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**Profiles of Drug Treatment Services in the Caribbean Region**



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## Profiles of

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# Drug Treatment Services in the Caribbean Region

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# Objectives

- To provide a comprehensive overview of Drug Treatment Provision in the Caribbean Region generally and more specifically, The Bahamas
- To highlight existing strengths across service areas
- To identify gaps in availability, accessibility and quality of care
- To bring awareness to the need for capacity building and scaling up of quality of care across the region

# Drug Situation in Region/Country



- Conveniently located between producer nations in the south and consumer nations in the north
- Drugs commonly used **marijuana, alcohol, cocaine**
- Focus has been on interdiction and law enforcement efforts
- Resulting in a disproportionate allocation of resources toward supply reduction

# The Public Health Dimension

- Post-UNGASS - The Public Health Dimension has gained momentum as nations strive for a more integrated and a balanced approach to addressing the world drug problem
- Hence a review of treatment provision in the region is warranted

# Caribbean Drug Prevention, Treatment, Rehabilitation, and Gang and Youth Violence Focused Institutions Report



- OAS/CICAD Training and Certification Program (PROCER-Caribbean)
- Institutional and Human Resources Training Needs Assessment
- Survey conducted in 2012

# Participating Countries



Antigua and Barbuda

Bahamas

Barbados

Belize

Dominica

Grenada

Guyana

Jamaica

St. Kitts and Nevis

St. Lucia

Vincent and the Grenadines

Suriname

Trinidad and Tobago

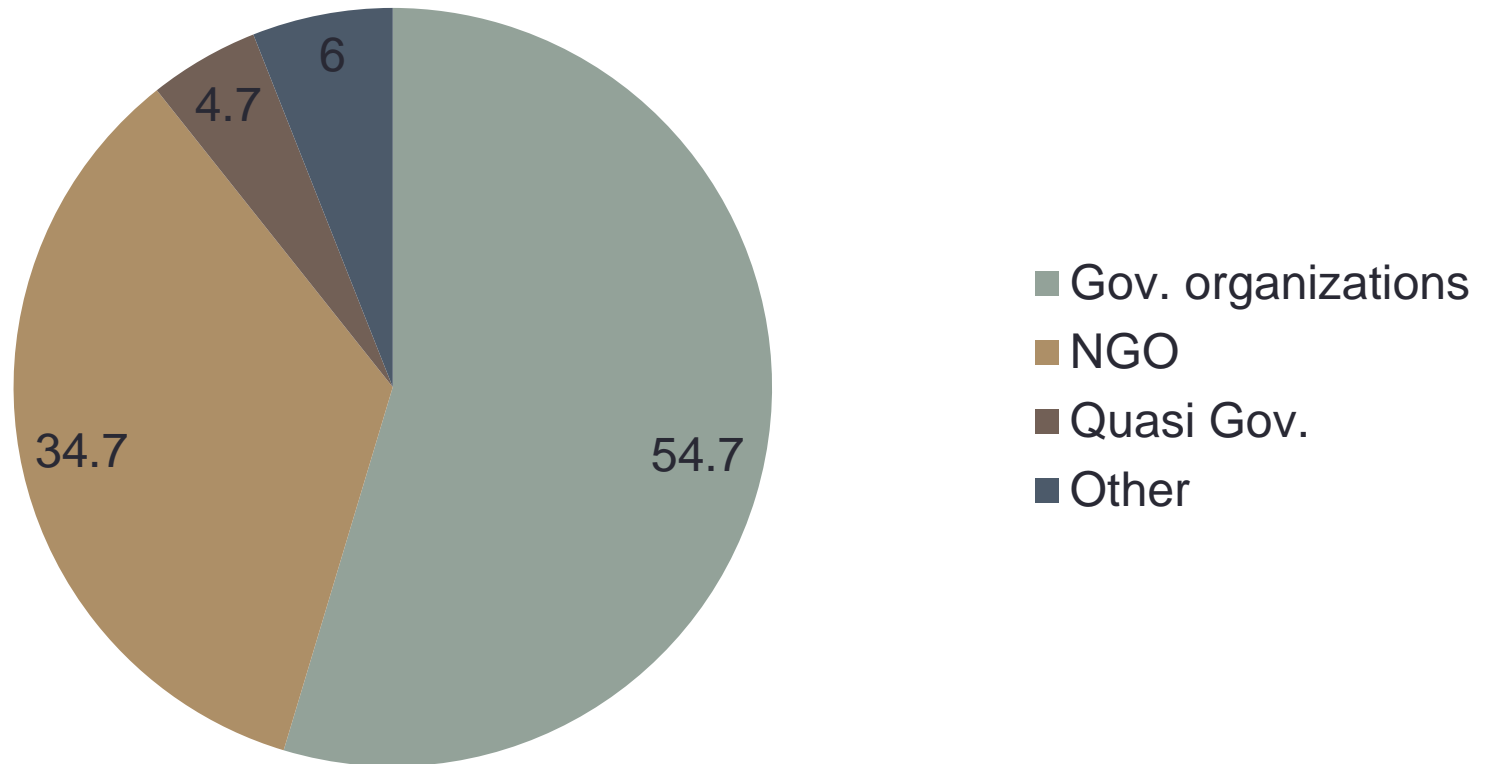
# Distribution of Services across Countries

- 150 organizations spread across 13 countries
- Majority of organizations represented
  - Bahamas 13.3%
  - Jamaica 12.75%
  - St. Lucia 11.35%
  - Trinidad and Tobago 10.0%
  - Suriname 9.3%
  - Antigua and Barbuda 9.3%



# Distribution of Service Providers

Proportion (%)

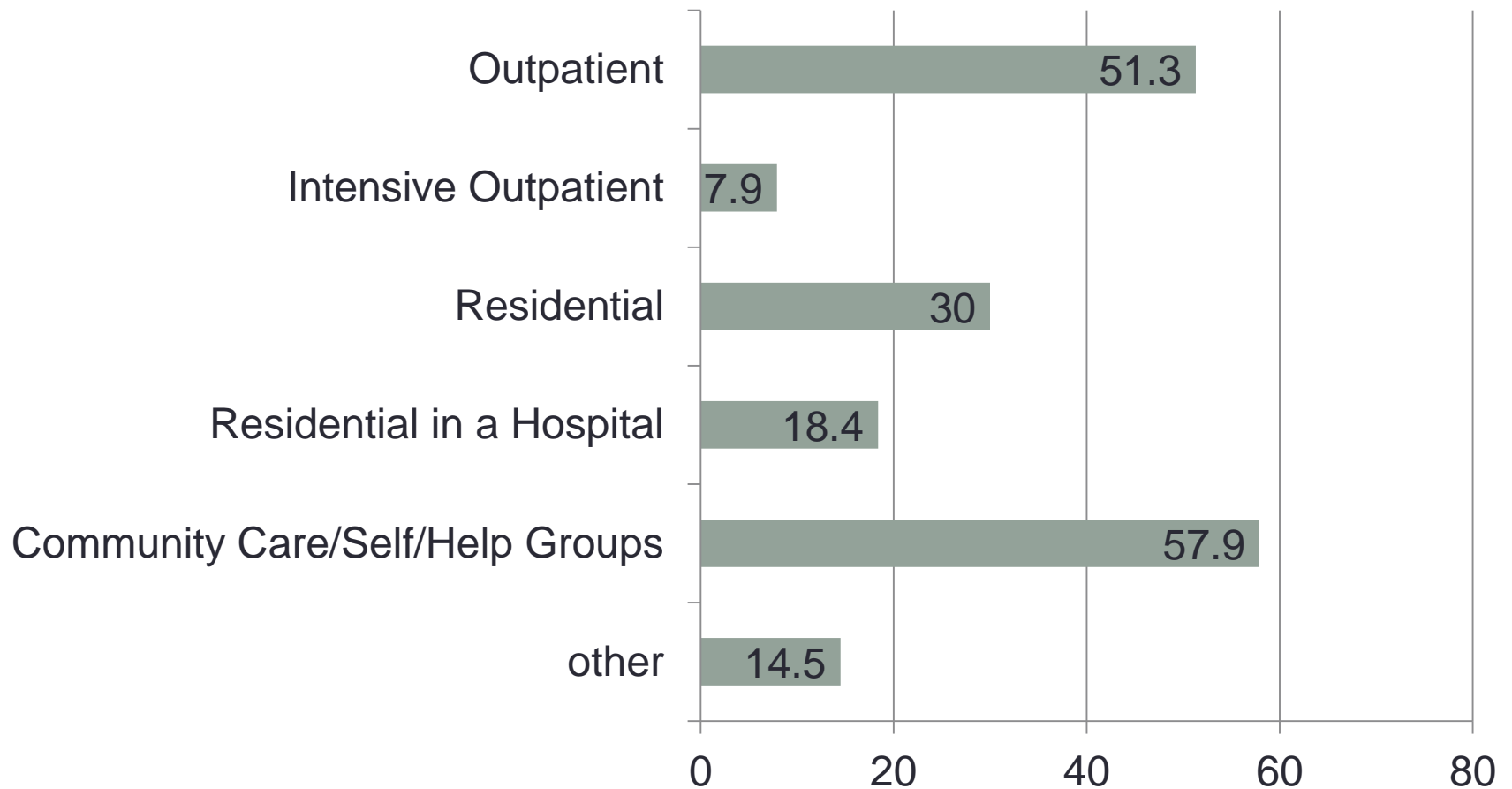


# Level of coverage

- National Level – 70%
- Regional level – 19.35
- Hemispheric level – 4%

# Types of Drug Treatment Services

Percentage (%)



# Treatment Approaches

76 (48%) organizations reportedly engaged in some form of drug treatment activity using approaches such as:

- Psycho-therapy
- 12-Step Program
- Faith Based

# Target Populations

- Majority of organizations targeted **adolescent, males & females; adult males & females**
- Children under 12 were only targeted by 23.3% for males and females respectively

# Profile of Interventions

• Counseling	92.1%
• Relapse Prevention	69.7%
• Clinical Evaluation	60.0
• Social-Re-integration	55.3%
• Prevention and early detection of illnesses (HIV/TB/Hepatitis)	47.4%
• Pharmaco-therapy	31.6%
• Physical rehabilitation	19.7%
• Substitution therapies (methadone/buprenorphine)	1.3%

# Workforce Strengths

- Knowledge of Addiction
- Assessments
- Counseling skills
- Coordinating services and case management

# Knowledge Gaps

- Institutional Administration/  
Management
- Family Systems in the context of  
substance use/abuse
- Social Re-integration



# Training Needs

- Managing treatment resistance and behavior change
- Conflict resolution
- Family systems
- Relapse Prevention\*\*
- Data Collection and electronic data entry
- Ethical/professional responsibilities
- Individualized treatment planning

# The Bahamas Situation



# Government-operated Facilities

- Public Health Clinics - MhGap
- General Hospitals – WD management & stabilization
- Psychiatric Hospital - Acute Adult Units ; Child & Adolescent Services
- Grand Bahama – outpatient treatment
- Community Mental Health Clinic - outpatient and Intensive Outpatient Treatment
- Department of Corrections – treatment for select medium security inmates

# Government-Operated Inpatient Substance-Use Disorders, Treatment Services

- Detoxification & withdrawal management
- Partial Hospitalization Program
- Treatment for special populations
- Medium-term, Medically monitored, Residential treatment in a modified therapeutic community setting
- Follow-up and Aftercare services

# NGO

## Service Providers

- 4 Adult, Male Residential Facilities
  - 3 faith-based
  - 1 Transition Home
  - 1 Housing Facility
- 1 Outpatient program for offender population (adolescent/adult males)

# Using Guiding Principles for Standards of Care (UNODC/WHO, 2016)

## 1. Availability , Accessibility, Attractiveness and appropriateness

- For 90% population – Services are readily available and accessible.
- For the remaining 10% - there are challenges due to geographic layout of country making access inconvenient and cost prohibitive
- Access to inpatient treatment is further hindered by the need for medical clearance via the A&E department of the General Hospital
- A range of treatment settings and options are available through the government run facility
- Services are available irrespective of the physical or psychiatric condition of the patient (including HIV).; ability to pay; age or gender - Though only the government run facility provide services for women.

## 2. Ensuring Ethical Standards – protection of human rights etc.

Greater awareness raising and education is needed to sensitize persons to the issues related to human rights and respect and dignity for all.

### 3. Promoting treatment of Drug Use Disorders through effective coordination between Criminal Justice System and Health and Social Services

- Draft legislation has been proposed for the implementation of Drug Treatment courts
- For years, however, judges have been using their discretion to offer drug treatment as an alternative to incarceration for a variety of drug related offenses, particularly young, first-time offenders
- This process is facilitated through collaboration with the mental health system and Social Services



## 4. Use of Evidence-Based Drug Approaches

- Multi-disciplinary Team Approach
- Screening
- Comprehensive Assessment
- Individualized Treatment Planning
- Referral
- Follow-up
- Social Re-integration

## & Interventions

- Individual, Group and Family Therapy
- Psycho-education
- Motivational interviewing and enhancement therapy
- Cognitive-behavior therapy
- Occupational therapy
- Recreational Therapy

## 5. Responding to needs of Special Subgroups and Conditions

- The Psychiatric Hospital-based facility able to accommodate persons with co-occurring disorders, complications of medical and/or psychiatric disorders, cognitive impairment and older adults with special needs
- More is needed however to build capacity within families and communities to assist with social integration.

## 6. Ensuring good Clinical Governance of treatment services and programs

- Gov. - Similarly, the governance structure supports the ongoing system wide improvements to service— particularly since 2010 with the drafting of a strategic plan, that led to remodeling of services to better align with regional and international standards;
- NGOs – Have particular funding challenges and rely heavily on experts by experience;

## 7. Monitoring and Evaluation of integrated treatment policies, services, procedures, approaches and linkages

- Monitoring & Evaluation are inadequate to non-existence across the board.
- Plans in motion for improvements through the introduction and phased roll-out of:
  - Integrated Health Information Management Systems across the Government services (iHIMS)
  - Universal Health care that promises comprehensive, modern and affordable healthcare for all.

# Overview of Treatment Facilities Jamaica

- Addiction Treatment Services Unit
  - 21 day program, Adults and Adolescents
- Richmond Fellowship, Patricia House
  - 8 wks Residential, Adults
- Teen Challenge
  - 1 yr Residential, Adult Men and Women
- RISE Life Management
  - 8- 10 sessions, Adolescent focus
- Drug Court
  - Act passed 1999, based on Canadian Model

# Profiles of Drug Treatment Facilities: Target Populations, Capacity & Service Utilization

Facility	Type	Target pop		Personnel		# of Beds	Treatment Duration (in days)	Annual Capacity	Tot Clients Treated		
		Gender	Age Group	Clinical	Non-Clinical				2014	2015	2016
<b>A Gov.</b>	Inpatient Detox	Males Females	Adult	16	5	27	30	328	185	199	219
<b>B Gov.</b>	Residential	Males Females	Adult	14	2	18	112	59	74	73	59
<b>C Gov.</b>	Inpatient	Males Females	Adolescents	17	6	12	56	78	56	46	37
<b>D Gov.</b>	Intensive Outpatient	Males Females	Adults	8	1		180	204		185	628/ 42
<b>E NGO Faith-based</b>	Residential	Males	Adults	3	3	24	180	48		144	
<b>F NGO</b>	Residential	Males	Adults	3	3	32	180	64 +5	98	98	





# References