

# MEETING MINUTES

## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

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Date: December 10, 2025

Time: 2:30 PM

Location: Bishop COB Room 140, Lone Pine Wellness Center (satellite/virtual) and via Zoom

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### **1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Chairperson, Michelle Saenz called the meeting to order at 2:37 pm. All attendees introduced themselves.

### **MEMBERSHIP IN ATTENDANCE**

In Person: Supervisor Trina Orrill, Michelle Saenz, Claude Peters  
Virtual: none

### **COMMUNITY & STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

In Person: Brandon DeHaven, Lucy Vincent, Melissa Best-Baker, Toni Huff, Rosalind Cardenas, Vanessa Ruggio  
Virtual: Bill SmithWaters, Kelly Nugent, Cara Chesney

### **2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

none

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (ACTION ITEM)**

Minutes from October 8, 2025 meeting.

Mr. Peters moved to approve minutes as written, Supervisor Orrill seconded the motion. Motion carried: Ms. Saenz – Aye, Mr. Peters – Aye, Supervisor Orrill - Aye. None opposed.

#### **4. MEMBERSHIP UPDATE (INFORMATIONAL ITEM)**

Mrs. Best-Baker informed BHAB Members and meeting attendees that two BHAB Members are still needed: 1 family member and 1 client. It would be great to have a young adult member. We need a minimum of 5 members but can have up to 15. Recruitment has been posted to the Inyo Register and to Facebook. Supervisor Orrill recommended explaining that BHAB Members do not need to be an expert in Behavioral Health to be able to participate as a BHAB Member. BHAB Members and meeting attendees posed ideas of how to get the word out to interested community members. Mrs. Best-Baker noted that changes being made to the Brown Act may make it easier for new members to choose to apply. Mrs. Saenz asked about term limits and Mrs. Best-Baker said the terms are 3 years and should be staggered.

#### **5. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM UPDATE (INFORMATIONAL ITEM)**

Mrs. Best-Baker explained with what the State is calling the Behavioral Health Transformation (BHT), there is now a focus on how we coordinate with our managed care plans. Lori Bengochia attended a conference discussing that. Inyo is lucky that we already meeting with them monthly. We participated in the Public Health community health assessment and community health improvement plan (CHA/CHIP). Two of the three improvements are Behavioral Health focused (Maternal Mental Health and Substance Abuse). Northern and Southern Inyo hospitals came together over a community health assessment. The data collected will be shared. This will be useful in developing our BHSA Plan along with the CHA/CHIP.

Mrs. Best-Baker stated we received a grant for the housing program flex pool. This will allow us to have flexible housing funds available. As of January 1, 2026, all Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans (MCPs) will be required to provide up to six months of rental assistance for Medi-Cal recipients residing in either interim or permanent housing settings. The priority population are clients with significant behavioral health needs. BHSA requires that clients have used transitional rent resources before BHSA funds are available to them. By contracting and managing the transitional rent process, we will be able to ensure this occurs. She explained to the group about how transitional rent rules and referrals to the program will work. Goals include keeping people in their homes or trying to find unhouse people a home. She shared that good connections have been made with the managed care plan. A lively discussion ensued.

Mrs. Best-Baker told meeting attendees that a member of the Family Strengthening Team retired last month; we will work on hiring a new team member.

Mrs. Saenz asked whether Toiyabe can sponsor a meal at the Bishop and Lone Pine to bridge our separate service agencies.

In response to Mrs. Saenz inquiry about CARE Court, Toni Huff explained the type of outreach and engagement activities that go into helping adults engage in the services offered by this voluntary program. The group discussed the restrictive nature of CARE Court eligibility criteria and Mrs. Best-Baker remarked that another diagnosis is going to be added to broaden eligibility.

The group discussed motivating younger SUD clients to participate in services. Meeting attendees' suggestions included the appeal of using SUD apps and video games available on smartphones.

#### **6. DATA REPORTS (INFORMATIONAL ITEM)**

Mrs. Best-Baker shared the Data Report Power Point (please see attached). She asked the group what data points they would like to see in the future. Some ideas included: consolidating the report into fewer printed pages of slides. Mrs. Best-Baker explained that it could be printed 3 slides to a page. Other ideas included: clarifying the number of Mental Health assessments (are these new people or might they include reassessments?) and more detail about crisis response incidents. Mrs. Best-Baker will inquire about these.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS (INFORMATIONAL OR DISCUSSION ITEM)**

## **8. AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Services offered in the Jail (informational item)
- Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) (standing informational item)
- Review on access to services

Meeting adjourned at 3:39 pm.

DRAFT



# Inyo County Behavioral Health

# BH FY25-26 AT-A-GLANCE

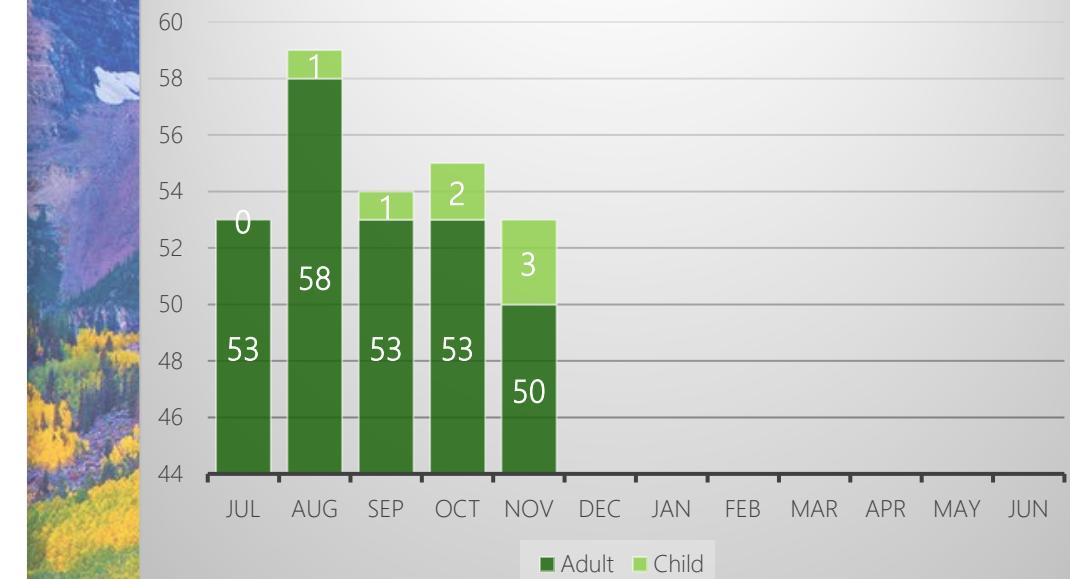
2

## Mental Health Clinic

### Clients Served



### Med Management

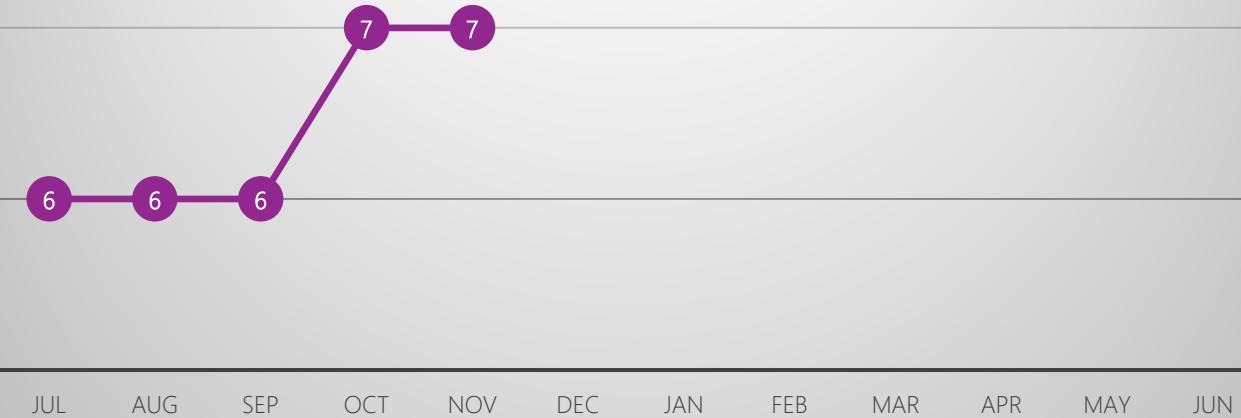


# BH FY25-26 AT-A-GLANCE

3

Mental Health Clinic

Veterans Served



# BH FY25-26 AT-A-GLANCE

4

## Assessments

Total Mental Health Assessments



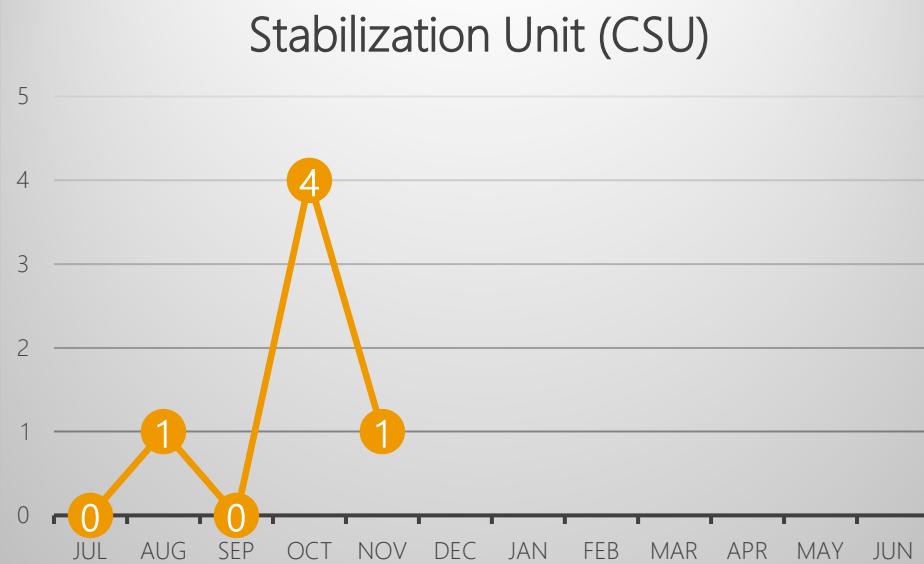
Total Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS)



# BH FY25-26 AT-A-GLANCE

## Transitions to Higher-Level Services

Total Transports to a Crisis  
Stabilization Unit (CSU)

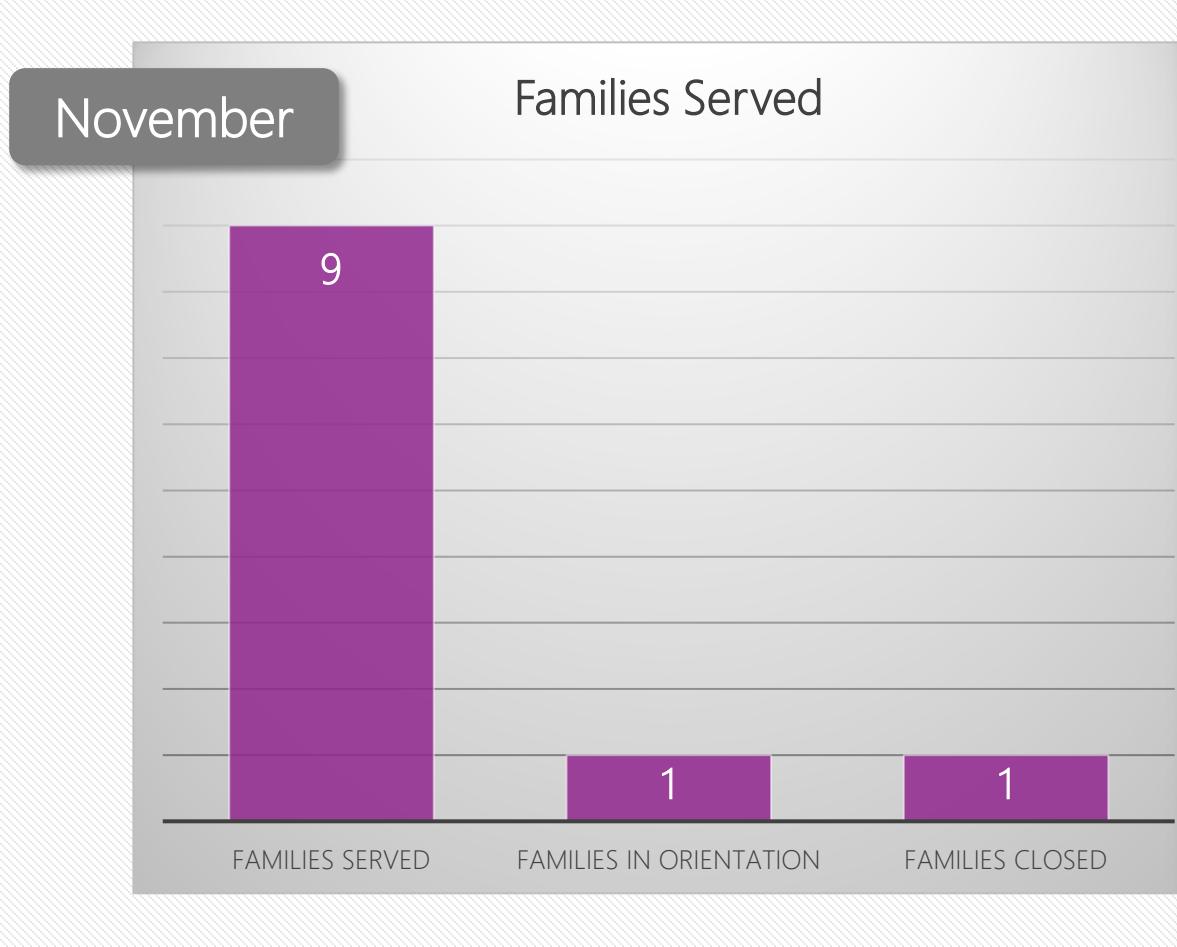


Total Hospitalizations



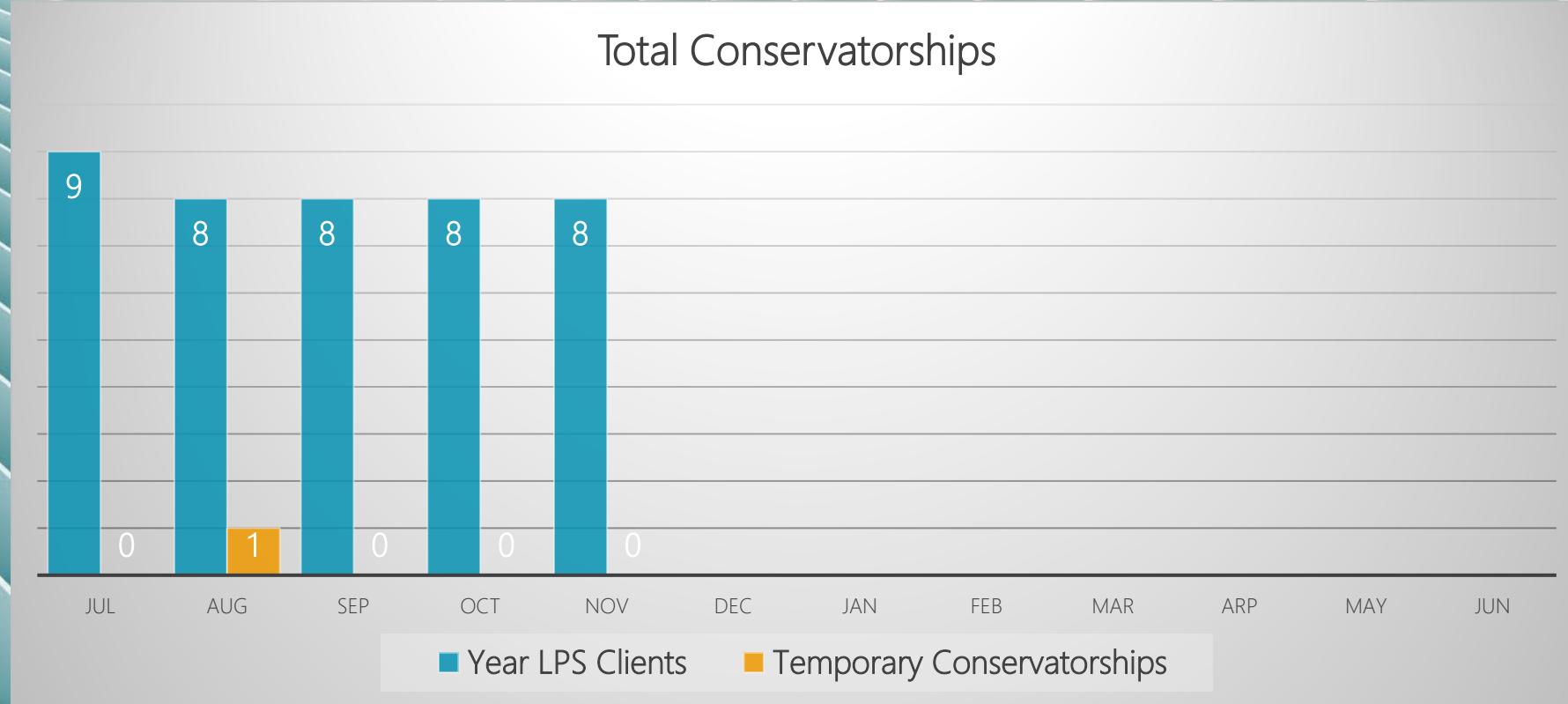
# FAMILY STRENGTHENING TEAM

6



# LPS CONSERVATORSHIP

7

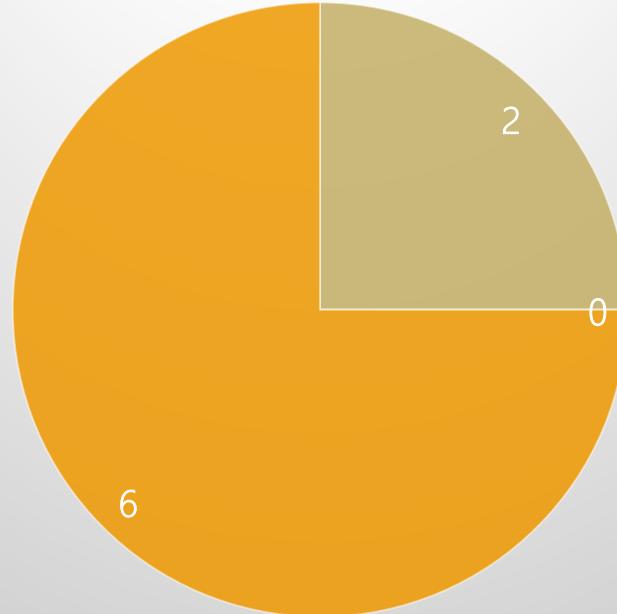


# LPS CONSERVATORSHIP

8

November

Client Residence by Location



■ In-County Facility

■ In-County Home

■ Out-of-County Facility

**In-County Facility:** ■

Clients placed in a licensed residential or treatment facility located within the county.

**In-County Home:** ■

Clients residing in a private home setting within the county, receiving services and support in the community.

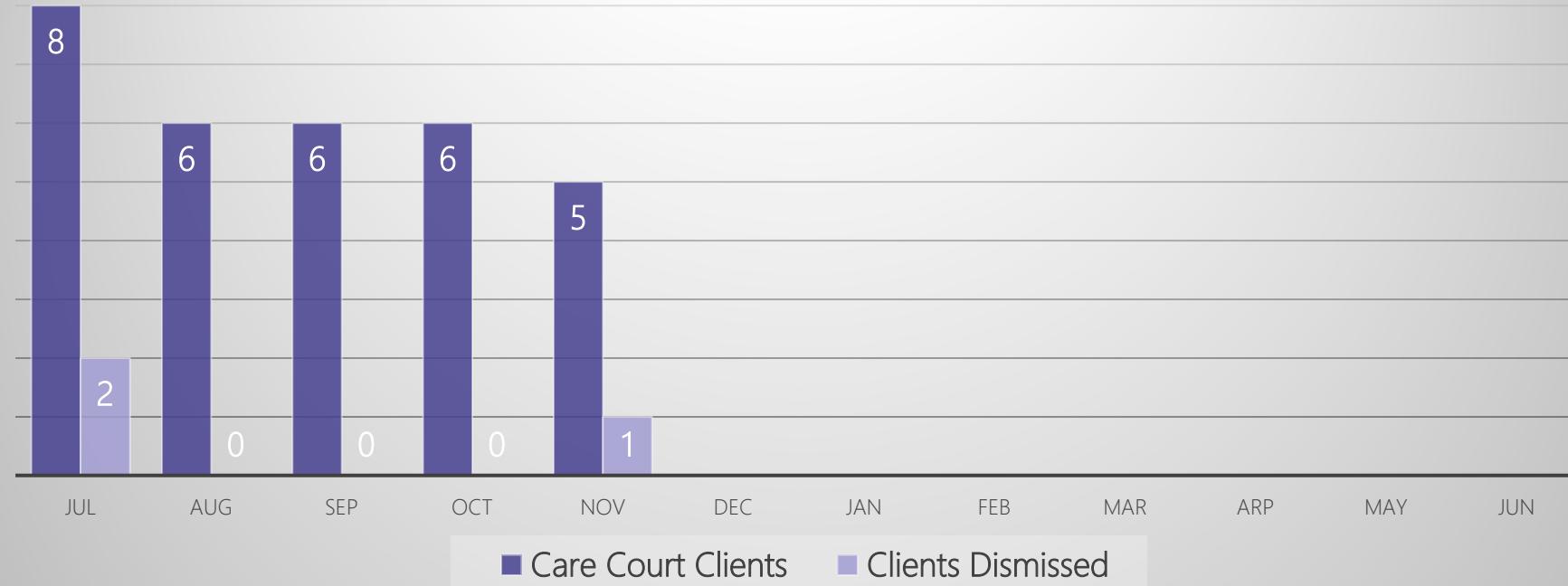
**Out-of-County Facility:** ■

Clients placed in a licensed residential or treatment facility located outside the county.

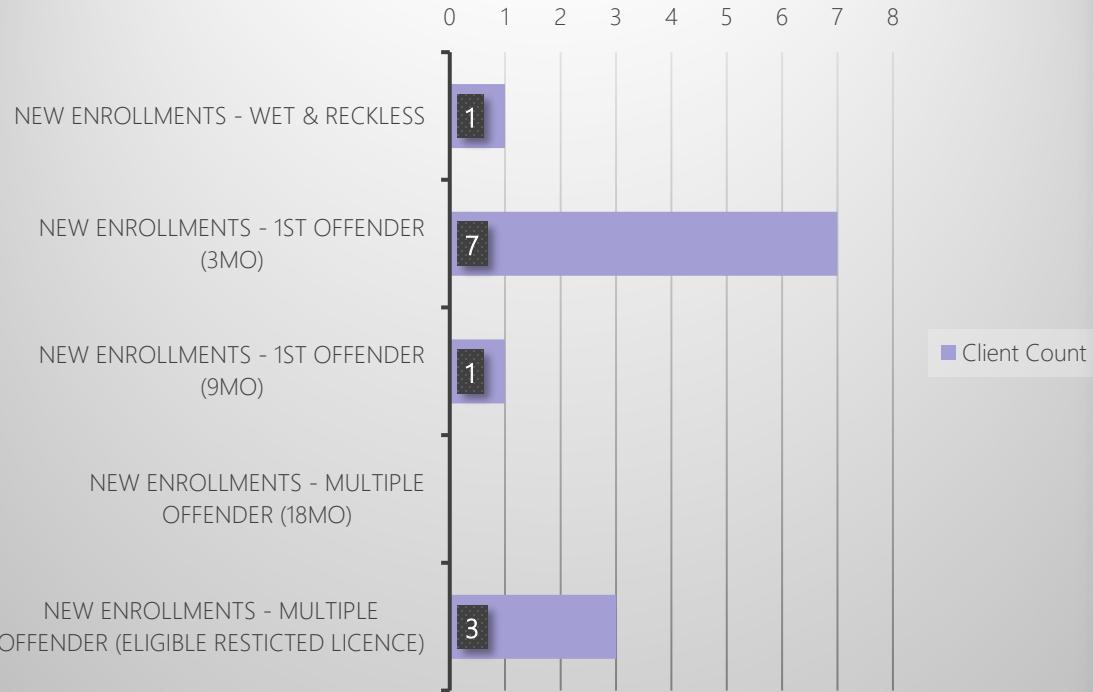
# CARE COURT

9

Clients

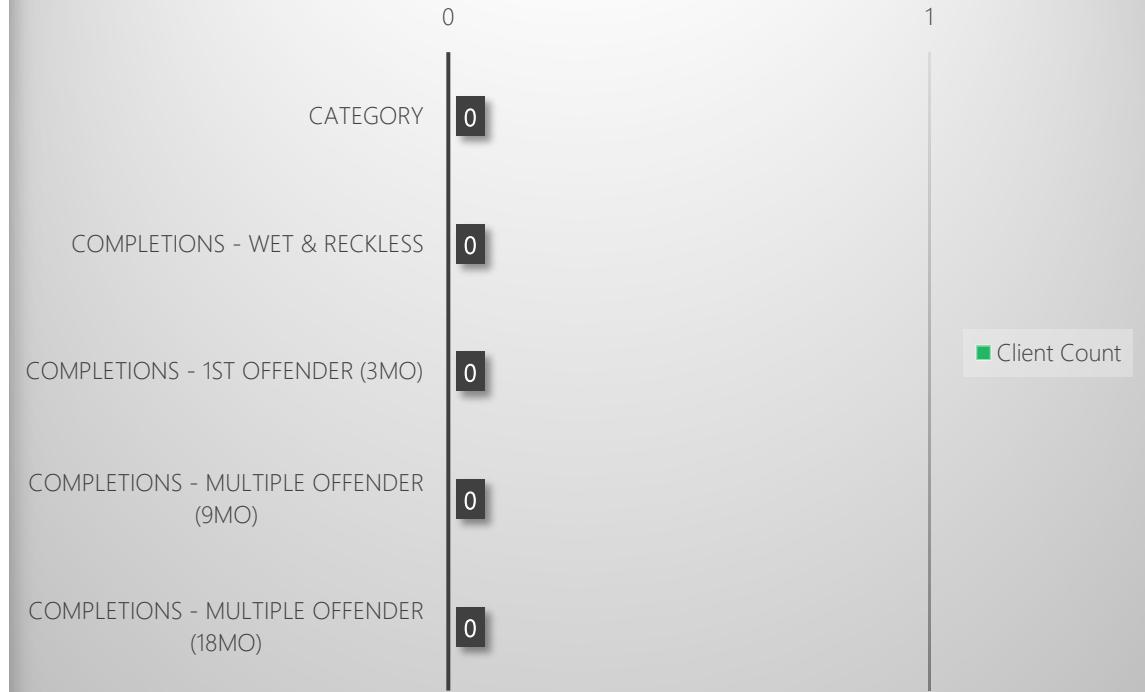


## New Enrollments



November

## Completions



November

15

ACTIVE CLIENTS

7

DRUG COURT CLIENTS

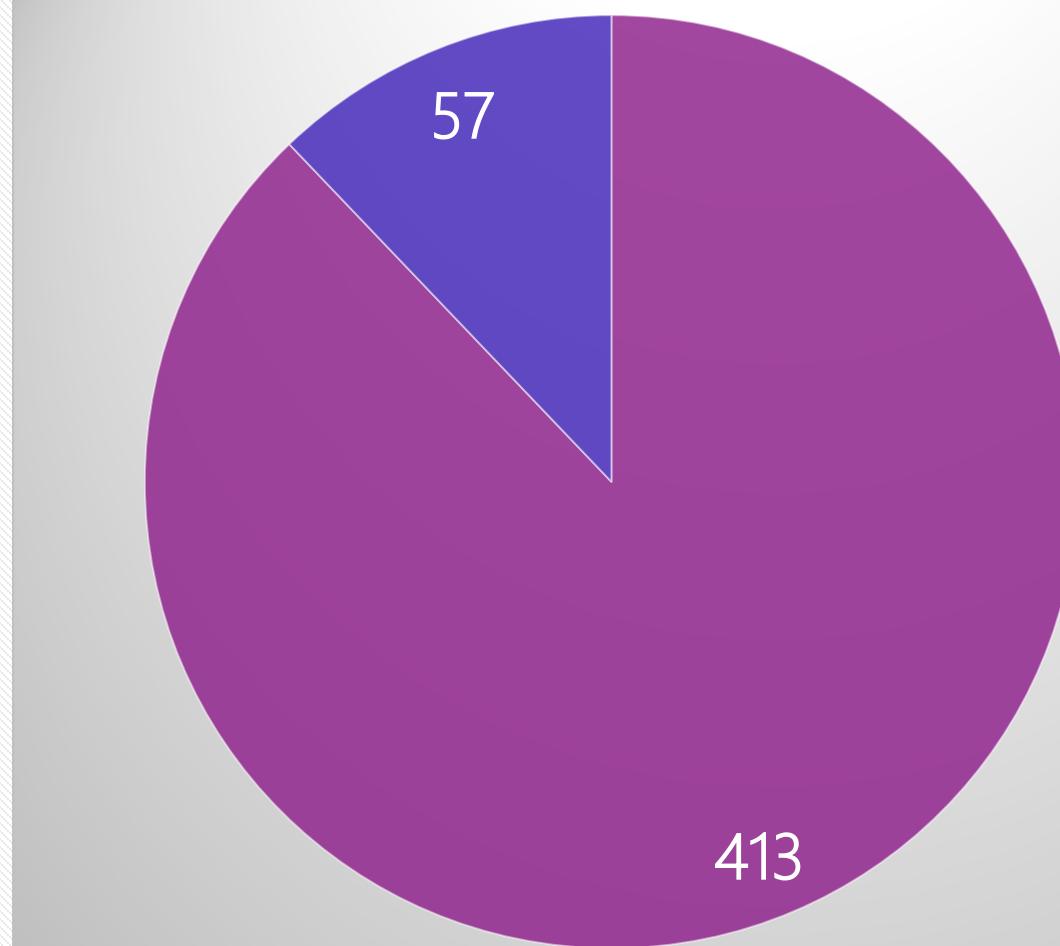
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DRUG COURT COMPLETIONS

# WELLNESS CENTER

12

November



■ Bishop Wellness Center  
■ Lone Pine Wellness Center

Total Interactions:

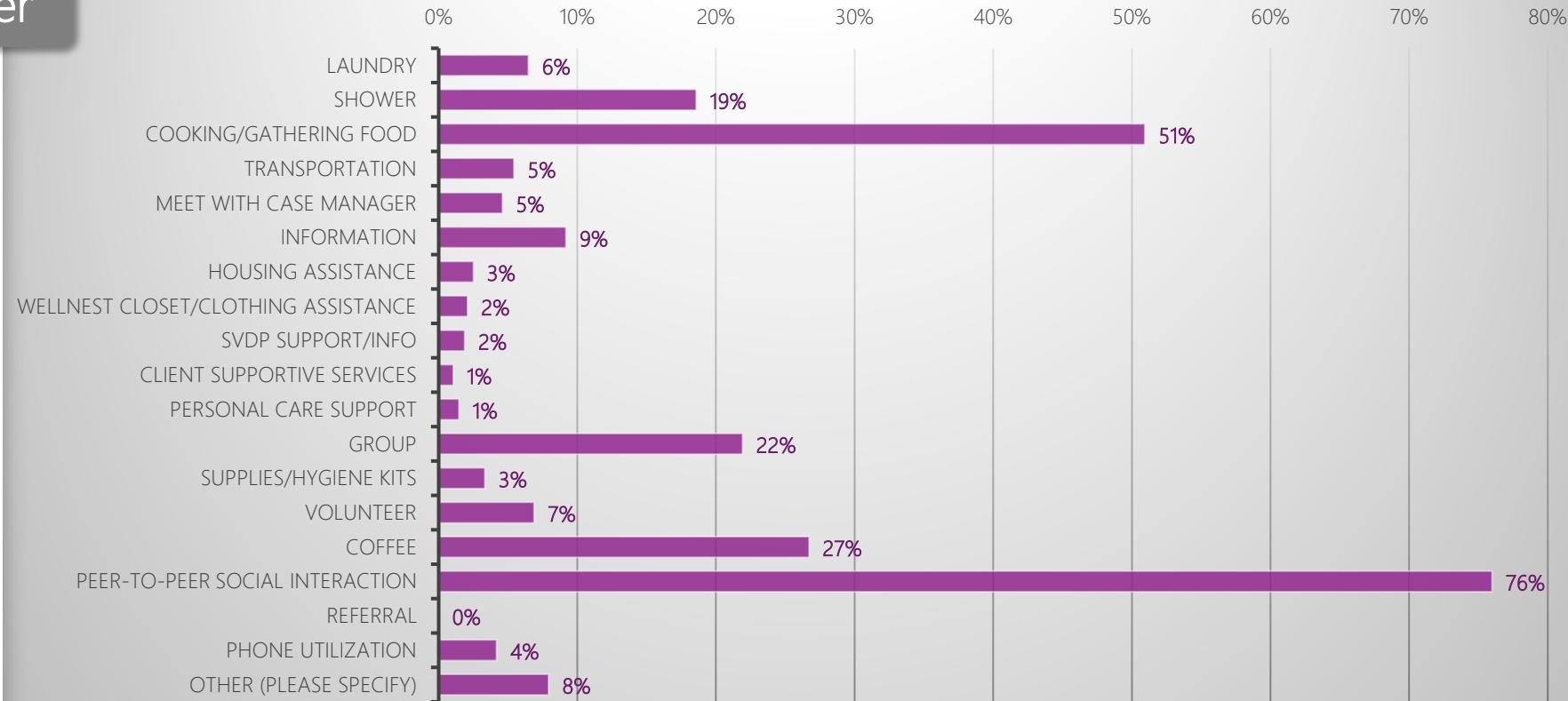
**470**

# WELLNESS CENTER

13

November

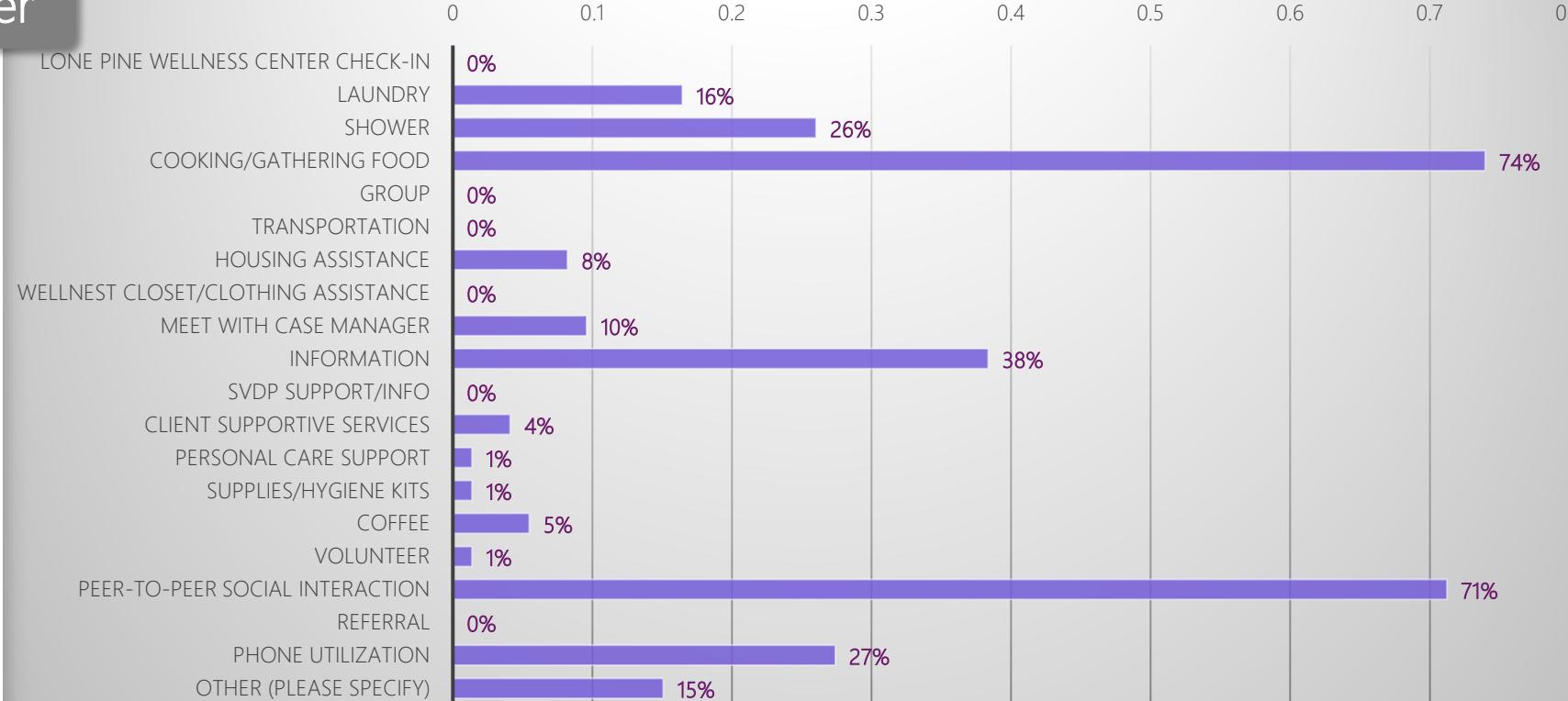
Bishop Wellness Center – Reason



# WELLNESS CENTER

November

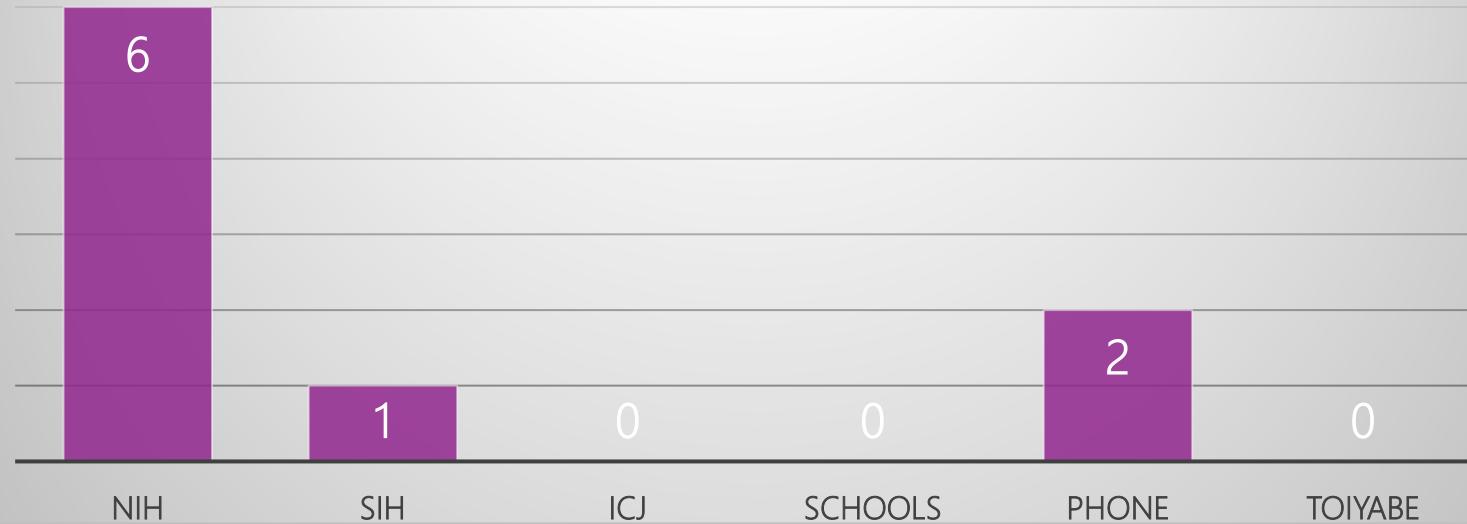
Lone Pine Wellness Center - Reason



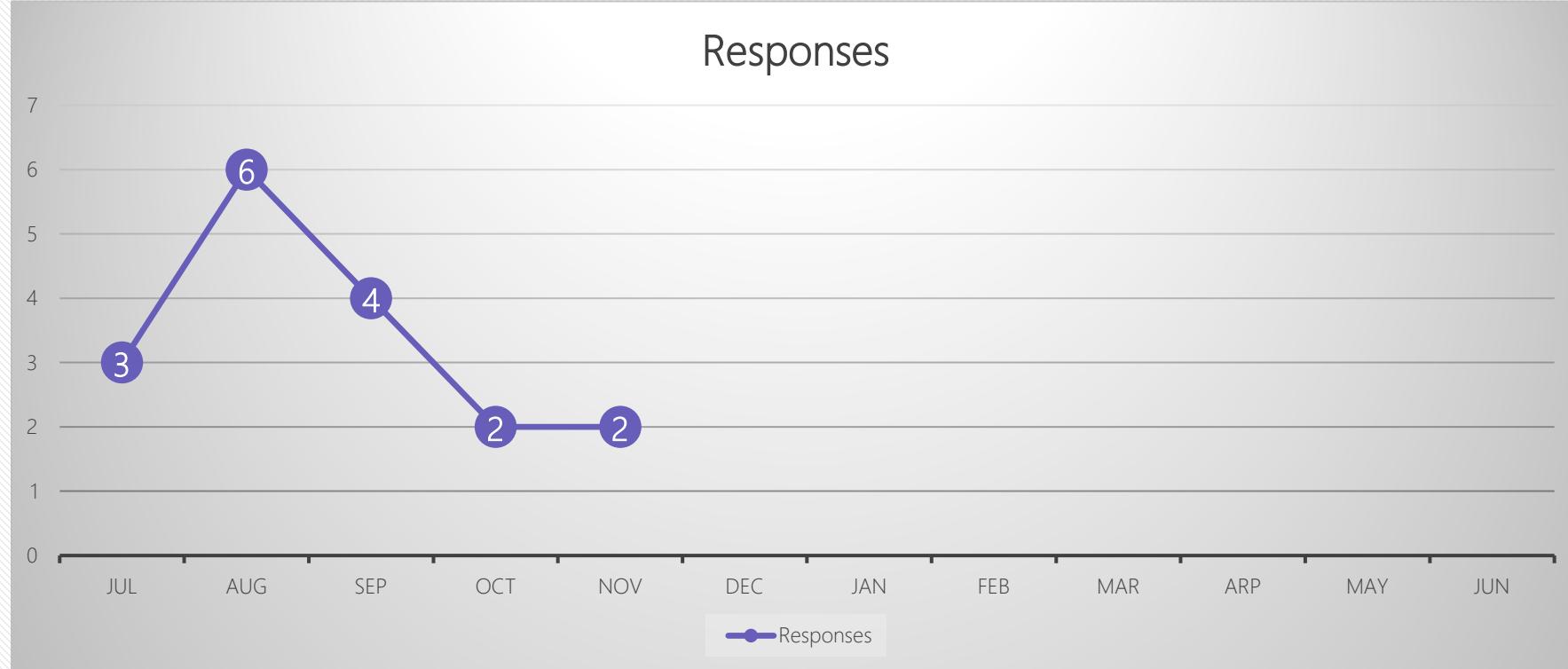
# CRISIS CALLS RECEIVED

November

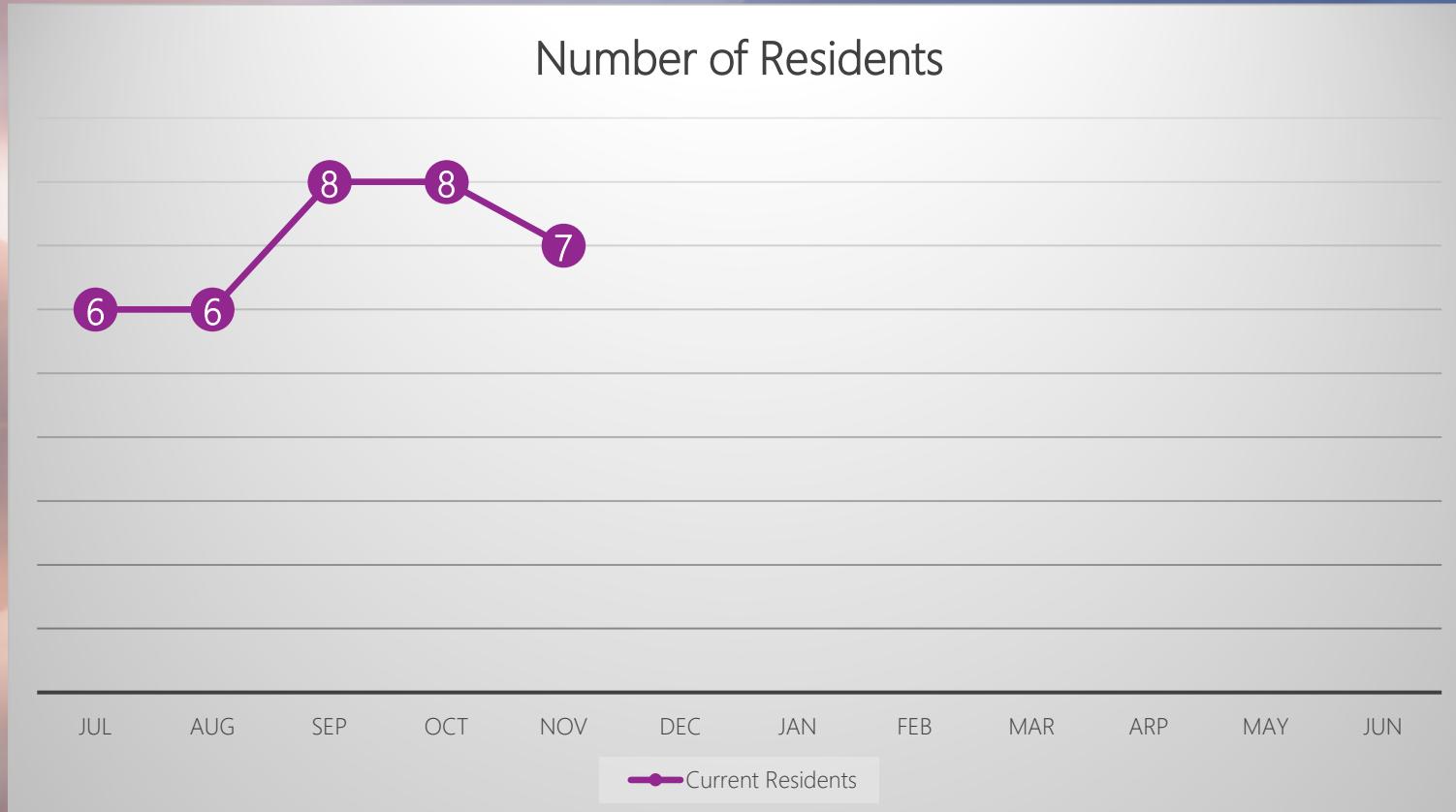
Number of Calls by Location



# CRISIS CARE MOBILE UNIT



# PROGRESS HOUSE





THANK  
YOU

