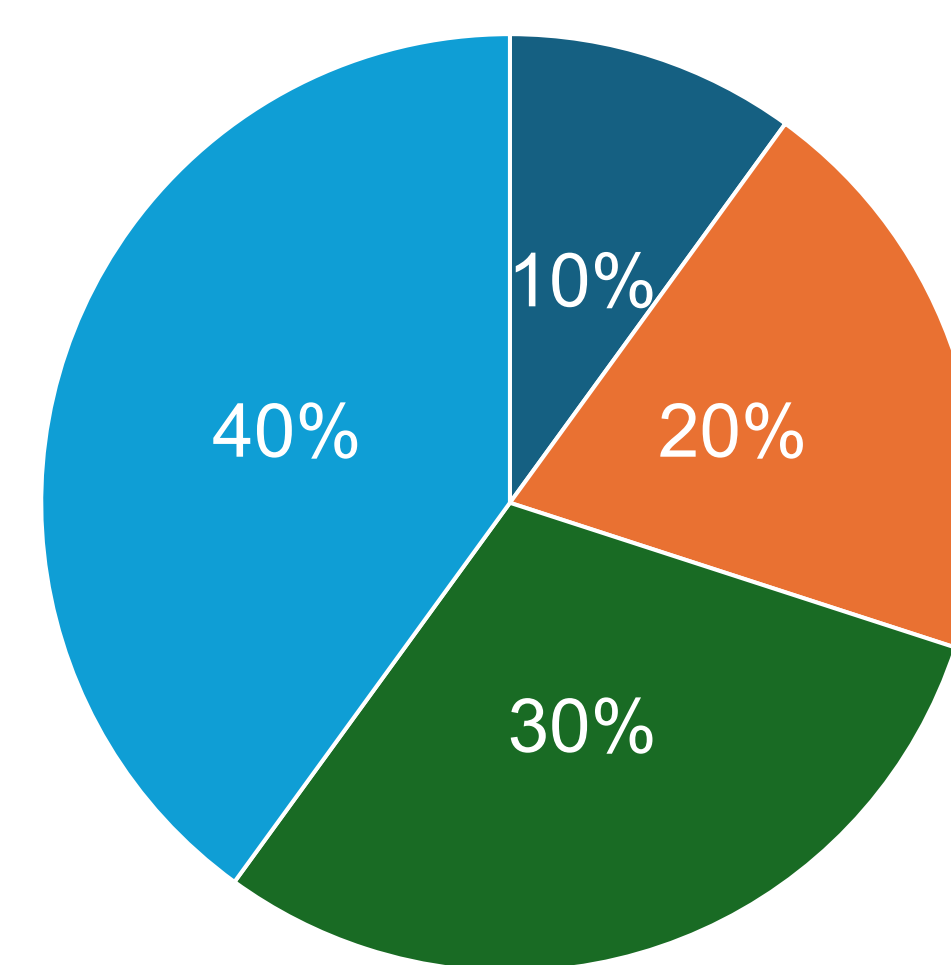
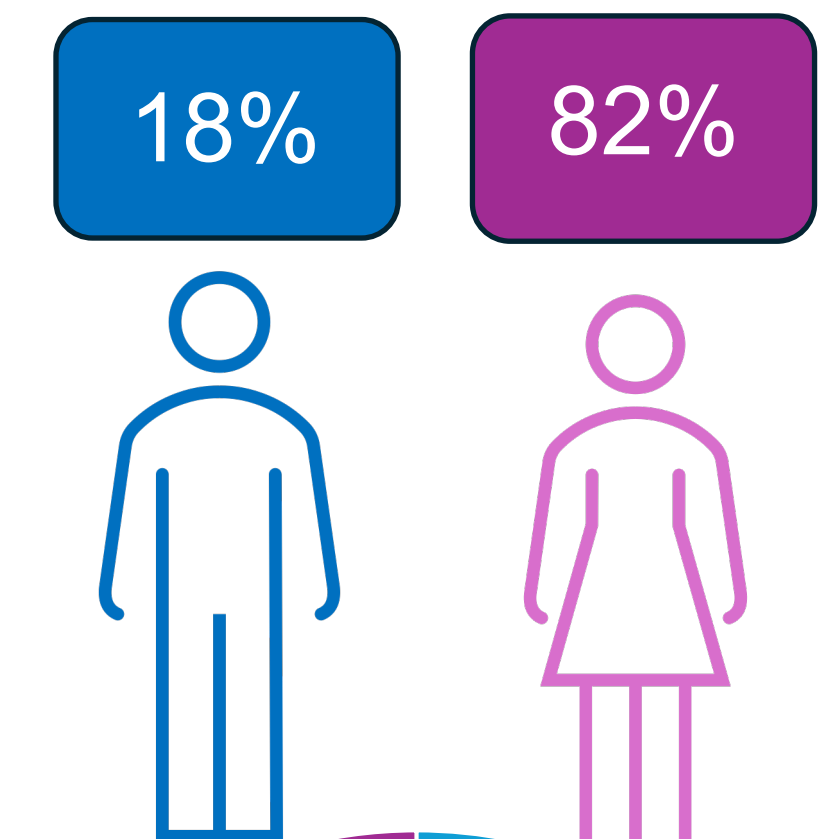
- Life experiences including retirement and residential changes can impact quality of life (Bunting & Lax, 2019; Moeller & Seehus, 2020)
- Both older adults & college age students are susceptible to loneliness and isolation due to changing life roles and living situations (Boamah et al., 2021; Hawkey et al., 2020)
- Meaningful social engagement can occur with both generations within intergenerational living (Angelou et al., 2023); however, model is novel in personal care homes in the United States

## Demographics

Graduate Student Residents



Older Adult Residents



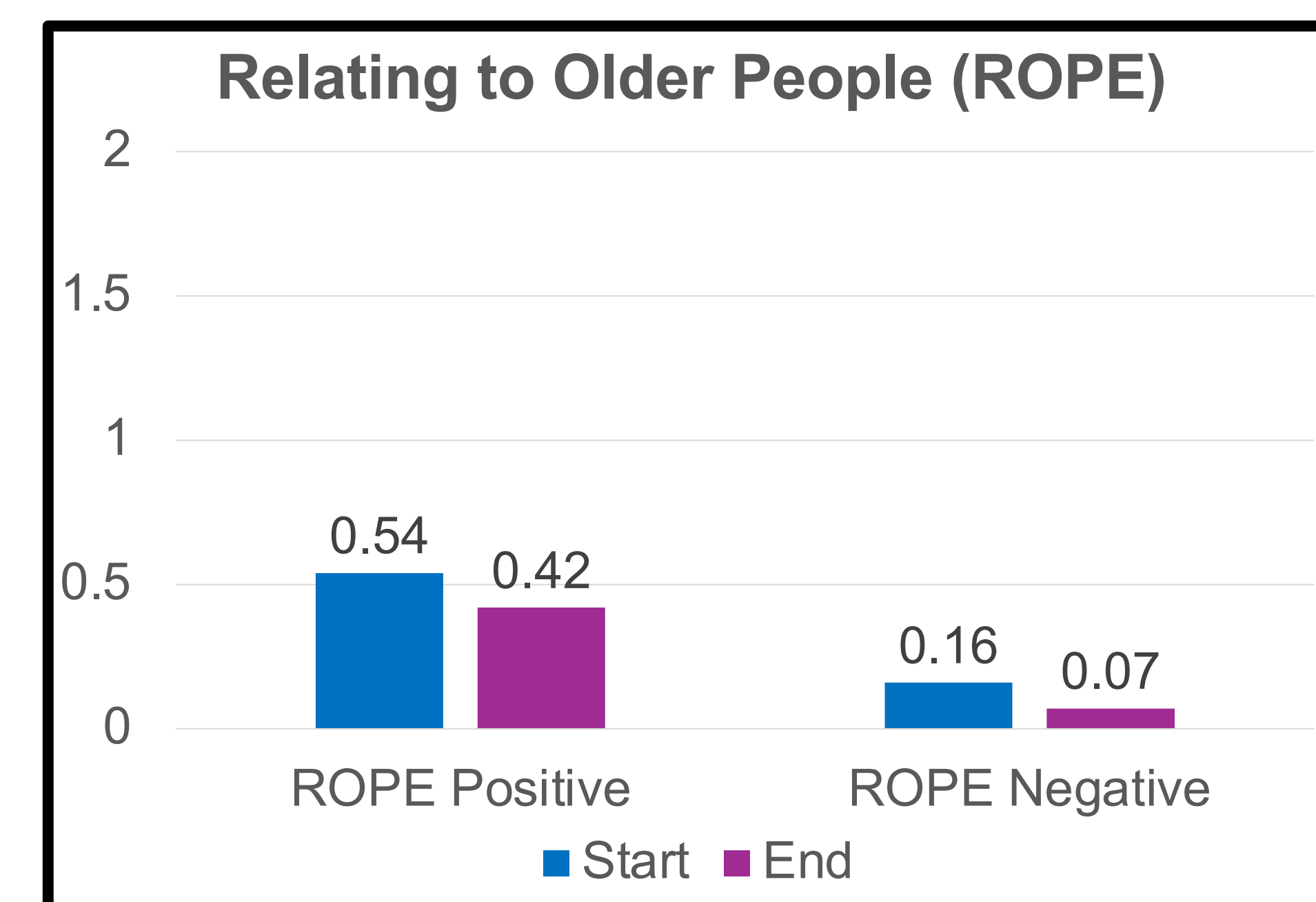
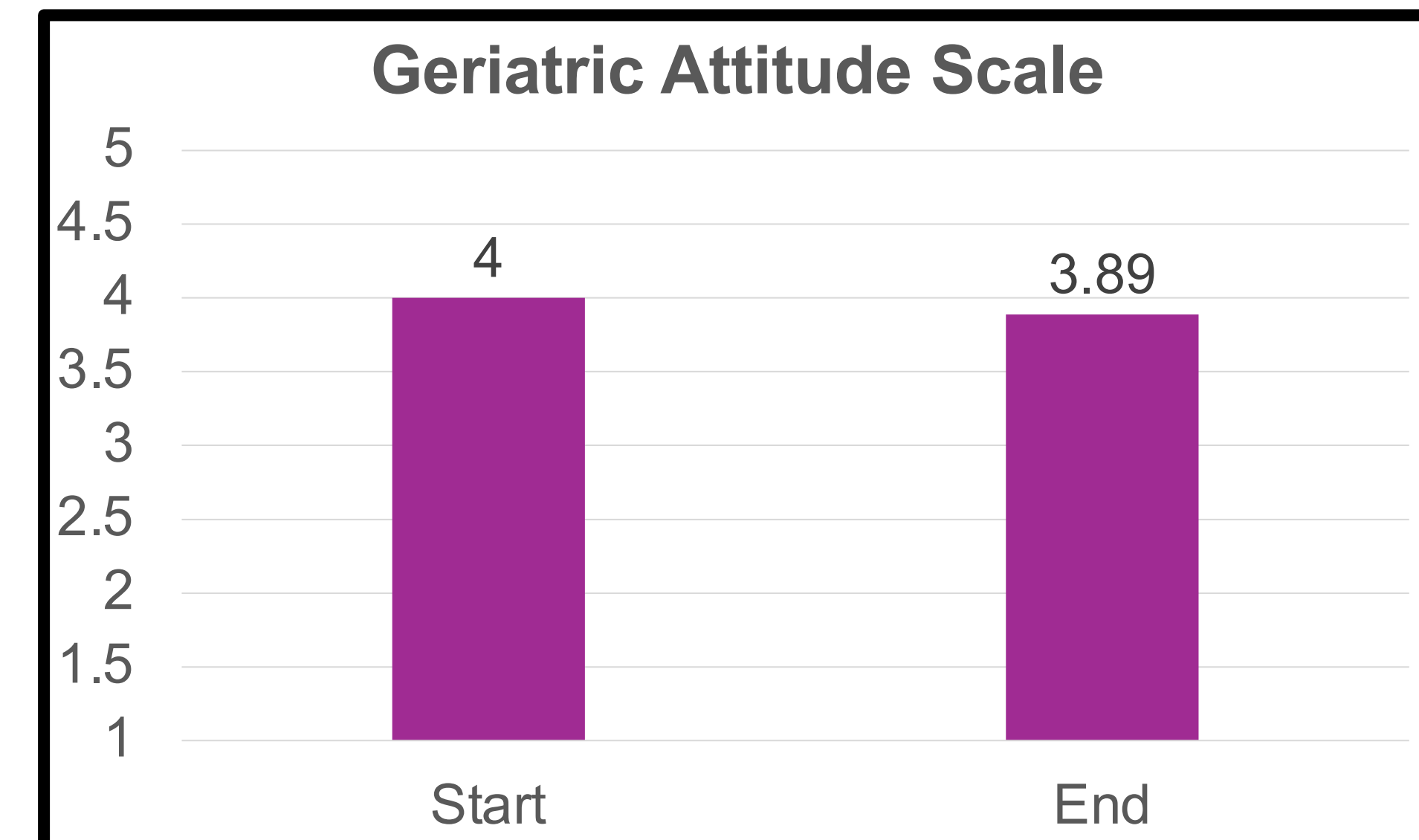
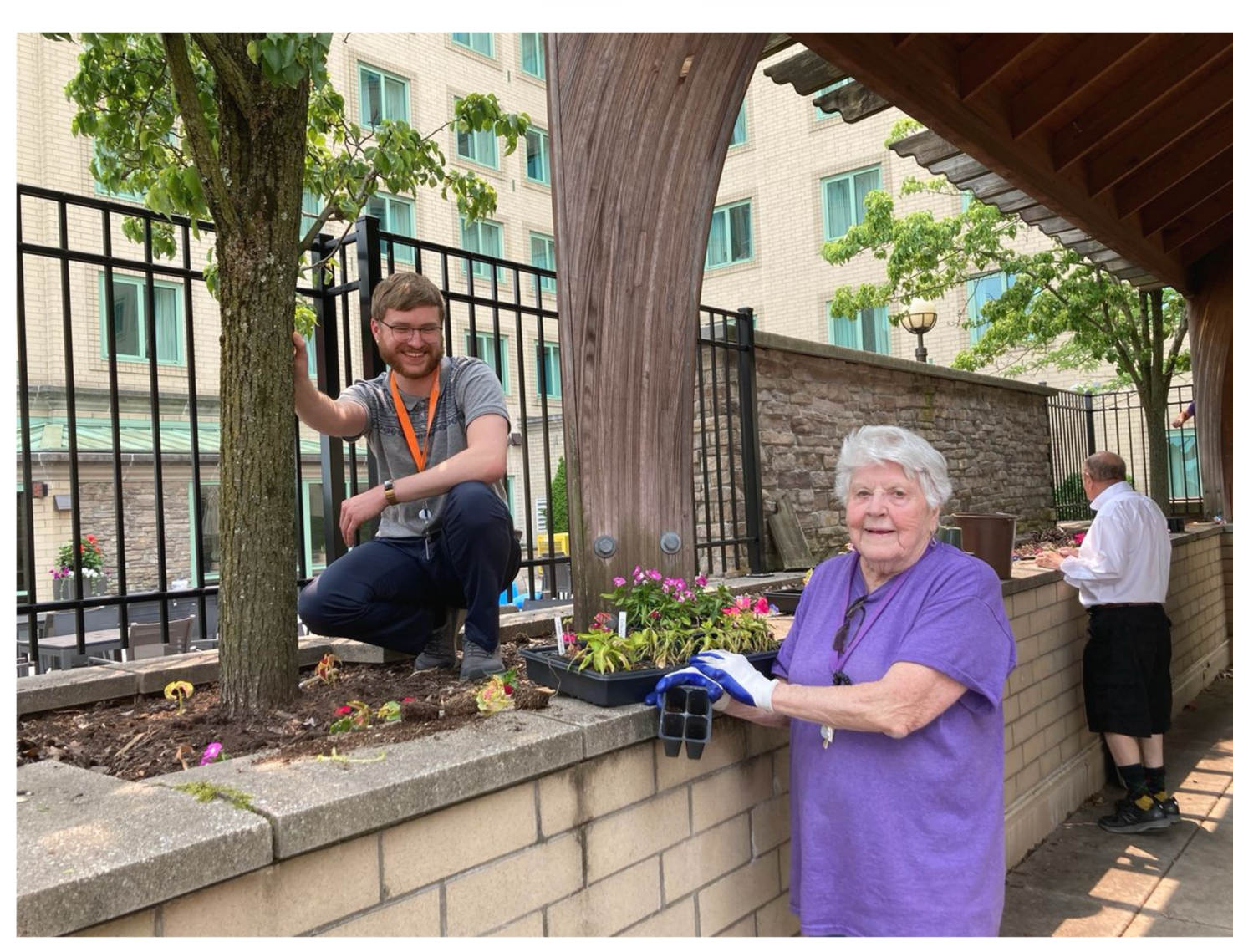
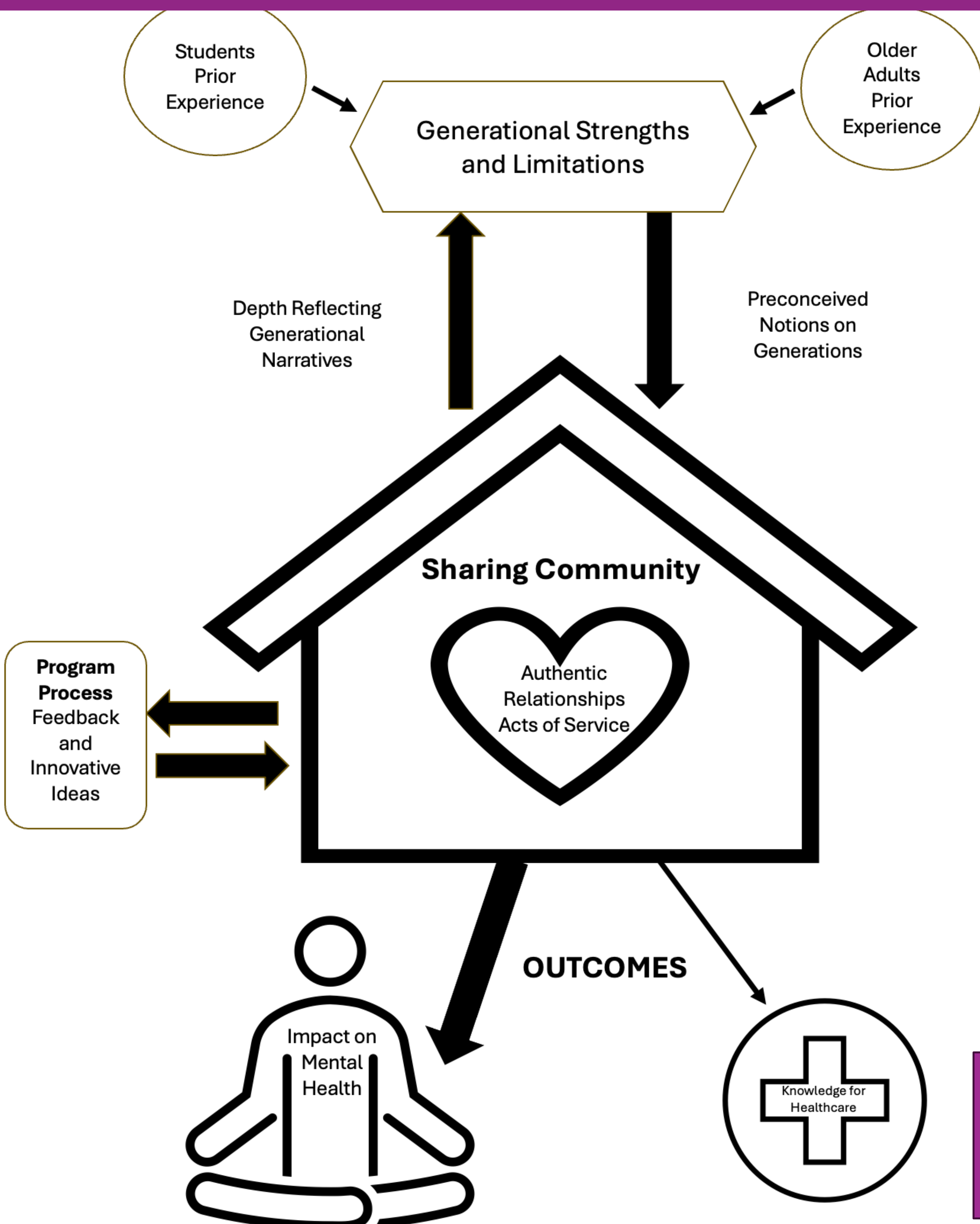
## Mixed Methods

Start of Living Survey - ROPE & GAS (Students)

Start of Living Interview (Students)

End of Living Survey - ROPE & GAS (Students)

End of Living Interview (Students & Older Residents)



**Take Home Message**  
Intergenerational Living Impacts the Positive Mental Health of BOTH the Student & Older Adult

## Discussion

- Intergenerational living provides a novel avenue for occupational justice advocacy.
- Supports the value of non-familial intergenerational living on quality of life for older adults and graduate health science students
- At times community experiences challenged prior held ageist stigmas, but more often previously held positive views were strengthened.
- Occupational therapy practitioners can promote and intentionally facilitate design of these living communities to support population health and wellness.

## Resources & References

