



# **Assisted Outpatient Treatment Program (AOT)**

**Second Judicial District Court**

**Hon. Cynthia Lu**

**Family Division**

# What is an AOT program?

- Family court outpatient mental health treatment program
- Participants are ordered to comply with outpatient mental health treatment
- Participants receive intensive case management services with a Psychiatric Case Worker (3x per week minimum contact)
- Programs have been shown to reduce hospitalization, incarceration, homelessness, victimizations, and ER visits

# Nationwide and Nevada

## Nationwide

- 47 States have laws enacted to authorize the use of AOT
- Nevada was 45<sup>th</sup> state to enact AOT enabling statute



## Nevada

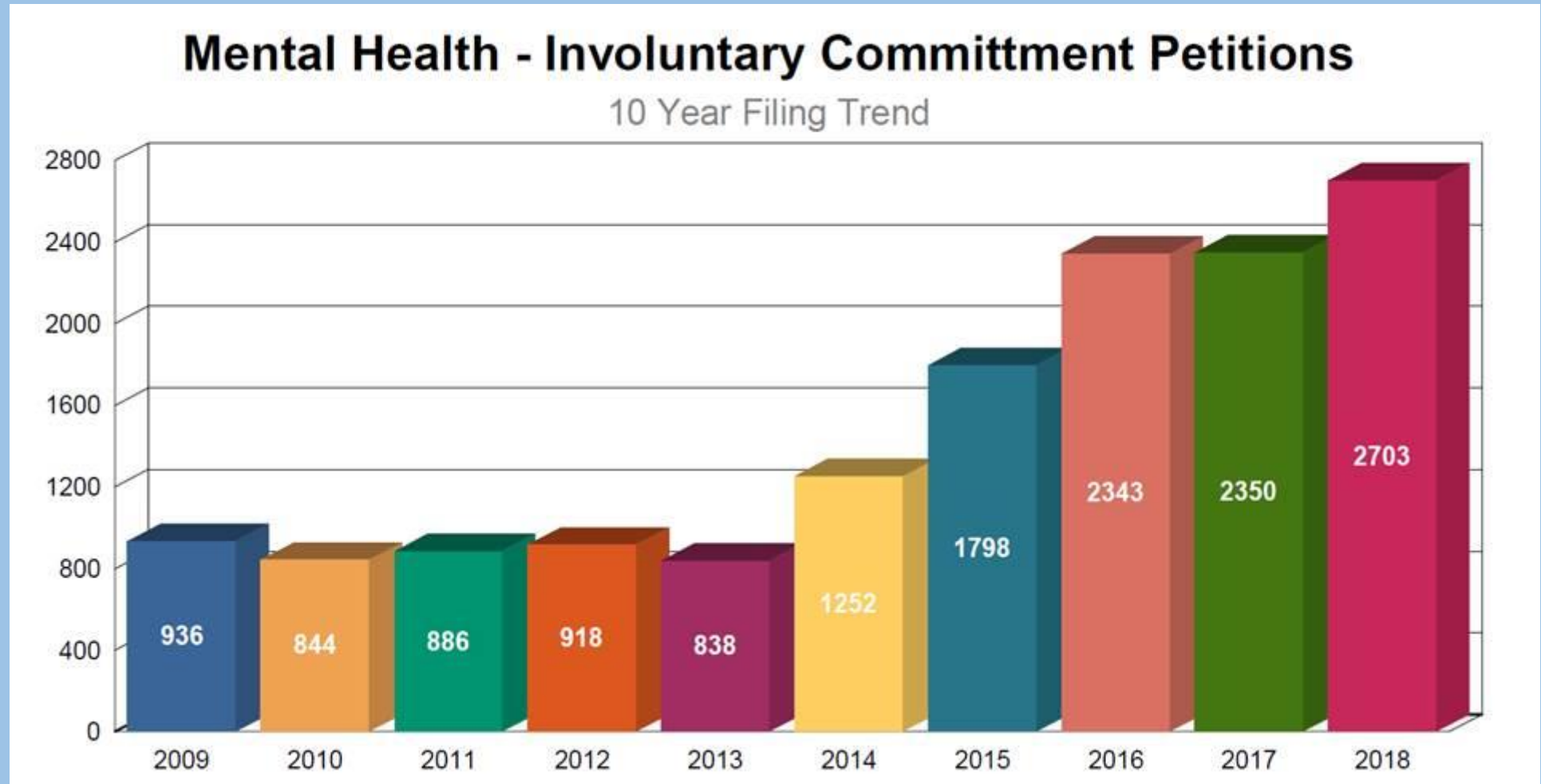
- AOT legislation enacted in 2013 (AB 287)
- Clark County's program is state funded for 75 participants in 2013 legislation
- In Washoe County, NNAMHS obtained a 4-year SAMHSA grant in 2016 to initiate program; program began taking cases in 2017

# Nevada's numbers

- **2.3 million population (2017)**
- **25,000 individuals with schizophrenia (2017)**
- **51,000 individuals with severe bipolar disorder (2017)**
- **2,922 of 18,265 inmates with severe mental illness (2010)**
- **118 civil public psychiatric beds (2019) (30 in Washoe County)**
- **628 private psychiatric beds (2019) (95 in Washoe County)**
- **Recommended minimum standard is 50 beds per 100,000 people**

**(Source: Treatment Advocacy Center and DHHS)**

# Why have an AOT program in Washoe County?



# **Criteria (NRS 433A.310)**

- **Reside in Washoe County**
- **Person in a mental health crisis as defined by NRS 433A.115**
- **Person of 18 years of age or older**
- **Demonstrated history of noncompliance with mental health treatment**
  - **Failed residential placements**
  - **Psychiatric hospitalizations**
  - **Jail**
  - **Prison**
- **Safely reside in the community with available supervision**

# Washoe County program

- [http://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/NNAMHS-AOT/NNAMHS Assisted Outpatient Treatment AOT/](http://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/NNAMHS-AOT/NNAMHS_Assisted_Outpatient_Treatment_AOT/)
- **Current funding through SAMHSA grant and state funding which allows for 50 active participants**
- **Washoe County contributes court staff for hearings**
- **Total number of people served in first 2 years is 75**
- **Anyone can refer to the program (family member, mental health care professionals, attorneys)**



# Program offers

**Treatment plan**

**Psychiatrist**

**Psychiatric Case Worker**

**Social events**

**Family events**

**Substance abuse  
counseling**

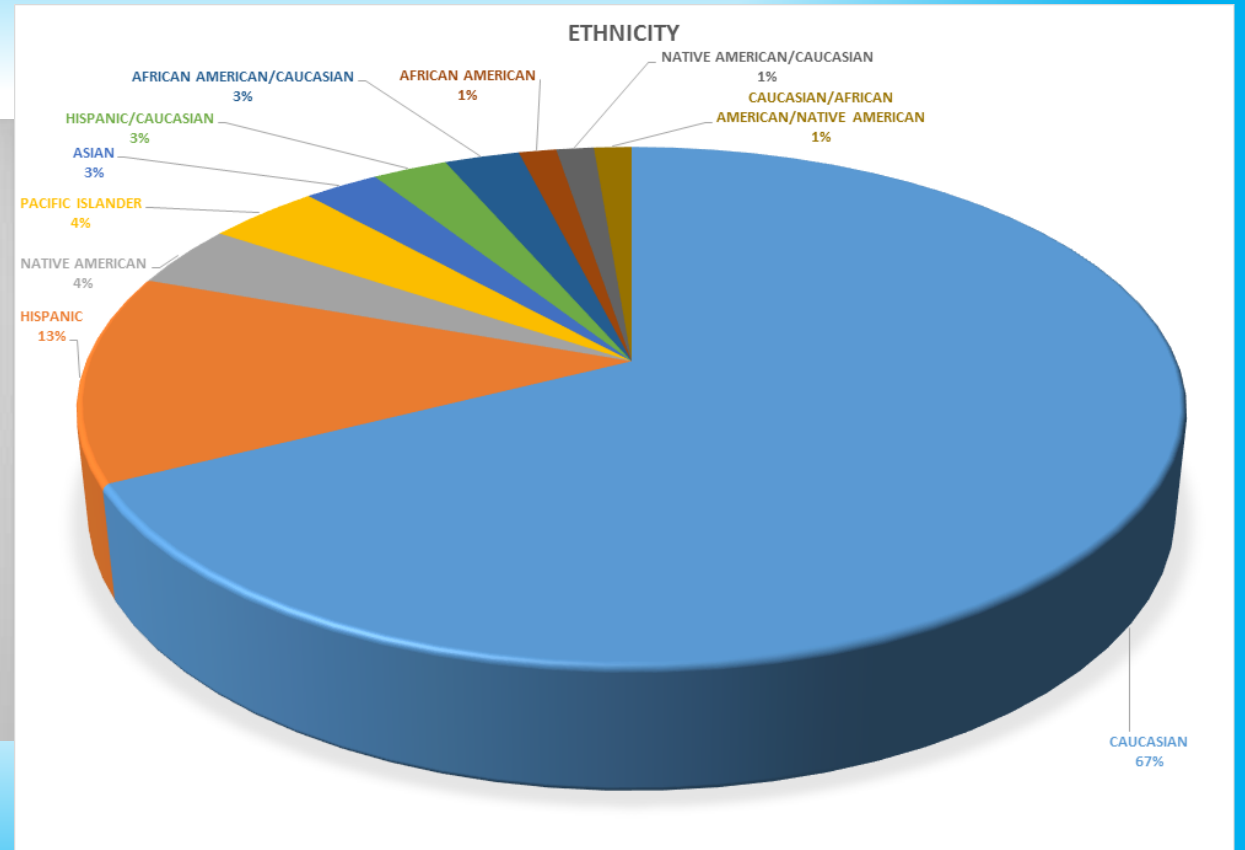
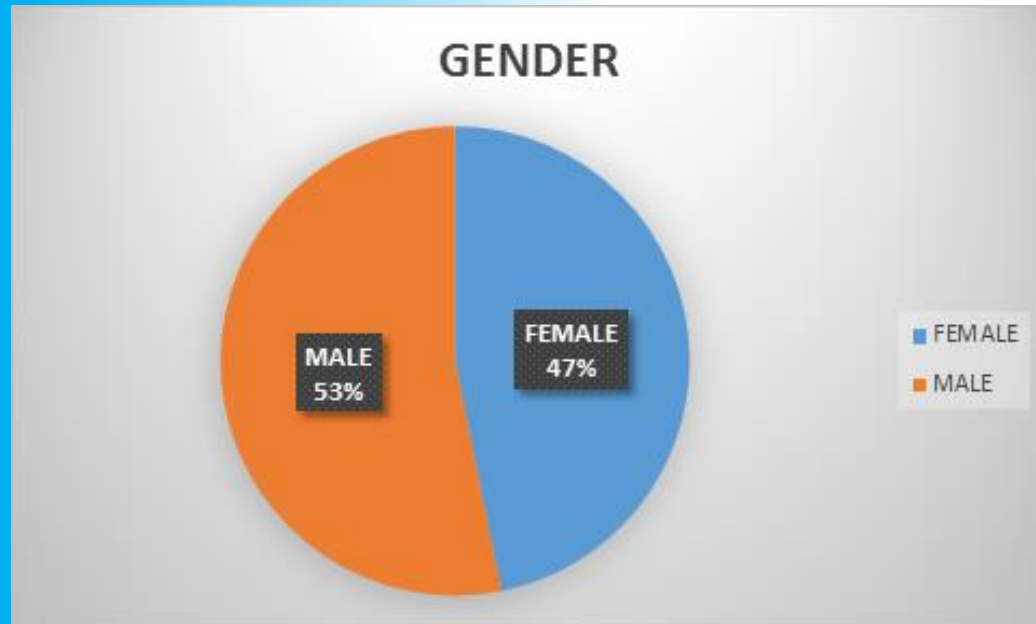
**Medication management**

**Housing assistance**

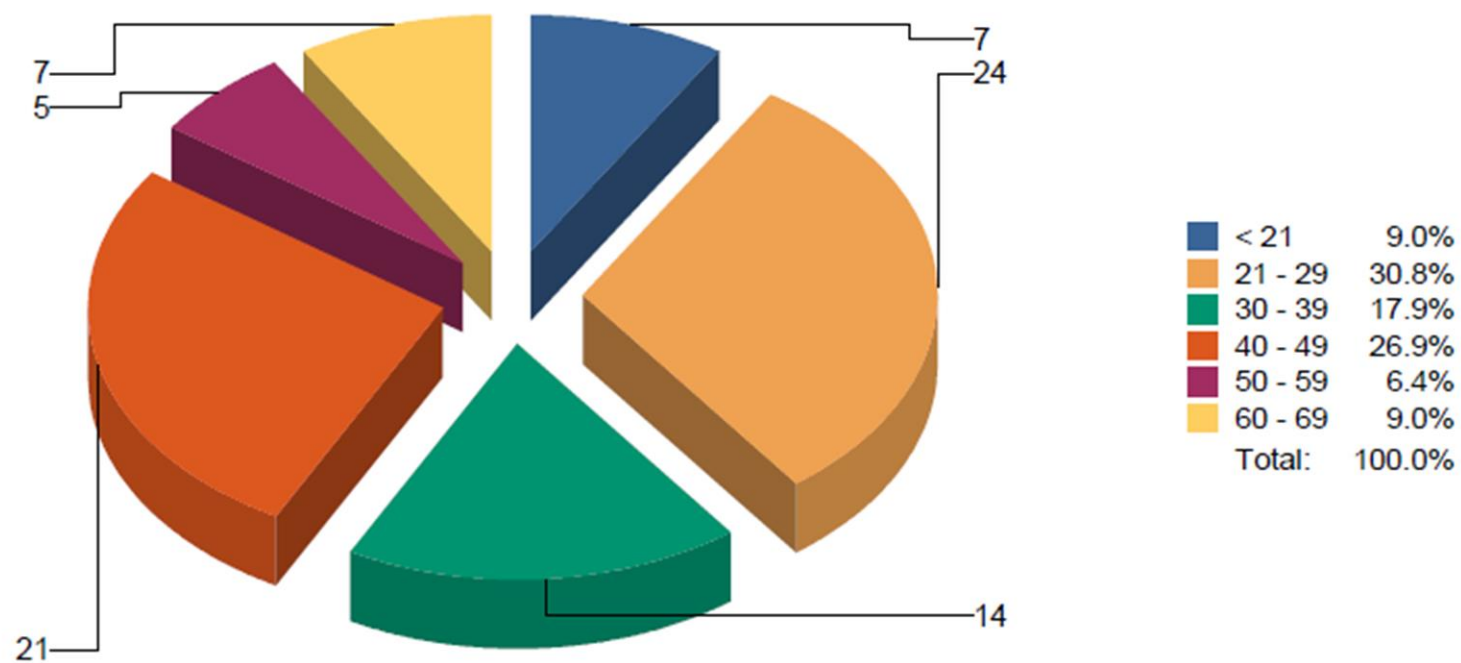




# Who are our participants?

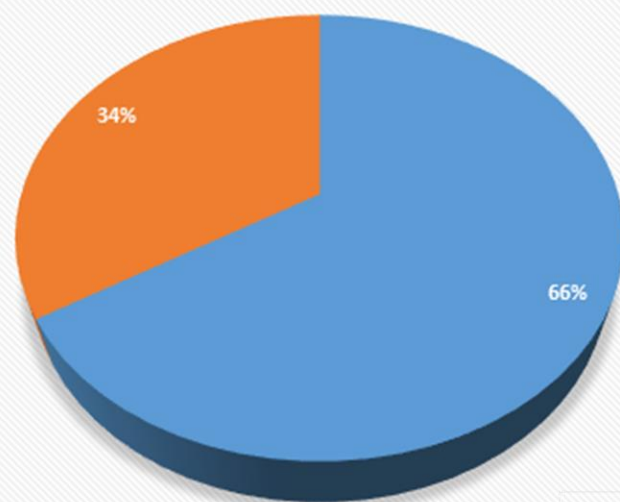


## Age Breakdown



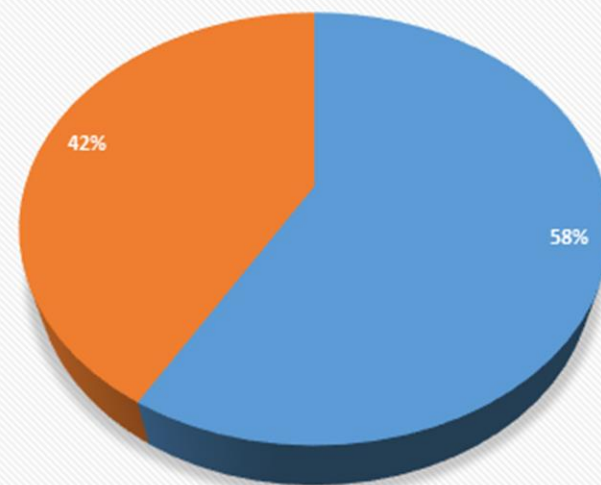
Total number of patients: 41

### CO-OCCURRING SUBSTANCE ABUSE DISORDER



■ CO-OCCURRING ■ NO CO-OCCURRING

### MEDICAL ISSUES



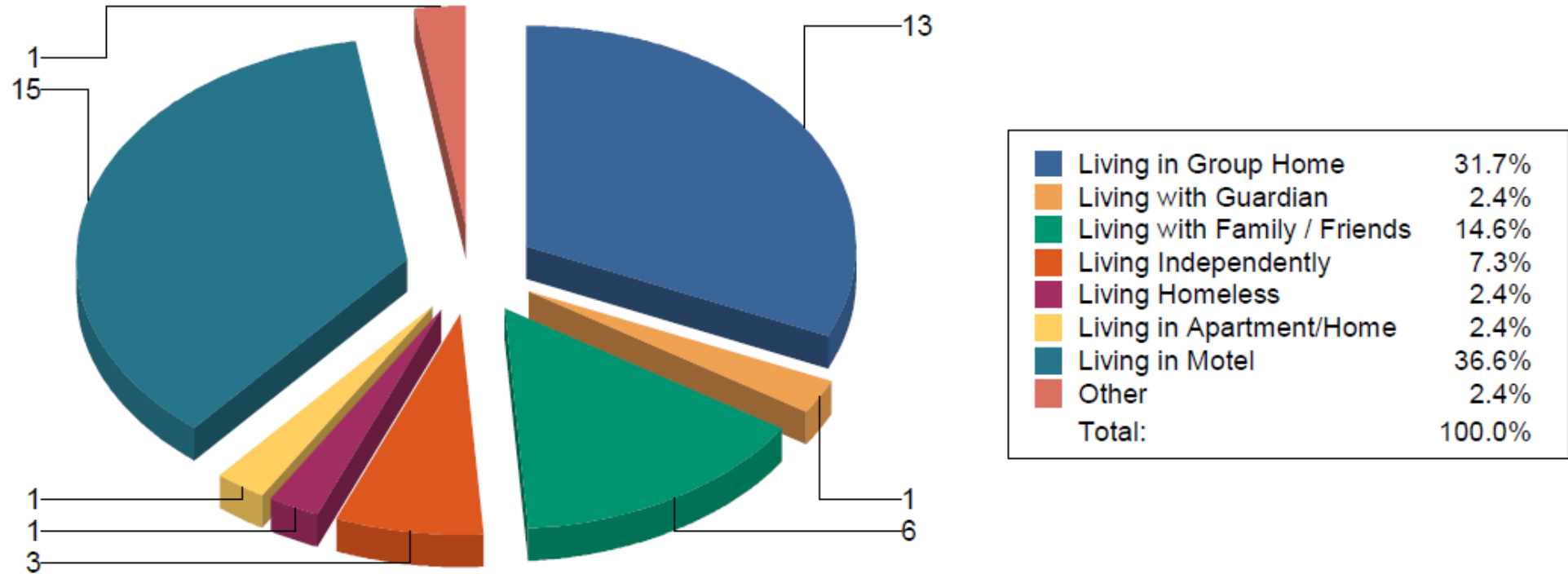
■ MEDICAL ISSUES ■ NO MEDICAL ISSUES

## Demographics

### 2.1 - Placement

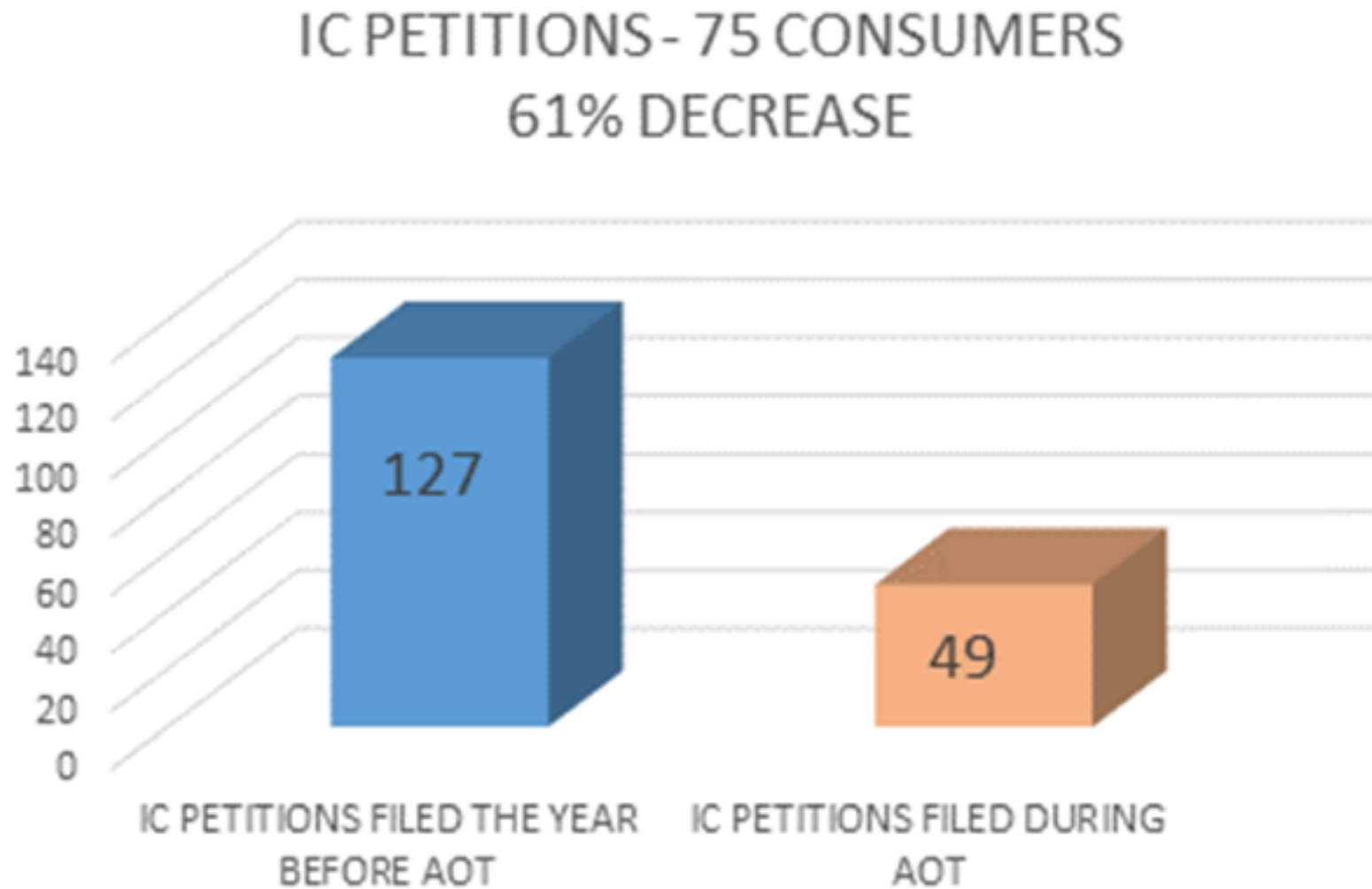
For all pending cases, the chart below shows the percentage breakdown of placement for AOT patients. *Please note: 'No Data Entered' represents those cases that are pending active and awaiting a case disposition, where a placement has not yet been established.*

## Placement Breakdown



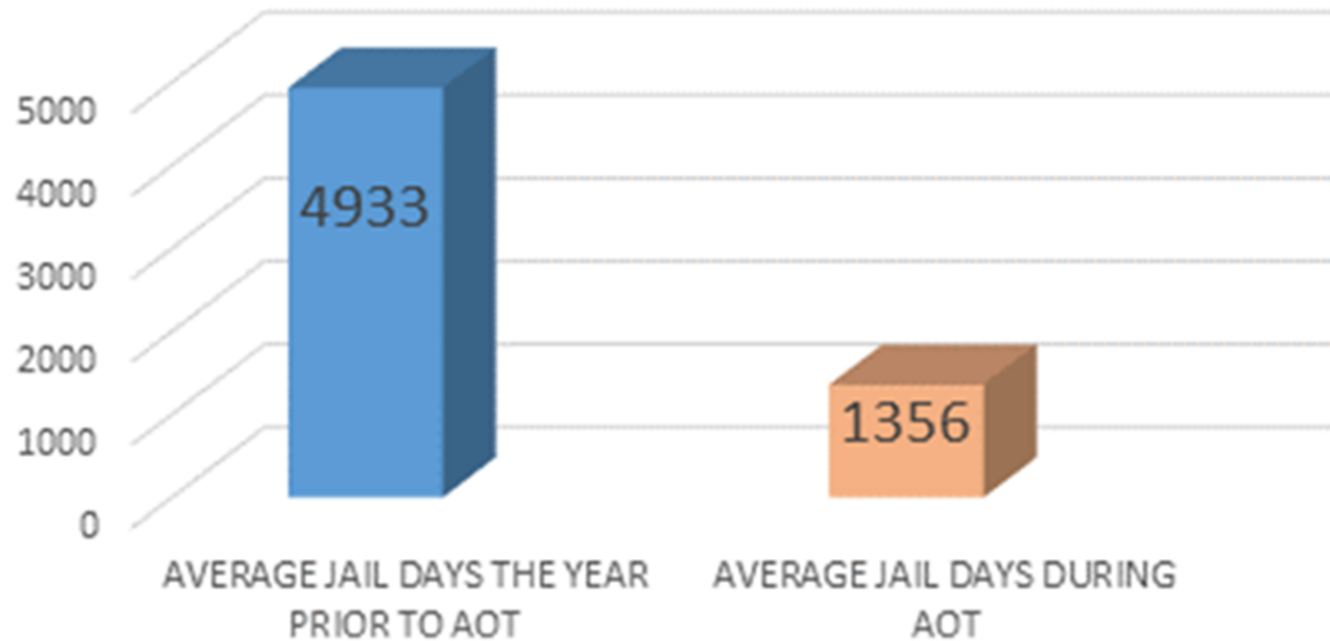
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# Does AOT work?





JAIL DAYS - 75 CONSUMERS  
73% DECREASE



**COST SAVINGS:**  
**\$465,010**

**Volunteer hours: 123.5 hours and counting**







**Employment**

**Wardrobe attendant**

**Dishwasher**

**Fast food**

**restaurants**

# Partnerships

**Mobile Outreach  
Safety Team  
(MOST)**

**Washoe County  
Detention Center**

**Lakes Crossing**

**Reno Municipal  
Court**



# CHALLENGES

**Housing**

**Funding**





“People with mental illness are our neighbours. They are members of our congregation, members of our families. They are everywhere. If we ignore their cries for help, we participate in the anguish from which those cries come. A problem of this magnitude will not ‘go away.’ And because it will not go away, we are compelled to take action.

- Rosalynn Carter



Thank you

