



# Giving Memphis Residents a Second Chance on Life after Substance Use Disorder & Incarceration

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CEO & Founder  
Itàn (*ee-tahn*)

# As Featured

## In:



## Monique O. Ositelu, PhD

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*Advocate for Socioeconomic Mobility of Marginalized People*

# Webinar Agenda



# The Odds are Stacked Against Folks with a SUD &/or Formerly Incarcerated



Americans with a SUD:  
**40.3 million (15% of the  
U.S. population)**

[Source](#)



However, only  
**10% of the 40.3 million  
receive treatment**

[Source](#)



National recidivism rate predicts  
**3 in 5 will return back  
within 3 years**

[Source](#)



Tennessee's Recidivism Rate:  
**2 in 5 adults will be arrested again within 3 years**

[Source](#)

**“I was homeless with no other option for housing. I had no insurance and no money. If not for NDSS, I am not sure where I would be today.”**

*- NDSS Current Male Resident (sobriety 24 months)*

To meet this need,  
NDSS opens the  
doors of its facilities  
to men and women  
released from penal  
institutions &  
rehabilitation  
centers

Demographic Characteristics		Percentage
Race		
Black	57%	<div></div>
White	43%	<div></div>
Gender		
Women	50%	<div></div>
Men	50%	<div></div>
Age		
18-23	5%	<div></div>
24-36	27%	<div></div>
37-45	32%	<div></div>
46-54	11%	<div></div>
55+	24%	<div></div>

Note: The percentages may not sum to totals because of rounding. N=40

Source: Itàn analysis of New Dawn Social Services' internal data from April 2021- April 2022.

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Demographic Characteristics		Percentage	
Resident Status			
Current	55%	<div></div>	
Former	45%	<div></div>	
Length of Stay			
< 45 Days	15%	<div></div>	
2-4 Months	35%	<div></div>	
5-7 Months	30%	<div></div>	
8-12 Months	10%	<div></div>	
13+ Months	10%	<div></div>	

Note: The percentages may not sum to totals because of rounding. N=40

Source: Itàn analysis of New Dawn Social Services' internal data from April 2021- April 2022.

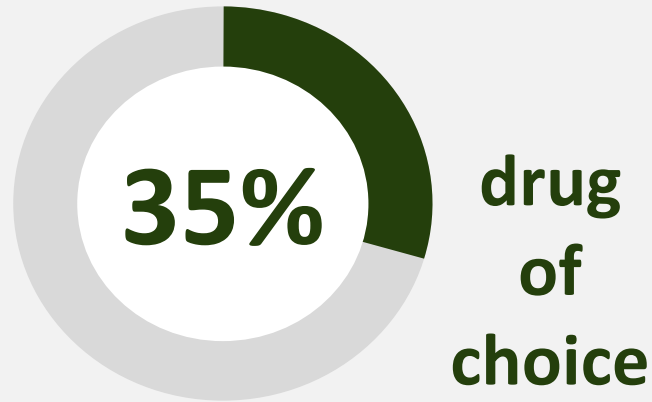
**Itàn**

# Most Popular Drugs of Choice Among Incoming NDSS Residents

**#1**

Most Popular

**OPIOIDS**



**#2**

Common Drug  
of Choice

**Crack/  
Cocaine**

33% of residents'  
drug of choice



Multiple Drugs  
of Choice

**Combination:**

- Alcohol
- Meth
- Opioids
- LSD
- Weed



# NDSS' Holistic Approach

Aims to improve outcomes along:



**“The top two game changing services NDSS provides are the holistic approach and the contacts they already have established with community agencies to make connections rather quickly.”**

*- Drug Court (community partner)*

# The Challenges of Reentering Society

## Section I

# Challenges of Reentry

## Reuniting with Family

For some of the residents we spoke with, there is a trust issue due to previous mishaps/relapse.

## Accessing Public Benefits

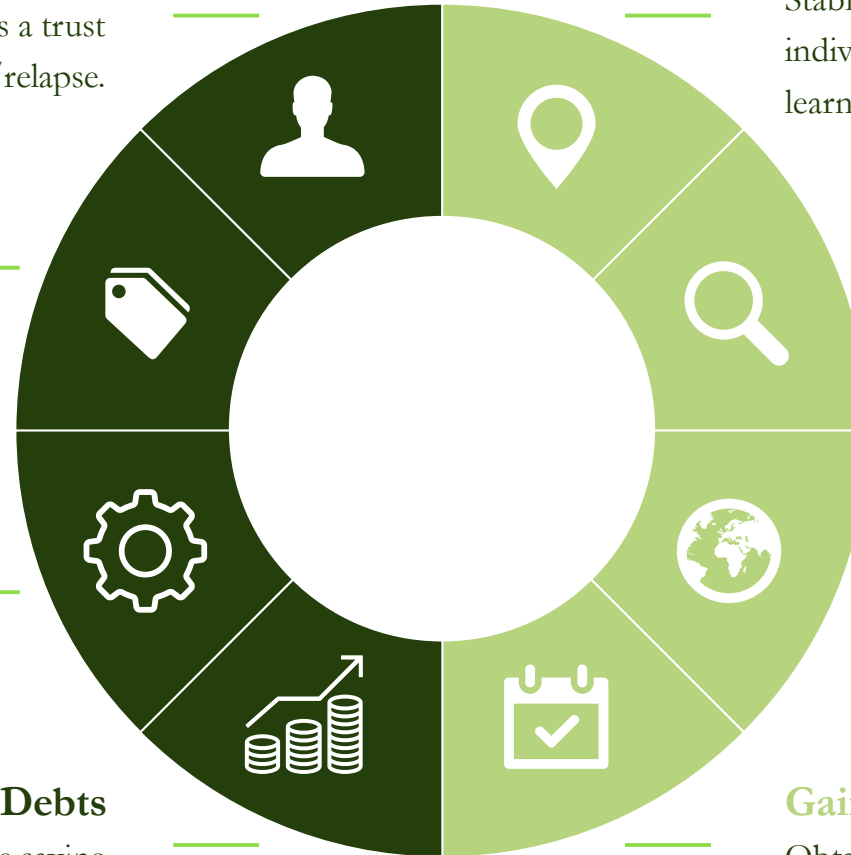
Those who also have a criminal record, access to such benefits are not an option.

## Personal Issues

Such as mental health and substance use disorder.

## Paying Off Debts

Studies show that learning money management skills like saving and budgeting is critical for a successful return to society.



## Finding Housing

Stable housing plays a critical role in recovery. Before individuals can address their SUD, find employment or even learn new skills, they need a place to stay.

## Managing the Stigma of a Criminal Record

Negative spillover effects impacting individuals' job search.

## Losing the Right to Vote

Specifically for those who also have a criminal record.

## Gainful Employment

Obtaining employment is a critical but difficult step to achieve.

# The Transition: Road to Recovery

## Section II

# NDSS helps clients acclimate back to society by providing...



## Financial Literacy Courses

About 1 in 3 residents participate in the Financial Literacy Class. The majority of clients who do participate are residents for 8 months or longer as NDSS offers financial literacy courses twice per year.



## Support for Driver's License Attainment

30% of residents obtain their driver's license while at NDSS. A driver's license is critical as it allows individuals to make productive steps towards the future such as opening bank accounts, getting a job and buying a car.



## Employment Assistance

1 in 3 (32%) of NDSS clients are gainfully employed, full-time, within a year of their stay.



“I get to be in an environment where I got to sit there long enough and be taught. I’m blessed with a job. I now have a driver’s license, a car in my own name, insurance and my record is expunged!”

- *NDSS Current Female Resident (sobriety 10 months)*

# The Success Rate of NDSS Compared to National Trends

## Section III



# 70% of NDSS Residents are Sober 7-12 Months Later – Meeting the National Trend of Sobriety Amongst Individuals recovering from a SUD

## National Trend

70% are sober 6-9 months



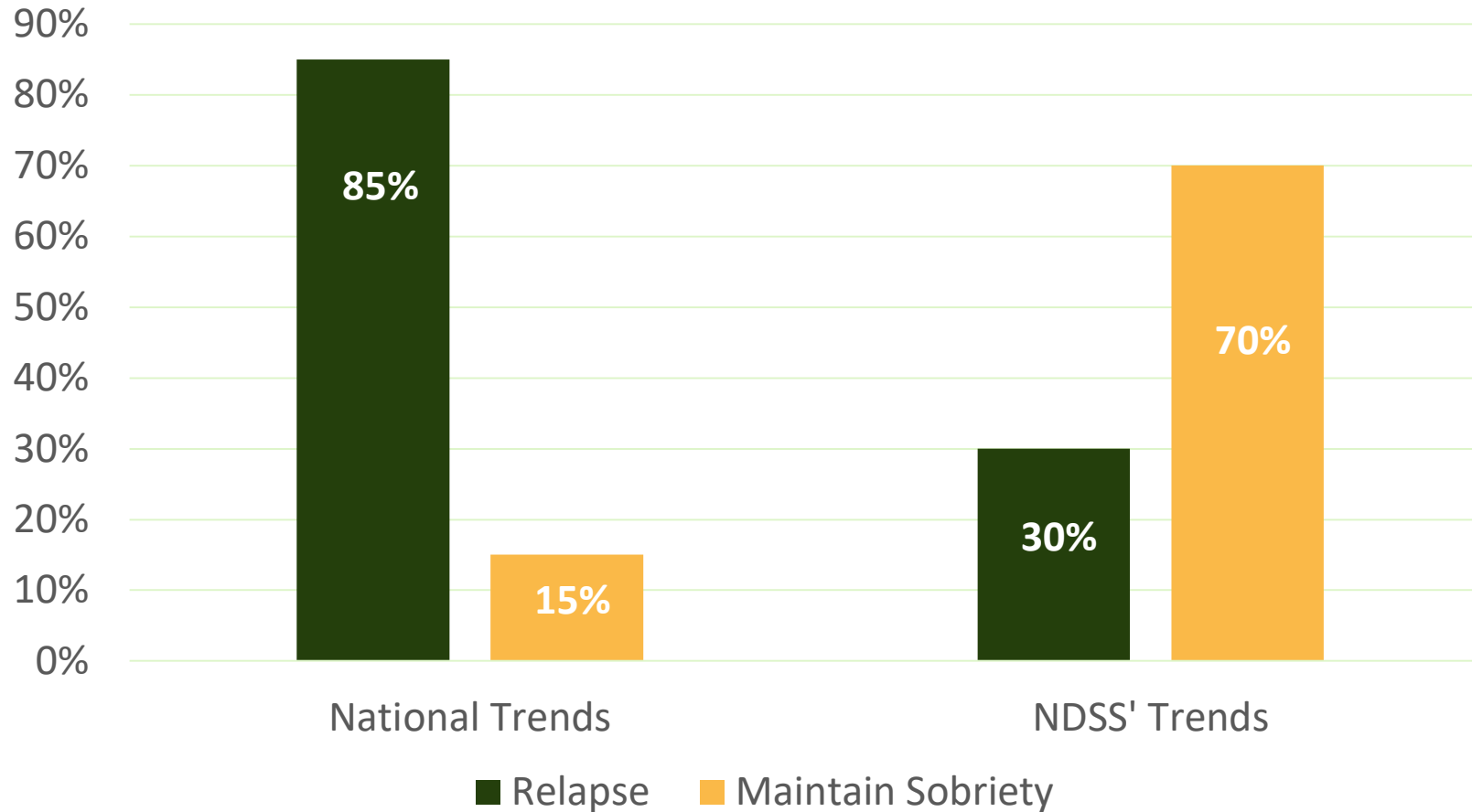
after successfully completing  
rehabilitation treatment

[Source](#)

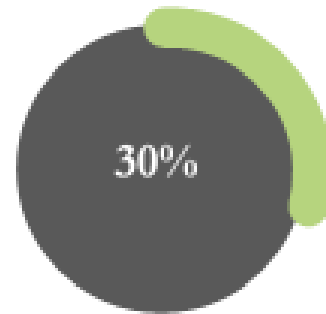
## NDSS' Trend

Months of Sobriety	Percentage
Less than 2 Months	0%
2 – 6 Months	13%
7 – 12 Months	69%
13+ Months	19%

# NDSS' Relapse Rate of 30% is Exceptional Compared to the National Rate of up to 85% of Individuals Relapse

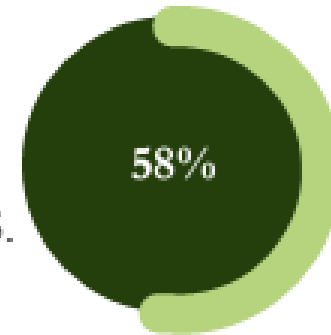


# Over Half of the Clients Who Relapse, Return Back to NDSS to Continue their Sobriety Journey



of NDSS clients relapse.

For those who do relapse...

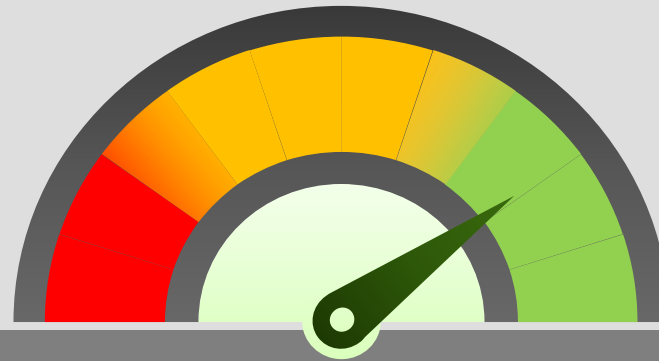


... 58% return back to NDSS.

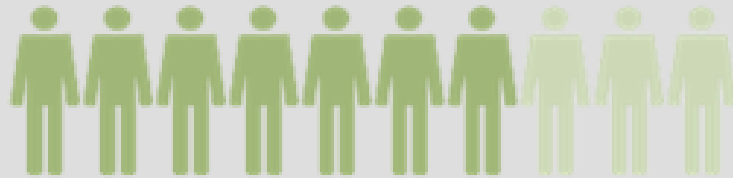
“Mr. & Mrs. Smith fed me and put me in a motel after I relapsed after 9 months. I did 14 days detox and then moved back to the house. I’ve been clean ever since.”

- *NDSS Current Male Resident (sobriety 24 months)*

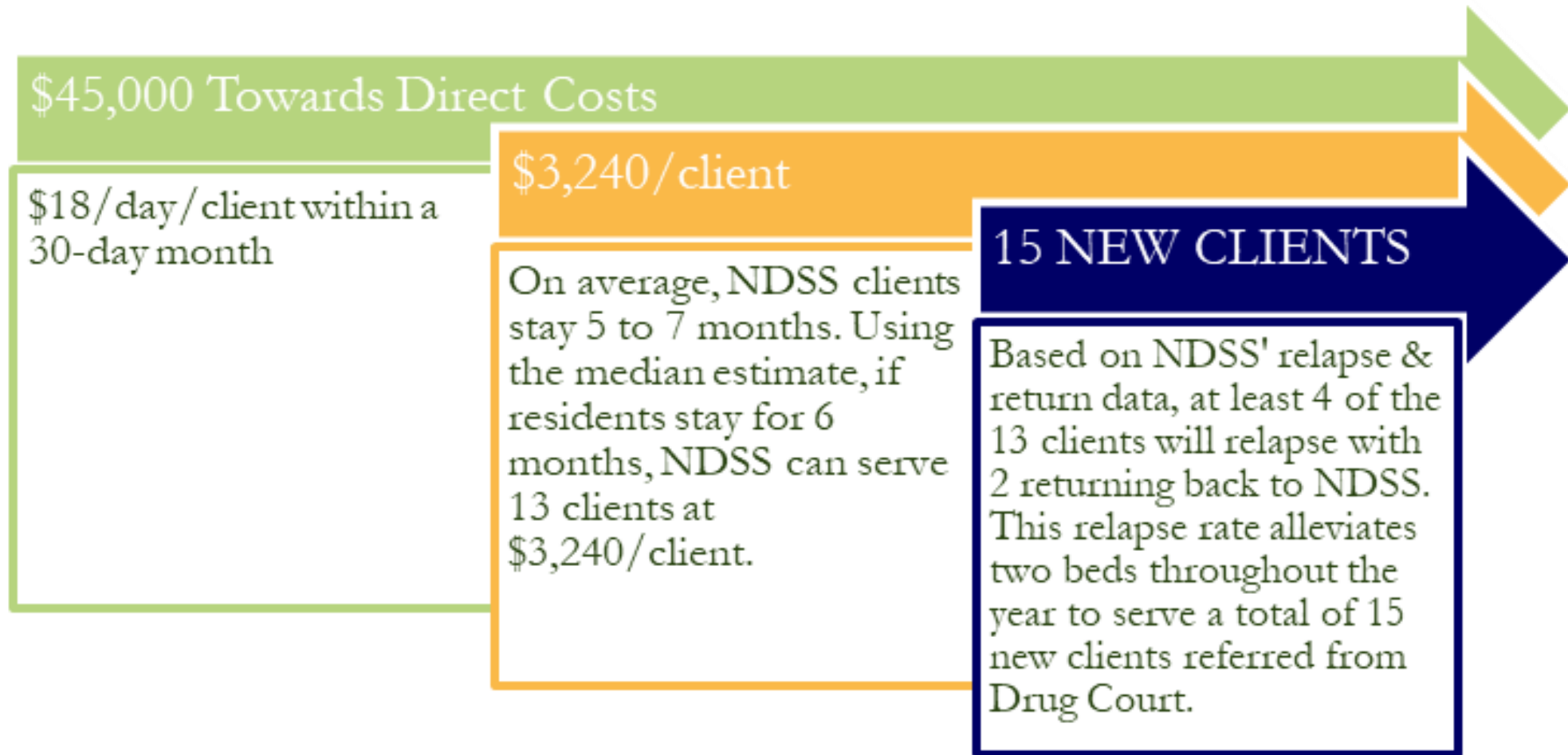
# NDSS' Success Rate of 72% Exceeds the National Success Rate that Ranges from 15%-40%



SUCCESS RATE – 72%



# Based on Data Trends – NDSS Can Expand to Serve 15 New Clients in a Given Year from Drug Court Referrals



# We Suggest a Multi-Phased Approach

## Three Phases of Expansion

1

### Become a County Vendor

- Identify the process and steps to become a county vendor
- Identify when Drug Court makes the call for proposals from county vendors to submit a pay order for consideration

2

### Focus on a Niche of Clients

- Focus on female referrals
- Acquire housing unit (s) solely for women
- Hire additional staff trained to support women with SUD and/or formerly incarcerated

3

### Gradually Expand Niche if Necessary

- Consider what subpopulation NDSS is best equipped to serve
- Options include veterans, those with mental health concerns, men, etc.

“These past 19 months of being sober has been the best months of my life... I have nothing bad to say about [NDSS]. I recommend it to anyone who really wants it.”

- *NDSS Former Male Resident (sobriety 19 months)*



# Thank You

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