



Toronto **abi** Network

May 29th, 2013

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ABI Educational Forum:  
Bridging the Gap: A closer look at addictions,  
mental health, brain injury and the justice  
system

# Presentation Outline

- Overview of the Toronto ABI Network
- Programs and Services available to the ABI population
- ABI and Mental Health

# Toronto ABI Network

## VISION:

Influencing excellence in publicly funded services and support for persons living with the effects of an acquired brain injury.

## MISSION:

To provide leadership in furthering equitable, accessible, responsive and quality publicly funded services and support for persons living with the effects of an acquired brain injury in the Greater Toronto Area.

# Membership

5 Acute Care  
Hospitals

6 Rehabilitation  
Hospitals

5 Community-  
Based ABI  
Providers

University of Toronto

Ontario Neurotrauma  
Foundation

Brain Injury Society of  
Toronto

Brain Injury Association  
of Durham Region

# Toronto ABI Network

The Toronto ABI Network is committed to providing leadership in furthering equitable, accessible, responsive and quality publicly-funded services and support for persons living with the effects of an ABI.

- Established in 1995 with 2 FTEs
- Project leadership, system coordination and advocacy
- Centralized referral navigation, wait list management and performance measurement

# Toronto ABI Network

## We connect people to services by:

- Managing a centralized, single wait list and referral system for inpatient ABI programs in Toronto to ensure equitable and timely access to services.
- Providing information and a single point of entry to community-based services: outpatient ABI rehabilitation, mental health services and community services (e.g., recreational, vocational and supportive housing programs).

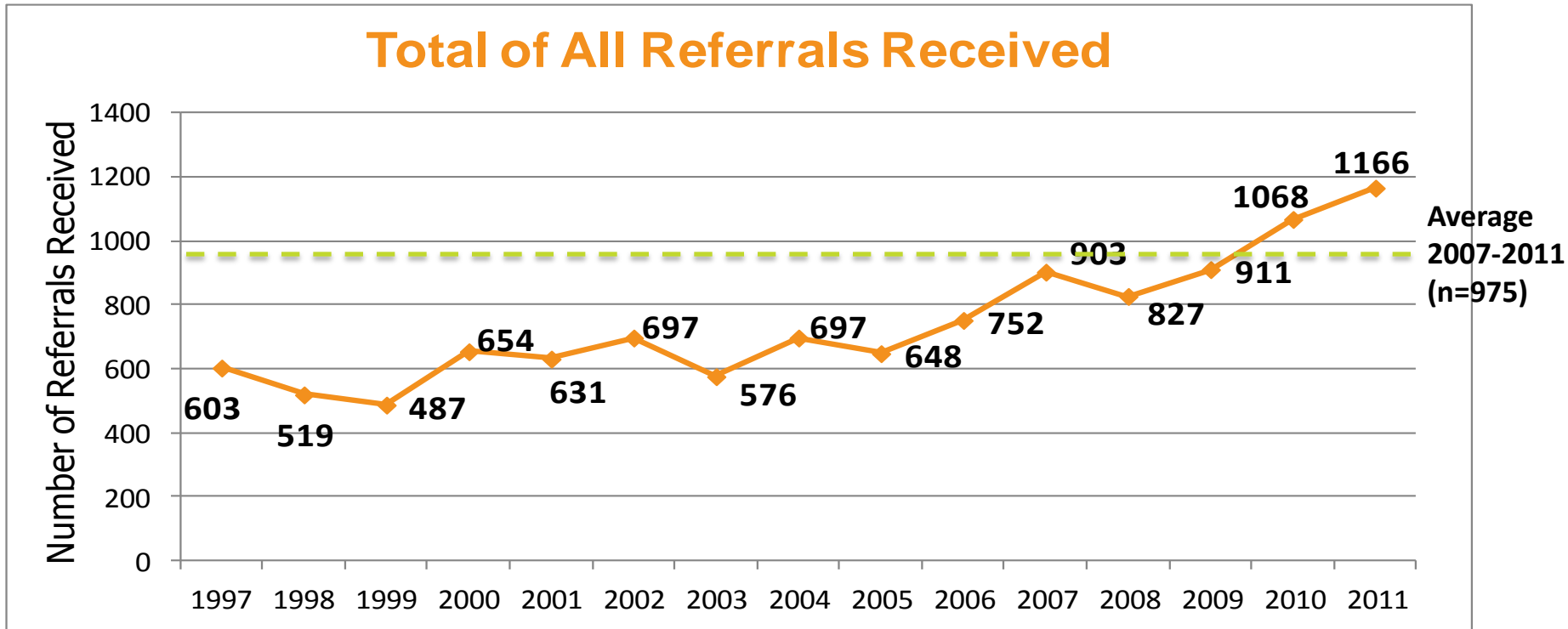
# Toronto ABI Network

We connect people to services by:

- Problem solving to help individuals with complex needs access the services they require.
- Providing information and support to individuals with ABI and their families to help them find and access health care and social service system.

# Annual ABI Referrals

## Total of All Referrals Received

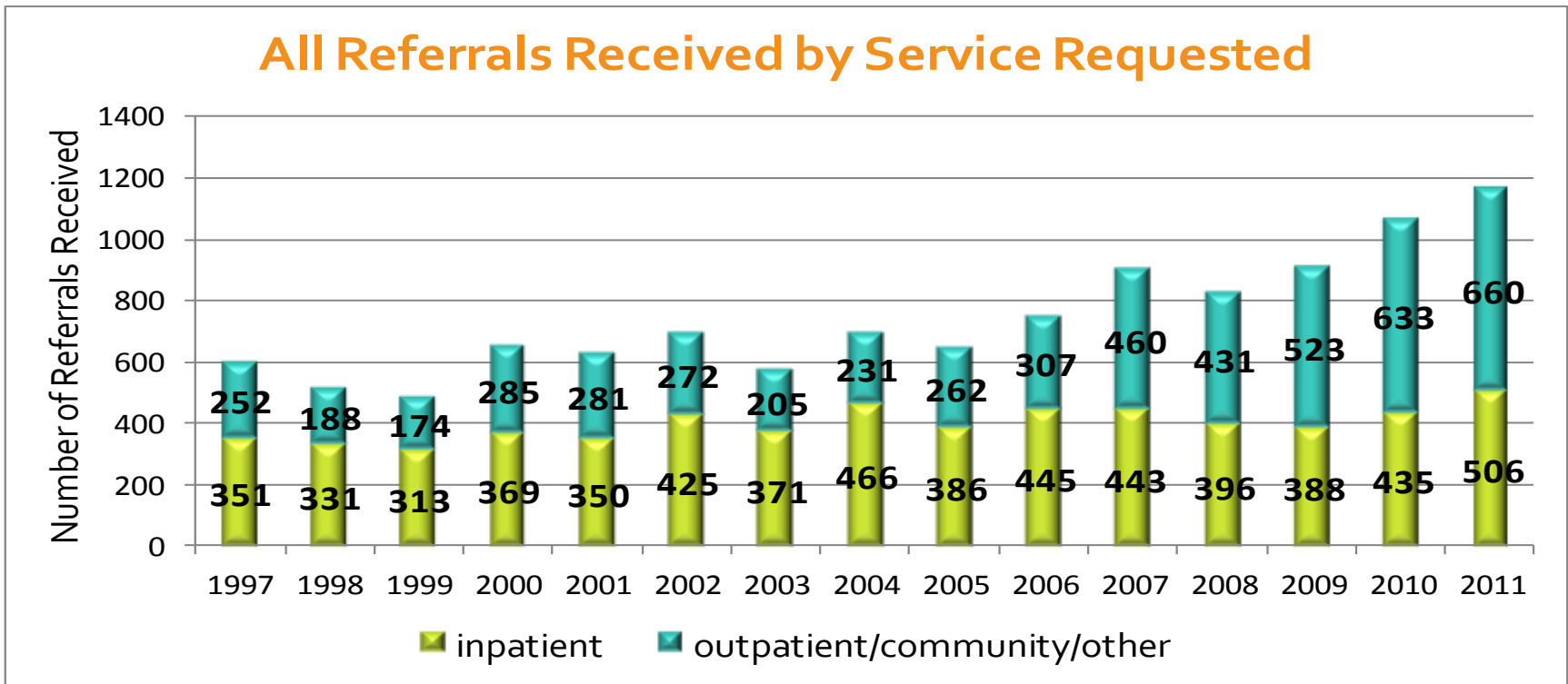


- Total number of referrals in 2011 increased 9% over the previous year.
- Since 2008, the number of referrals has increased by 41%.

*Data reflects referrals received by the Toronto ABI Network only - not an indication of incidence or prevalence data.  
Referrals received for more than one service are counted for each service type.*



# Annual ABI Referrals



- Since 2008, there has been a 53% increase in the number of referrals for community services and 27% increase in referrals to inpatient rehab.
- Referrals reported as “outpatient/community/other” in 2011, were for community service/support (78%), ambulatory care (21%) and other e.g. CCC (1%). These ratios are consistent with previous years.
- Of total referrals in 2011 (1166) 43% were for inpatient rehab, 44% were for community services, 12% for ambulatory care.

*Data reflects referrals received by the Toronto ABI Network only - not an indication of incidence or prevalence data.  
Referrals received for more than one service are counted for each service type.*

# ABI Programs & Services:

## Inpatient Rehabilitation

- **Toronto Rehab Institute:** Inpatient ABI Rehabilitation (27 beds = 5 slow stream + 22 regular stream). ABI Service is divided into 2 streams: ABI Neuro Physical and ABI Neuro Cognitive .
- **Bridgepoint Active Healthcare:** Inpatient Neurological /ABI Rehabilitation (17 active rehab beds with 12 beds assigned for ABI). No beds assigned for ABI Slow Stream, but still admitted to the unit or potentially placed in the Stroke unit.
- **West Park Healthcare Centre:** Inpatient Neurological Rehabilitation (7 beds assigned for ABI), ABI Behaviour Service (5 beds assigned for individuals experiencing challenging behaviours due to their ABI)

# ABI Programs & Services:

## Outpatient Rehabilitation

- **Toronto Rehab Institute:**
  - ABI rehabilitation** (at University Centre and Rumsey Centre) provides an interdisciplinary, goal-oriented approach -clients must require at least 2 services.
  - Complex Injury Outpatient Rehab** program is covered by third-party insurance (WSIB/MVA/Extended health). Provides assessment and treatment services for individuals with complex MSK injuries, complex Neuro injuries and multifaceted injuries (Neuro and MSK).
- **Trillium Health Centre: Outpatient Neuro Rehab Services** offers comprehensive assessment and treatment for clients with recent stroke, ABI, and neurological conditions. *\*ABI within past 12 months*

# ABI Programs & Services:

## Outpatient Rehabilitation

- **Bridgepoint Active Healthcare: Day Treatment Program** provides short-term intensive outpatient neuro-rehab services offered by an inter-professional team of health professionals. Access to Neuropsychology is available as per internal team request.
- **West Park Healthcare Centre: Outpatient Rehabilitation, Neuro Rehab Assessment and Follow Up Clinic** provides an interdisciplinary approach to assist clients in reaching their goals ; focus is on education of the client and the families to allow clients to maximize their abilities for discharge into their community.

# ABI Programs & Services: Community

## GTA

- **Community Care Access Centre (CCAC): ABI Program** *up to 5 years post diagnosis/injury. Over 5 years, assessed on an individual client basis.*
  - *Toronto Central CCAC & Central CCAC*
- **Community Head Injury Resource Services of Toronto (CHIRS):** Community Support Services (Ashby Community Support Services, Aging at Home Program), Adult Day Services, Residential Services, Substance Use/Brain Injury Bridging Project (SUBI).
- **COTA Health:** ABI Case Management Services, ABI Adult Day Services, ABI Supportive Housing Collegeview site.

# ABI Programs & Services: Community

## GTA (continued)

- **ABI Possibilities**: provides assisted living services and adult day services.
- **March of Dimes**: provides rehabilitation, attendant care, peer support groups and supportive housing programs to adults and children.
- **West Park Healthcare Centre**: ABI Adult Day Program, ABI Behaviour Service: Outreach Program.

# ABI Programs & Services: Community

## York Region or Simcoe County

- **Mackenzie Health: York-Simcoe Brain Injury Services (YSBIS)** offer case management and behavioural assessment, treatment and consultation; **Acquired Brain Injury Day Services** provides structured and supervised activities in a group setting.

## Peel-Halton-Dufferin

- **Peel Halton Dufferin Acquired Brain Injury Services (PHDABIS)**: Transitional Residence for Specialized Learning (TRSL), Life Long Living Services supportive housing, Day/Community Programme Services, Outreach Services, PHDABIS West residential programme, Supported Independent Living (SIL) Programme.

# ABI Programs & Services: Clinics

- **St. Michael's Hospital: Head Injury Clinic** manages and treats patients who have sustained mild and moderate traumatic brain injury, patients are provided with medical, cognitive and psycho-social assessments ; **Psychiatry Clinic.**
- **Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre: TBI Clinic** for Mild to Moderate Adult (19-60 years of age) and Adolescent (14-18 years of age). Patients are seen in the acute stage after injury for early assessment and treatment of mild to moderate TBI.  
*\*Mild to moderate TBI, sustained within 3 months of referral.*



# ABI Programs & Services: Clinics

- **Toronto Western Hospital (UHN): Acquired Brain Injury Clinic** provides initial assessment and long-term follow up of adults as well as children / adolescents .
- **Baycrest: Memory-Link** works with adults who are experiencing severe memory problems, teaching them to utilize external memory aids.
- **Toronto Rehab Institute: Outpatient Brain Injury/Physiatry Clinic** specializes in assessment and treatment of people who experience a loss in strength, function, movement or mobility.

# ABI Programs & Services:

## Brain Injury Associations

- **Brain Injury Society of Toronto (BIST)**: peer mentoring program, educational workshops and social opportunities for survivors and caregivers.
- **Brain Injury Association of Durham Region**: support groups; community support coordination/outreach; social/recreational activities; a resource library; injury prevention programs; advocacy; and a day Service/drop In.
- **Ontario Brain Injury Association (OBIA)**: information and resources; a 1-800 toll free helpline; personal advocacy and support; and training and education for families and professionals.

# ABI Programs & Services:

## Brain Injury Associations

- **Brain Injury Association of Peel Halton (BIAPH):** provides information, promotes the prevention of brain injury and improves the quality of care, education and research. The Yuri Mutiger Memorial Fund provides respite care relief to family and friends providing ongoing care for individuals with brain injury.
- **Brain Injury Association of York Region (BIAYR):** works to raise awareness of brain injury; provides support and social groups to caregivers and survivors.

# ABI and Mental Health

- In 2010, ABI and Mental Health (MH) service providers across Ontario were surveyed to understand their experiences and challenges in working with these populations.
- 195 responses for ABI, 191 responses for MH.
- Two tailored surveys were created to understand:

## ABI

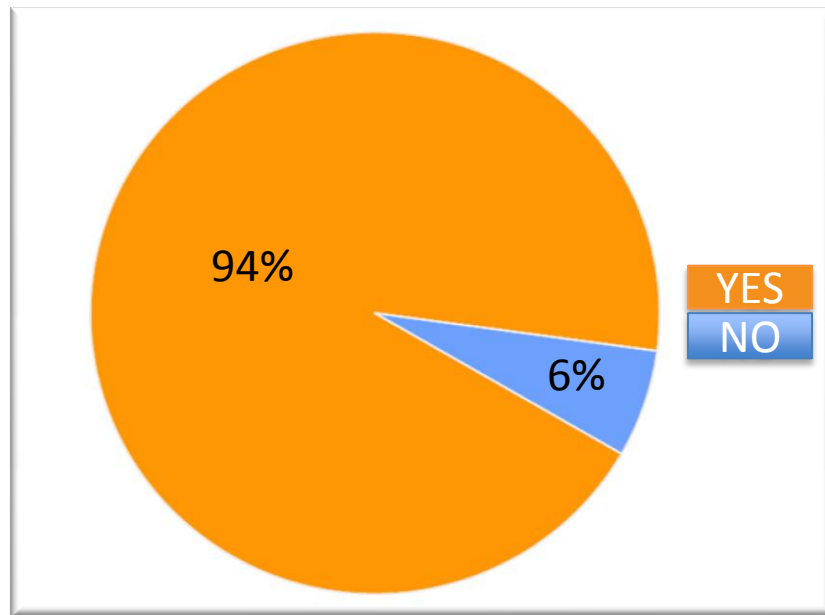
- ✓ supporting ABI clients with a mental illness
- ✓ access to MH services

## MH

- ✓ supporting MH clients with an ABI
- ✓ challenges with the justice system

# ABI and Mental Health

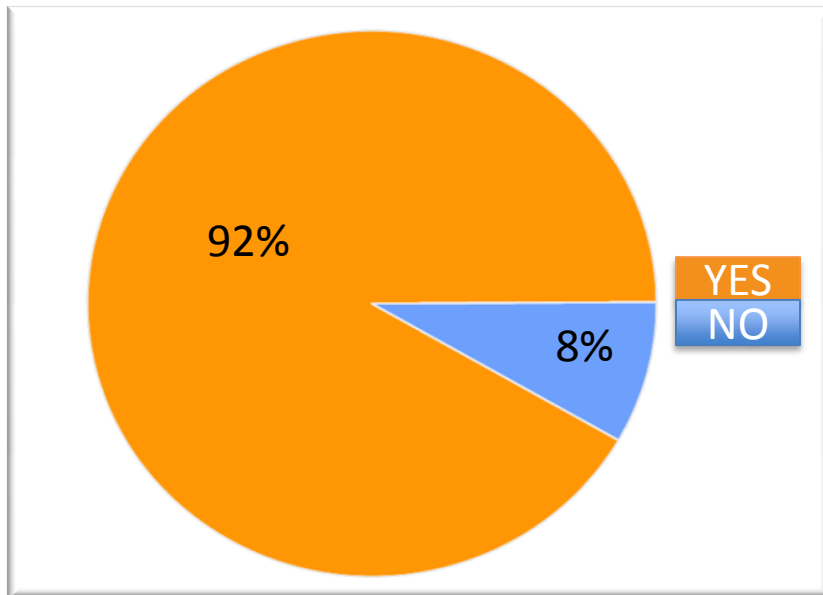
THE PERCENTAGE OF ABI SERVICE PROVIDER RESPONDENTS THAT REPORTED HAVING WORKED WITH A CLIENT WITH A SUSPECTED OR DOCUMENTED MENTAL ILLNESS.



- 48% estimated that more than 26% of their clients had a mental health diagnosis
- 20% estimated that more than 50% of their clients had a mental health diagnosis.

# ABI and Mental Health

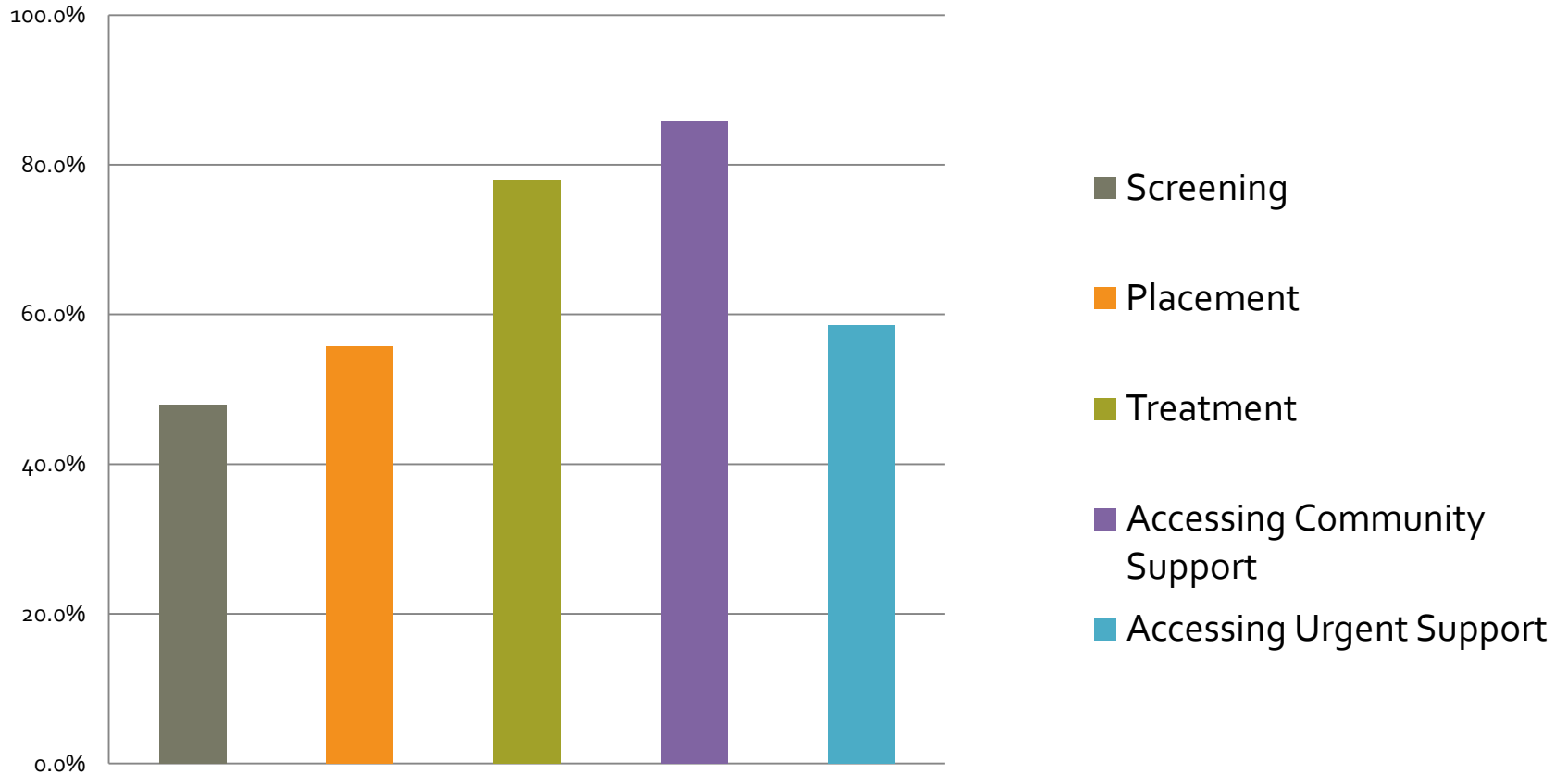
THE PERCENTAGE OF MH SERVICE PROVIDER RESPONDENTS THAT REPORTED HAVING WORKED WITH A CLIENT WITH A SUSPECTED OR DOCUMENTED ABI.



- Compared to ABI providers, only 12% estimated that more than 26% of their clients had an ABI
- The majority (55%) estimated that less than 5% of their clients had an ABI

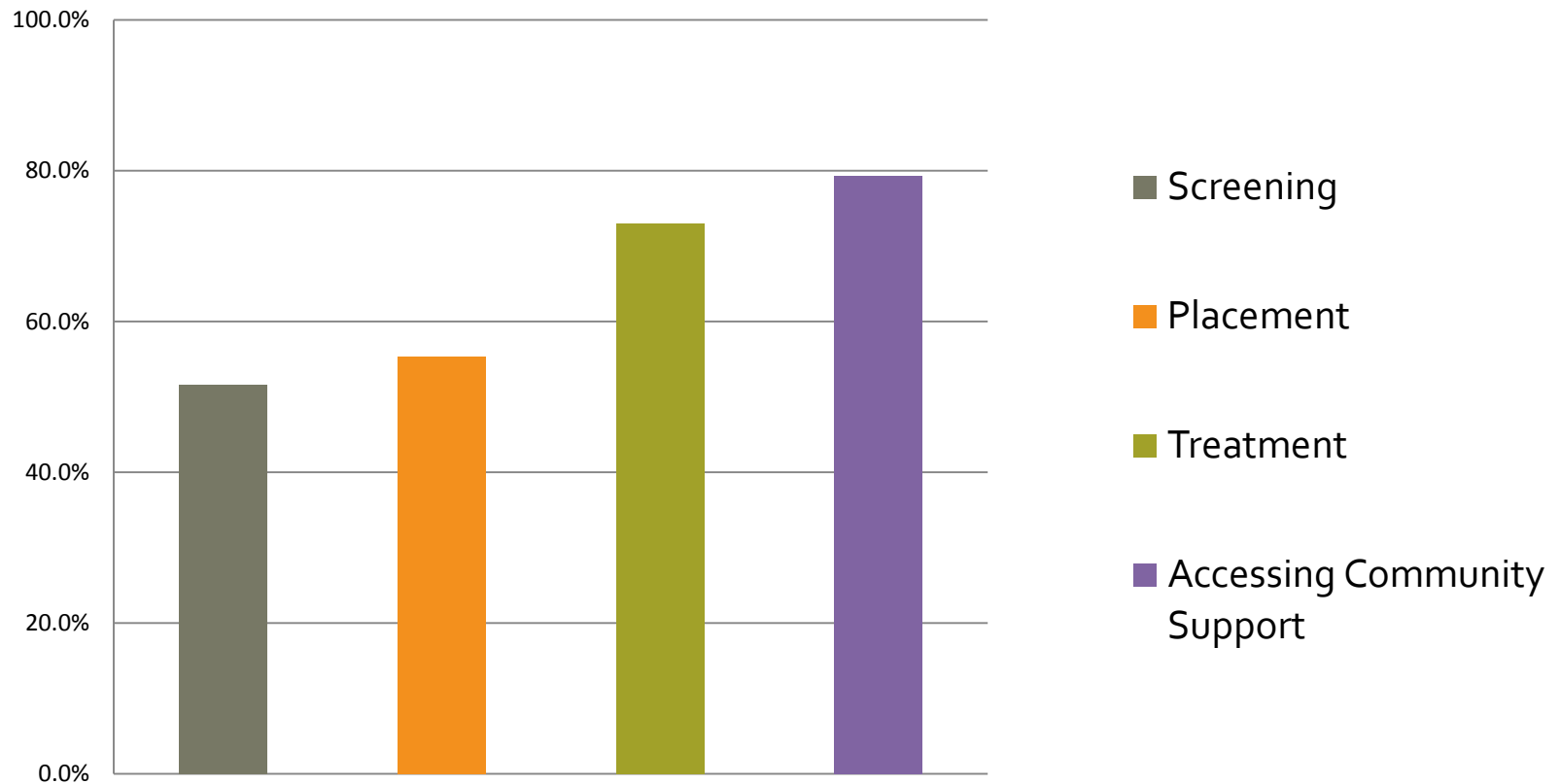
# ABI and Mental Health: Reported Challenges

## ABI Service Providers



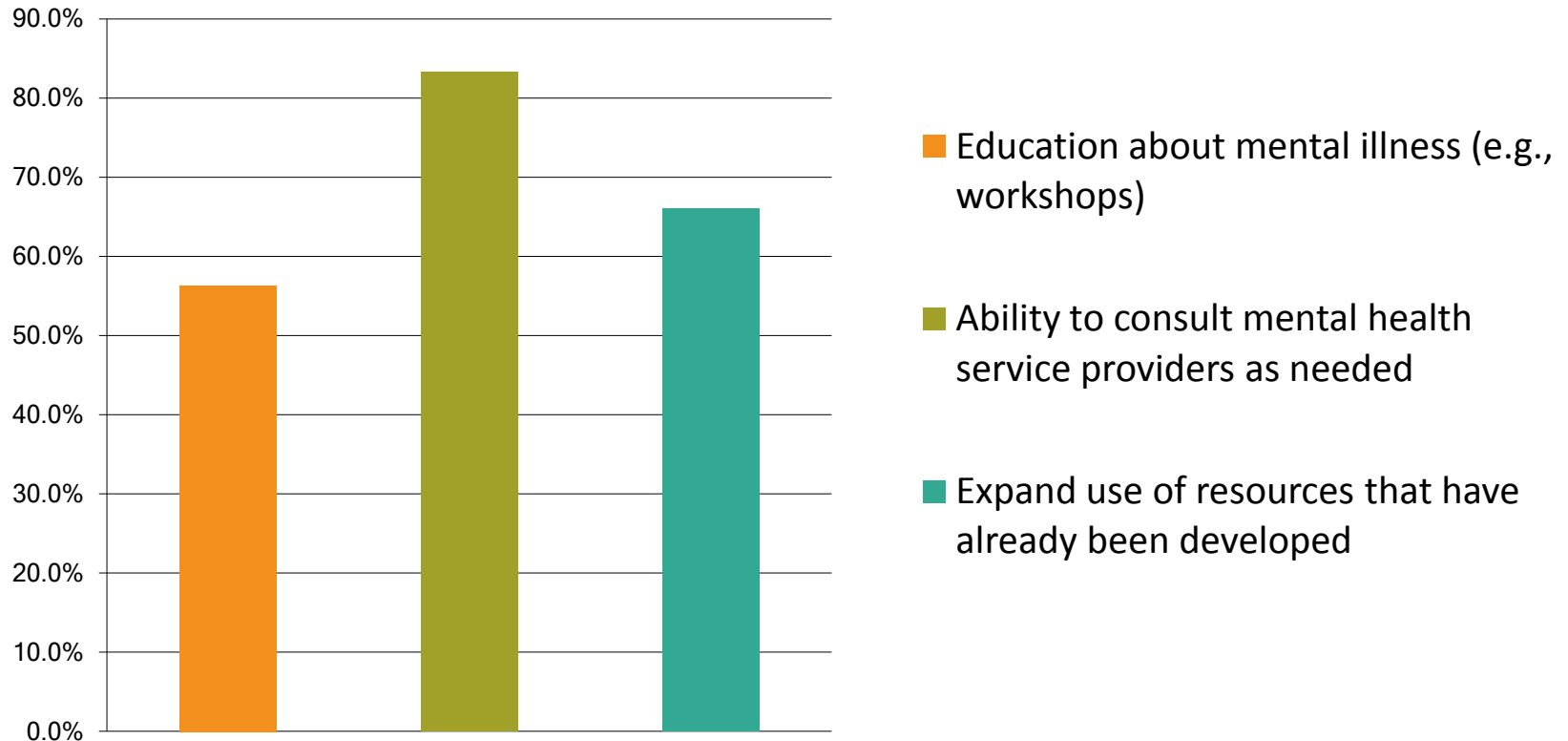
# ABI and Mental Health: Reported Challenges

## MH Service Providers



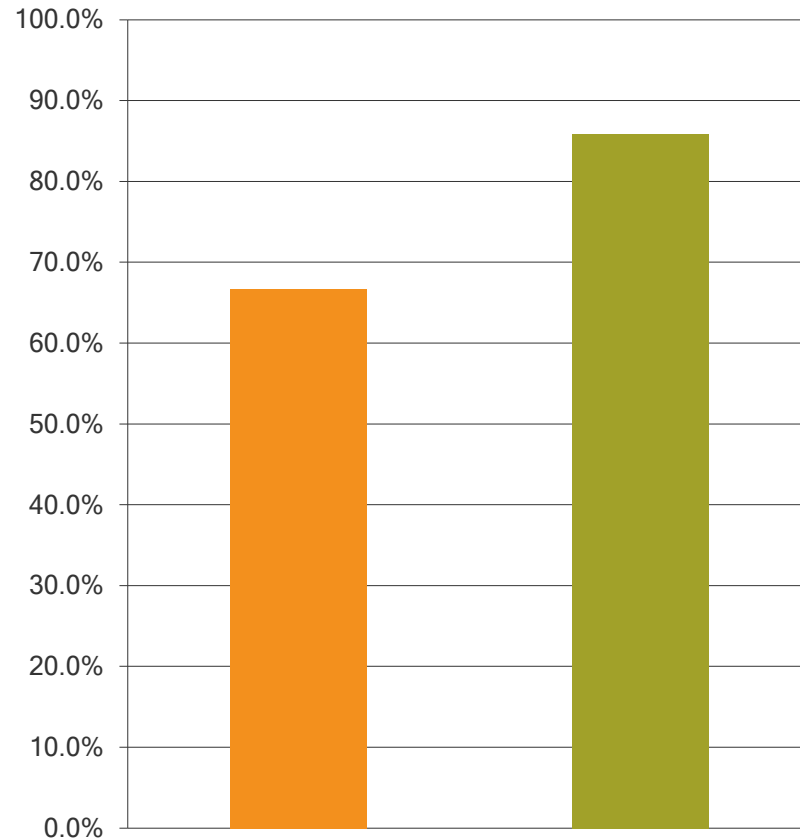


# ABI and Mental Health: Enhancing Care



OPPORTUNITIES THAT WOULD ENHANCE THE ABILITY OF ABI SERVICE PROVIDERS TO SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS

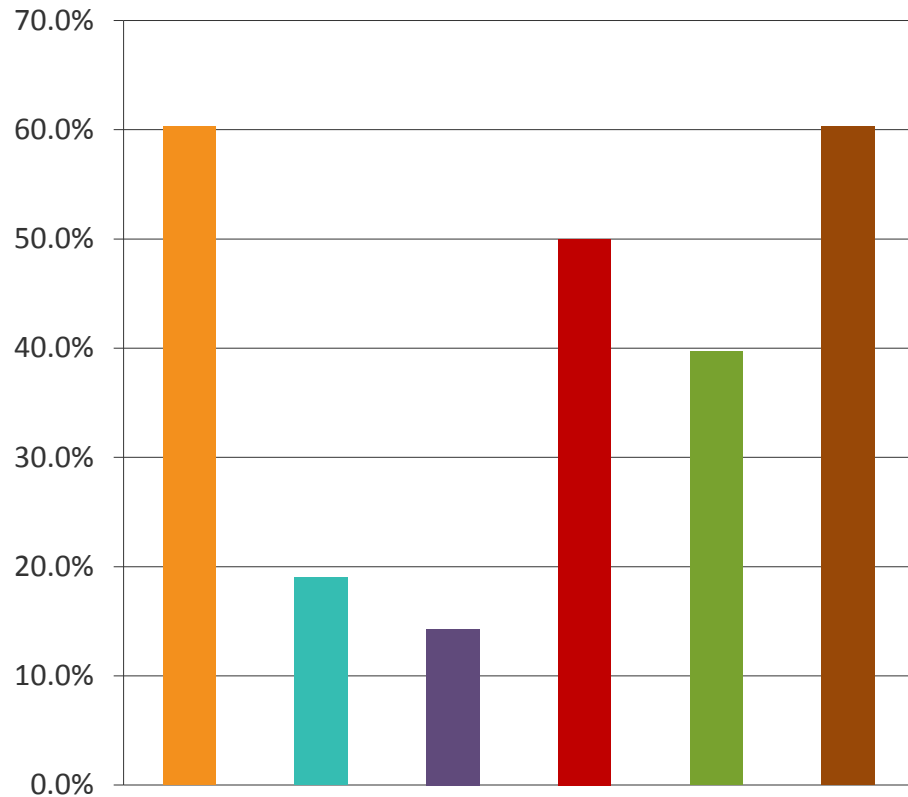
# ABI and Mental Health: Enhancing Care



- Education about the challenges and support needs of clients with acquired brain injury (e.g., workshops)
- Enhanced access to ABI community services for your clients (e.g., day programs, behavior therapy, psychology or psychiatry consult).

**OPPORTUNITIES THAT WOULD ENHANCE THE ABILITY OF MH SERVICE PROVIDERS TO SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS WITH AN ABI**

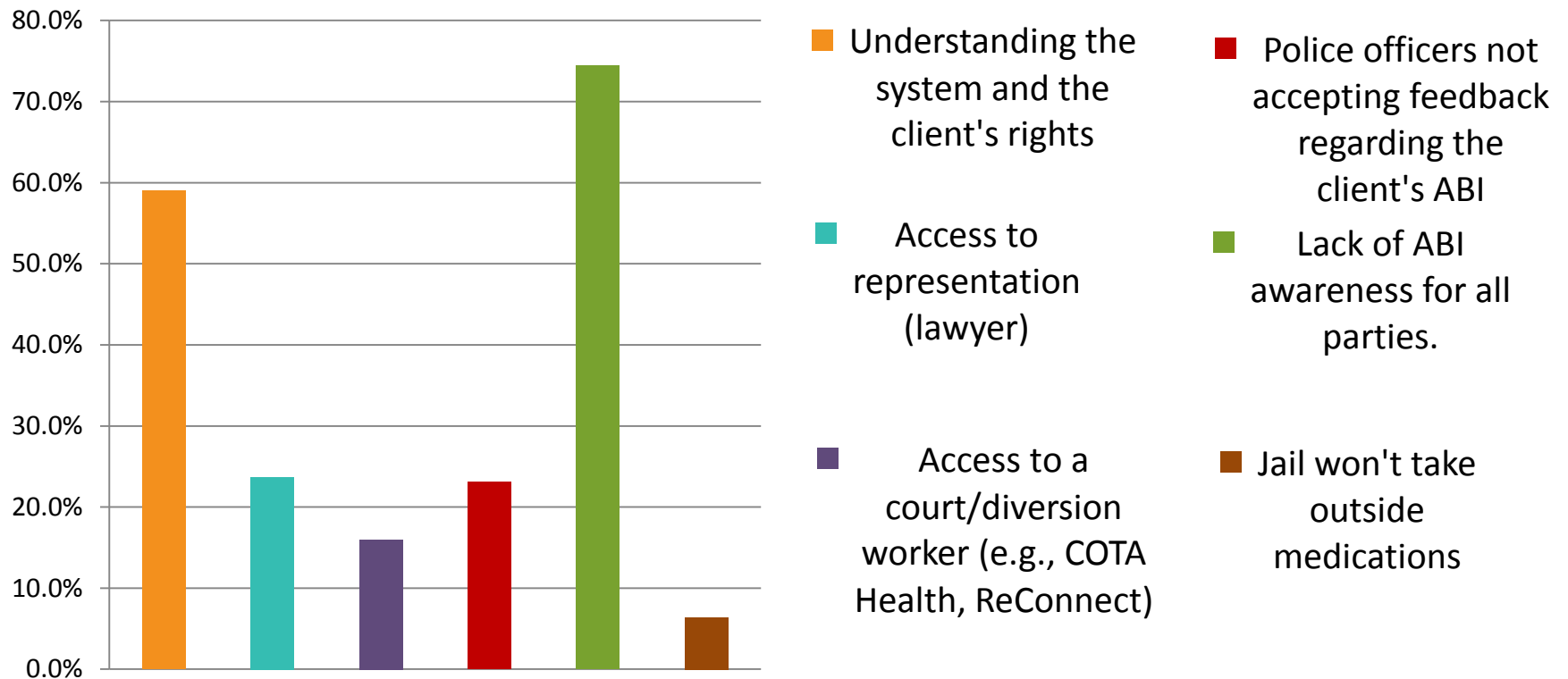
# ABI and Mental Health: Complex Clients and The Justice System



- Service Providers lack understanding about the justice system and the client's rights
- Difficulties accessing representation (lawyer)
- Difficulties accessing court/diversion workers
- Police officers not understanding the mental illness and/or not accepting feedback about the client's challenges
- Probation officers do not have the expertise to support your clients
- Lack of awareness about mental illness from all parties

## CHALLENGES EXPERIENCED BY SERVICE PROVIDERS IN SUPPORTING COMPLEX MENTAL HEALTH CLIENTS INVOLVED WITH THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

# ABI and Mental Health: Complex Clients and The Justice System



## CHALLENGES EXPERIENCED BY SERVICE PROVIDERS IN SUPPORTING ABI CLIENTS INVOLVED WITH THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

# ABI and Mental Health: Key Issues

- Access to community resources is the biggest challenge:
  - ❖ ABI : consulting with a MH specialist
  - ❖ MH : housing
- Clients are excluded from certain services due to restrictive eligibility criteria.
- Need to improve collaboration across sectors and share resources & expertise.
- Need enhanced clinical outreach and consultation models for complex clients.
- Increased education and awareness for all service providers (in healthcare, in justice system).

~THANK YOU~