

Using data to change culture

VAADA Conference Presentation 2025



Biographies



Jo Rasmussen is the **Senior Leader of Insights and Analytics**

at Bendigo Community Health Service. A role centered on data and lived experience integration.

Jo has focused on improving data collection and integrity within the AOD team, using her 30 plus years of experience in numerous data roles.



Lisa Walklate is a Registered Nurse with 24 years' experience of working in the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) sector. Currently **Senior Leader AOD Wellbeing Services** at Bendigo Community Health Service.

Lisa also has experience in teaching in AOD and community services.

Where we started



- Staff disinterested in data. Not seeing it as part of their role.
- Limited trust in data, especially VADC.
- Entered data into the system but had limited understanding on where it went and how it was used.
- Vague and inconsistent expectations and limited knowledge of targets.

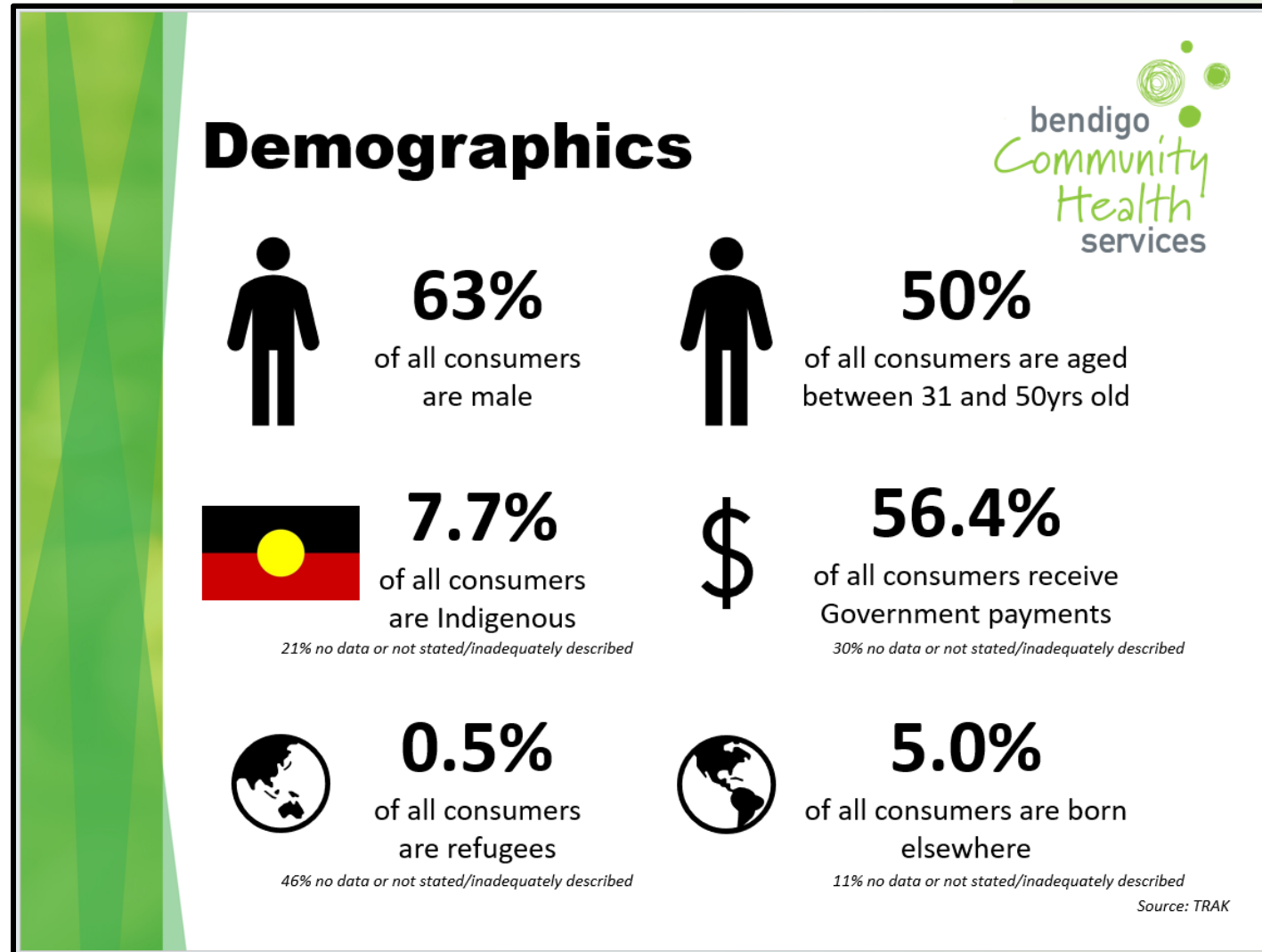


Stage 1 – Staff engagement

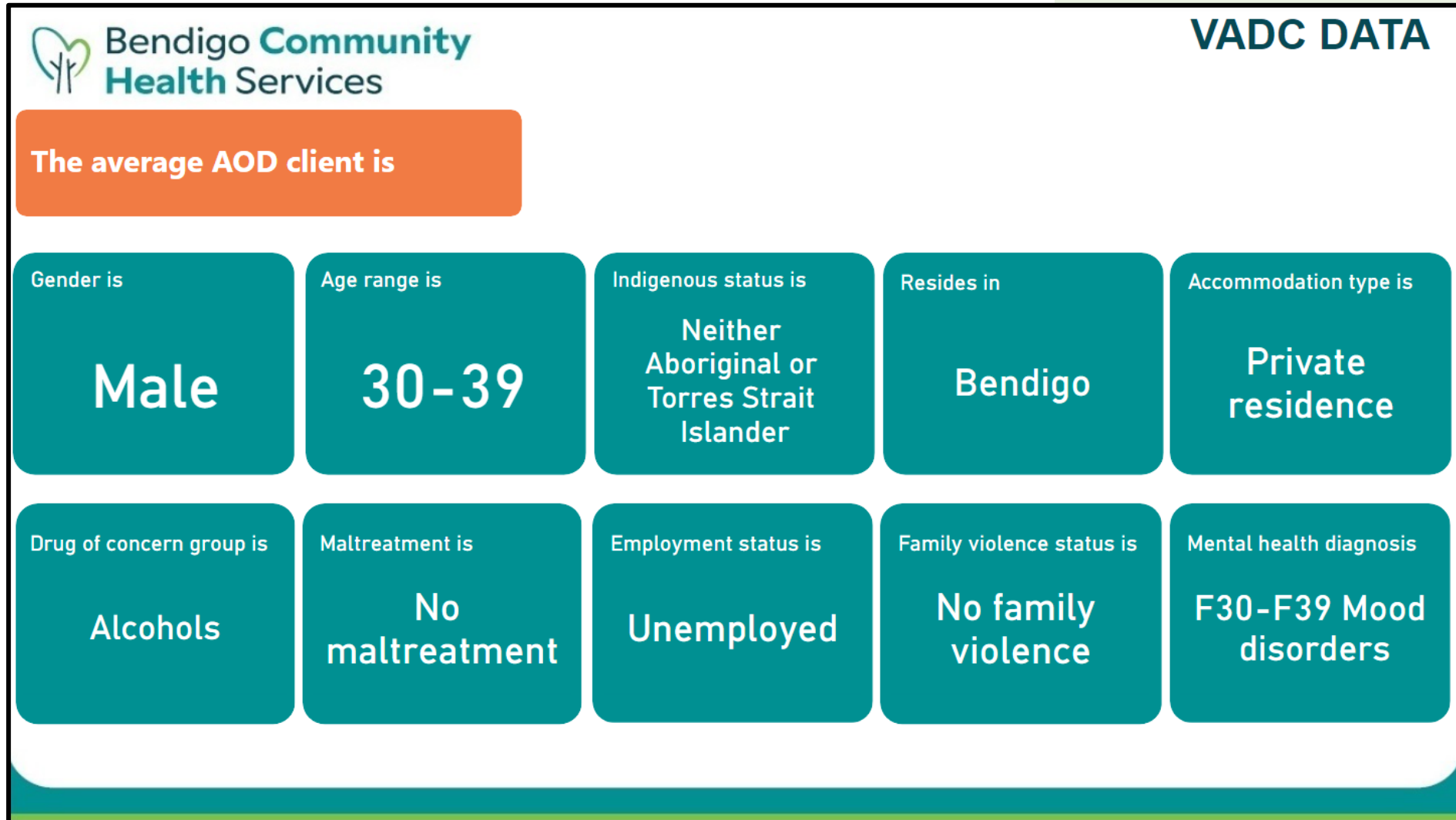
Aim – was to get staff engaged with VADC data and demonstrate how data can be used for multiple purposes



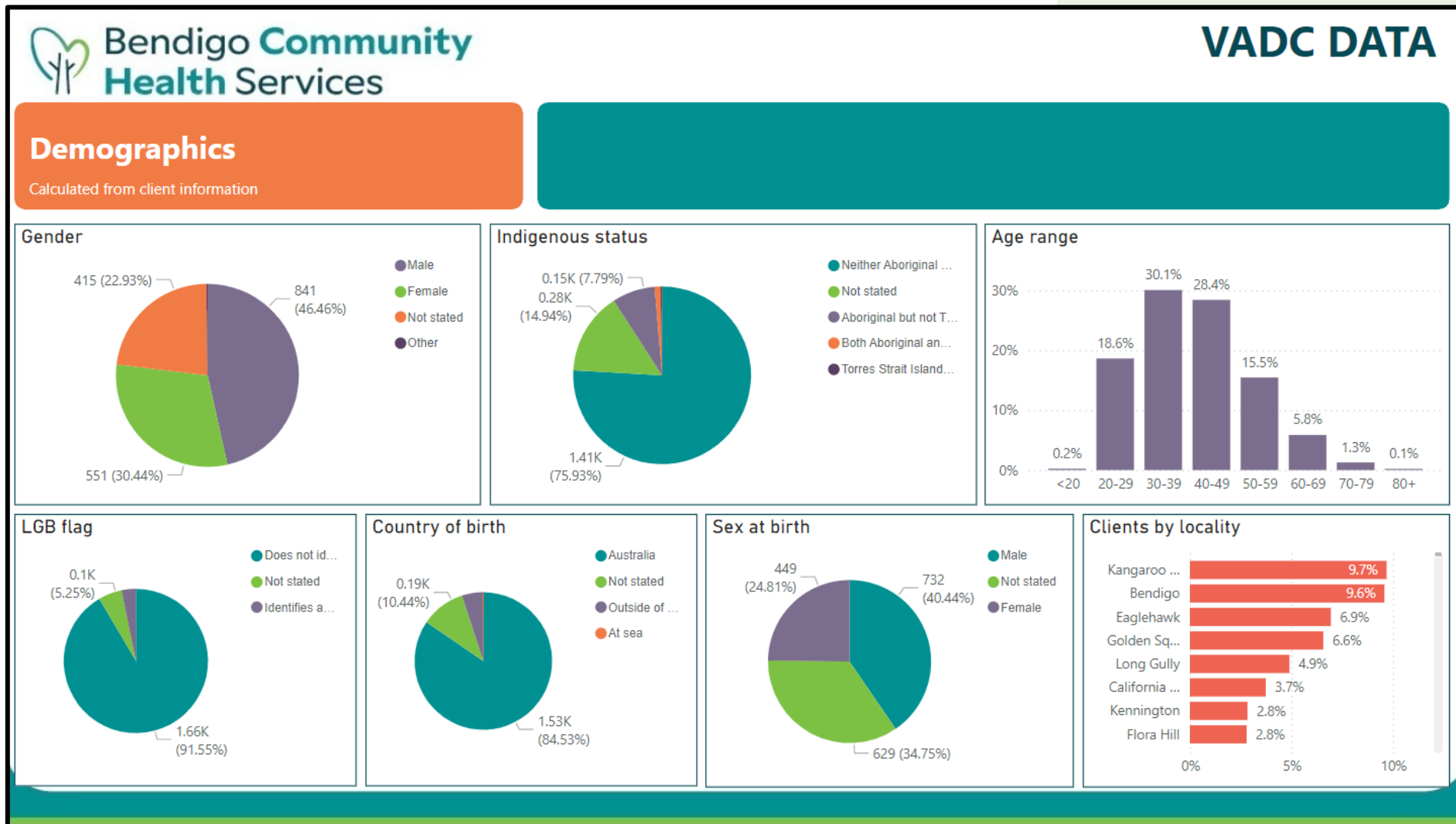
Stage 1 – Staff engagement



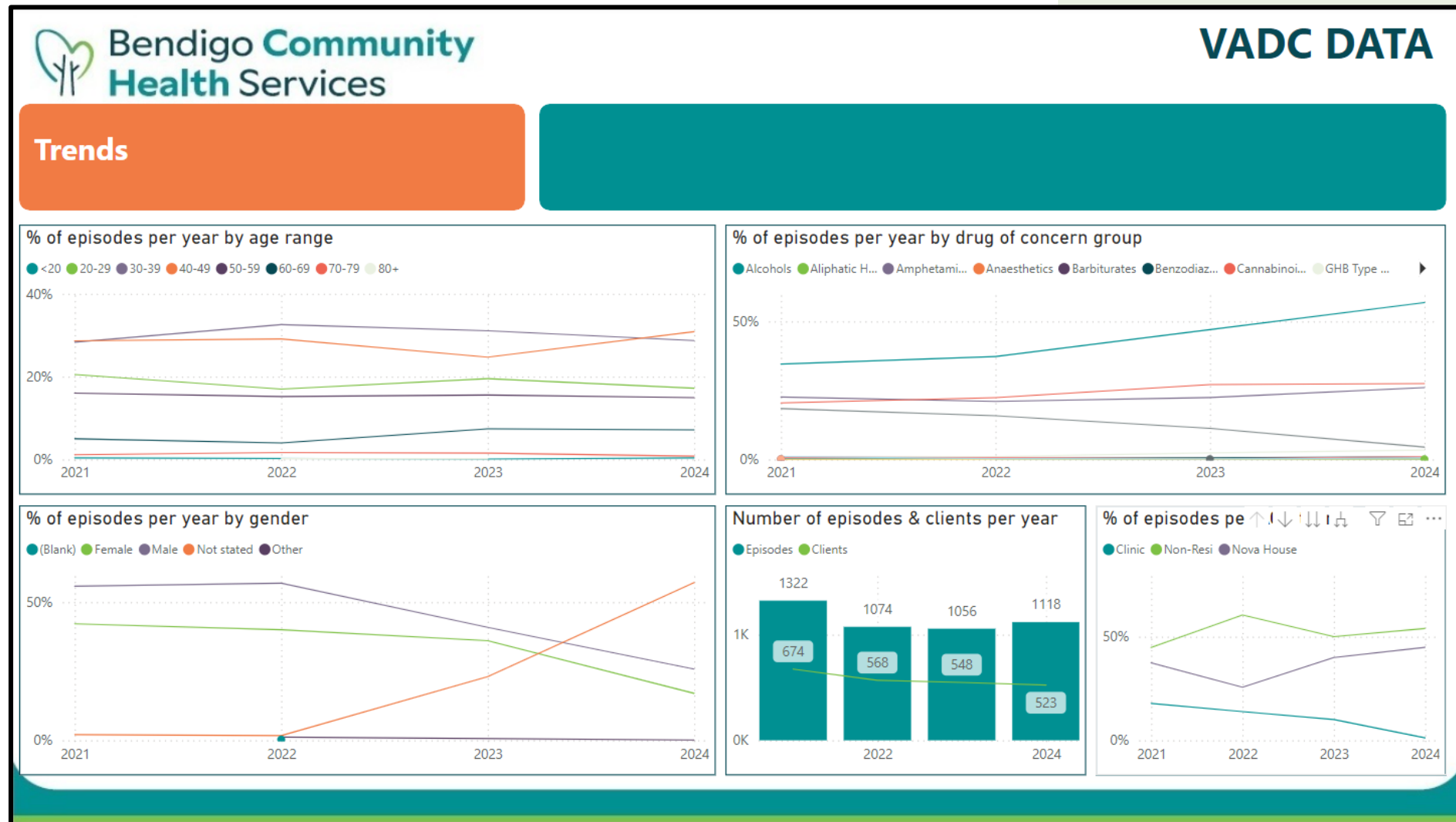
Stage 1 – Staff engagement




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Stage 1 – Staff engagement

 **Bendigo Community Health Services**

VADC DATA

Filters

Selecting filters on this page, will filter all the following pages. Note that as you select more filters the amount of available data will reduce, which may impact on how the visualisations appear. To select multiple values, hold down the control button.

Demographics

Gender

▼

All

▼

Accommodation type

▼

All

▼

Age range

▼

All

▼

Employment status

▼

All

▼

Indigenous status

▼

All

▼

Refugee status

▼

All

▼

LGB status

▼

All

▼

Born in Australia

▼

All

▼

Sex at birth

▼

All

▼

Country of birth

▼

All

▼

Locality

▼

All

▼

Preferred language

▼

All

▼

Episode information

AOD team

▼

All

▼

Year of service

▼

All

▼

Service stream

▼

All

▼

Episode length

▼

All

▼

Referral provider type

▼

All

▼

Referral service type

▼

All

▼

% course completed

▼

All

▼

Tier

▼

All

▼

Drug information

Drug of concern group

▼

All

▼

Method of use

▼

All

▼

Volume unit of measure

▼

All

▼

Volume

▼

All

▼

Risk factors

Family violence

▼

All

▼

Maltreatment type

▼

All

▼

Maltreatment perpetrator

▼

All

▼

Arrested last 4 weeks

▼

All

▼

Risk to self

▼

All

▼

Risk to others

▼

All

▼

Violent last 4 weeks

▼

All

▼

Forensic type

▼

All

▼

Health

Mental Health diagnosis

▼

All

▼

K10 score

▼

All

▼

Acquired brain injury

▼

All

▼

Clear all slicers

Stage 2 – Performance

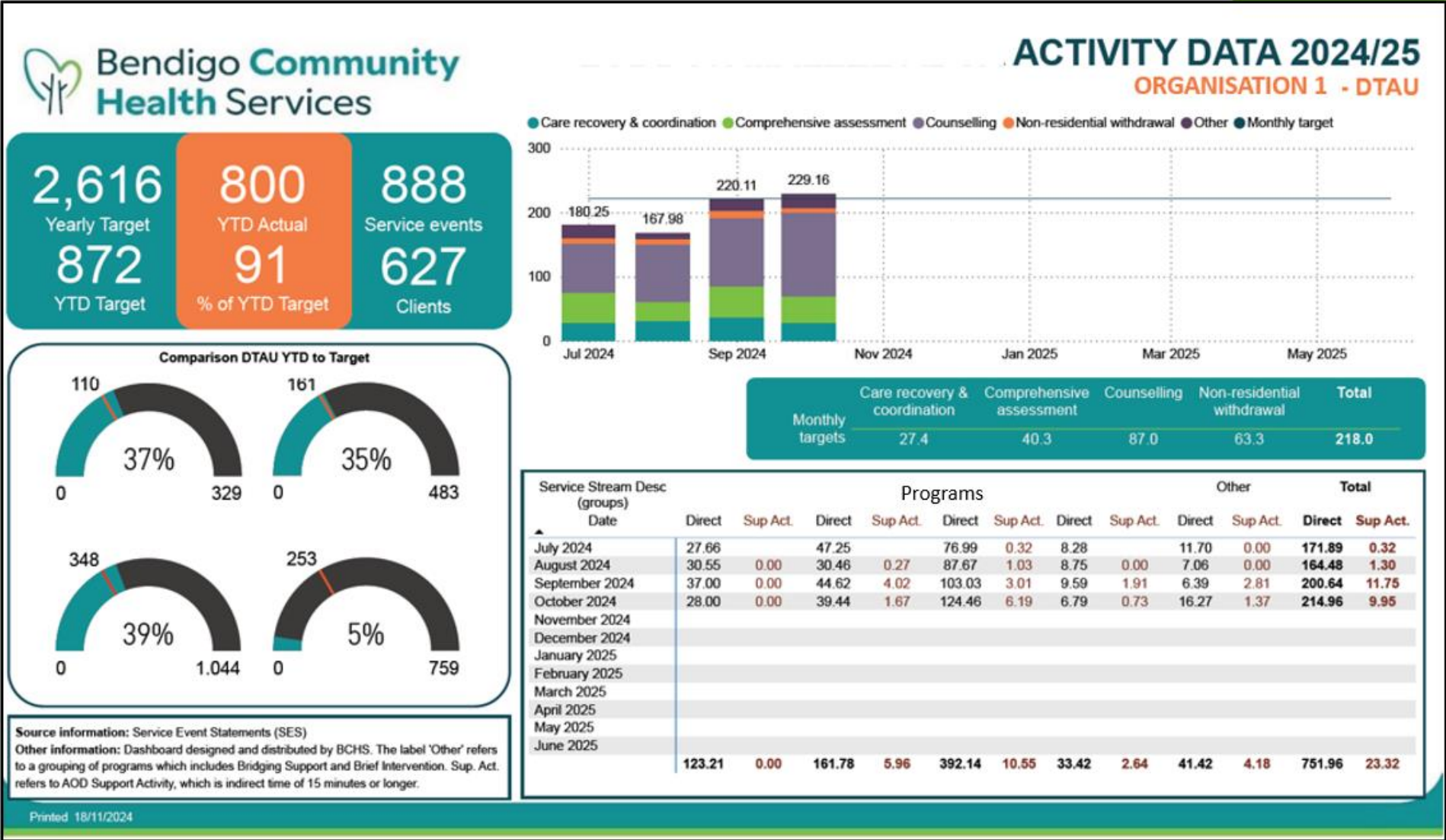
Aim – Was to educate the staff on our targets, how they were calculated and share how we were performing.



Dashboard – Organisational performance

Organisation progress

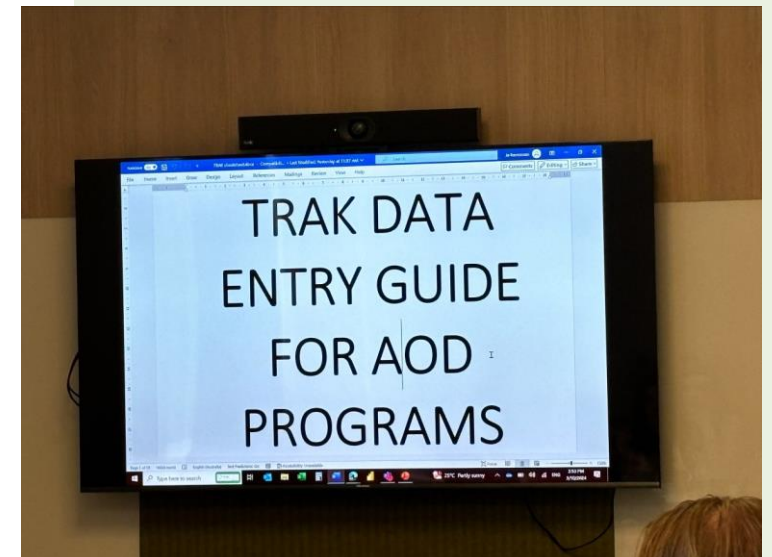
YTD progress per program stream



Other performance activities

Educations sessions on DTAU's, targets and data entry guide

Importance of specific fields used in weighting DTAU calculations, such as Indigenous and forensic status. This led to a greater understanding of the importance of completing client registration forms.



Stage 3 – Tools

Aim – The development and implementation of a range of tools to support staff and increase program activity.



Tool 1 - Caseload management tool

Staff details are added here to calculate total number of hours available

Amount of client hrs based on FTE and month

Total number of planned hours based on clients added below

Colours indicate intensity of service required

| AOD staff monthly caseload management tool | | | |
|--|--------------|------|---|
| Staff member | Jo Rasmussen | | |
| EFT | 1.0 | | |
| Program | Counselling | | |
| Month | January | | |
| Leave/public holidays | 0 | days | |
| Total client hours available | 115 | hrs | based on 5 hrs client work a day (calculated using EFT and minus public holidays/leave) |
| Total client hrs assigned | 24 | | |
| Total client hrs remaining | 91 | | |
| Client Initials & UR | Ranking | Hrs | Comments |
| JR 12345 | Red | 4 | Past client. Booked in for 19/1/2025 |
| LW 98765 | Green | 2 | Proceeding well with counselling. Planned discharge in a fortnight |
| SS 54321 | Orange | 3 | Requesting fortnightly - (alcohol). Naltrexone. No current use - relapse prevention |
| HB 24879 | Green | 2 | Fortnightly. Std counselling. [Alc] - no current use. Requested relapse prevention |
| DC 78945 | Red | 4 | 2 x phone calls and 1 x text |
| BW 25563 | Orange | 3 | Needs referral to Western and Westside Lodge |
| WW 48795 | Green | 2 | Comp Ax booked for 19/1/2025 onsite |
| TE 65978 | Green | 2 | F - New referral pending appointment |
| HR 89745 | Green | 2 | requesting peer support |
| | Blank | 0 | |
| | Blank | 0 | |
| | Blank | 0 | |
| | Blank | 0 | |
| | Blank | 0 | |

Note: All details are fictitious

Tool 2 – Activity dashboard (team)

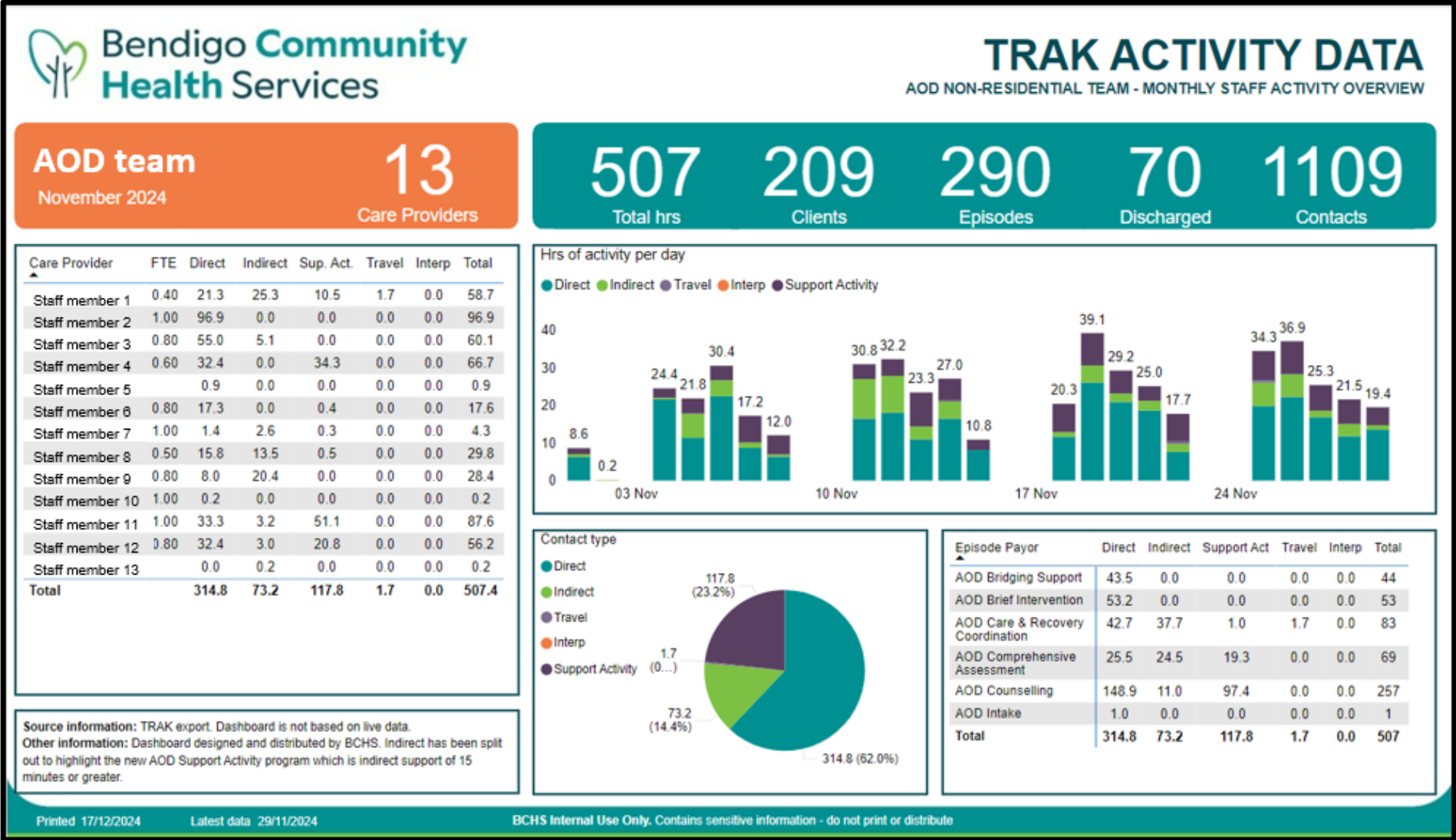
This page is for the whole team

Overview of all staff hours

Total monthly activity

Total hours per day

Hours across each program

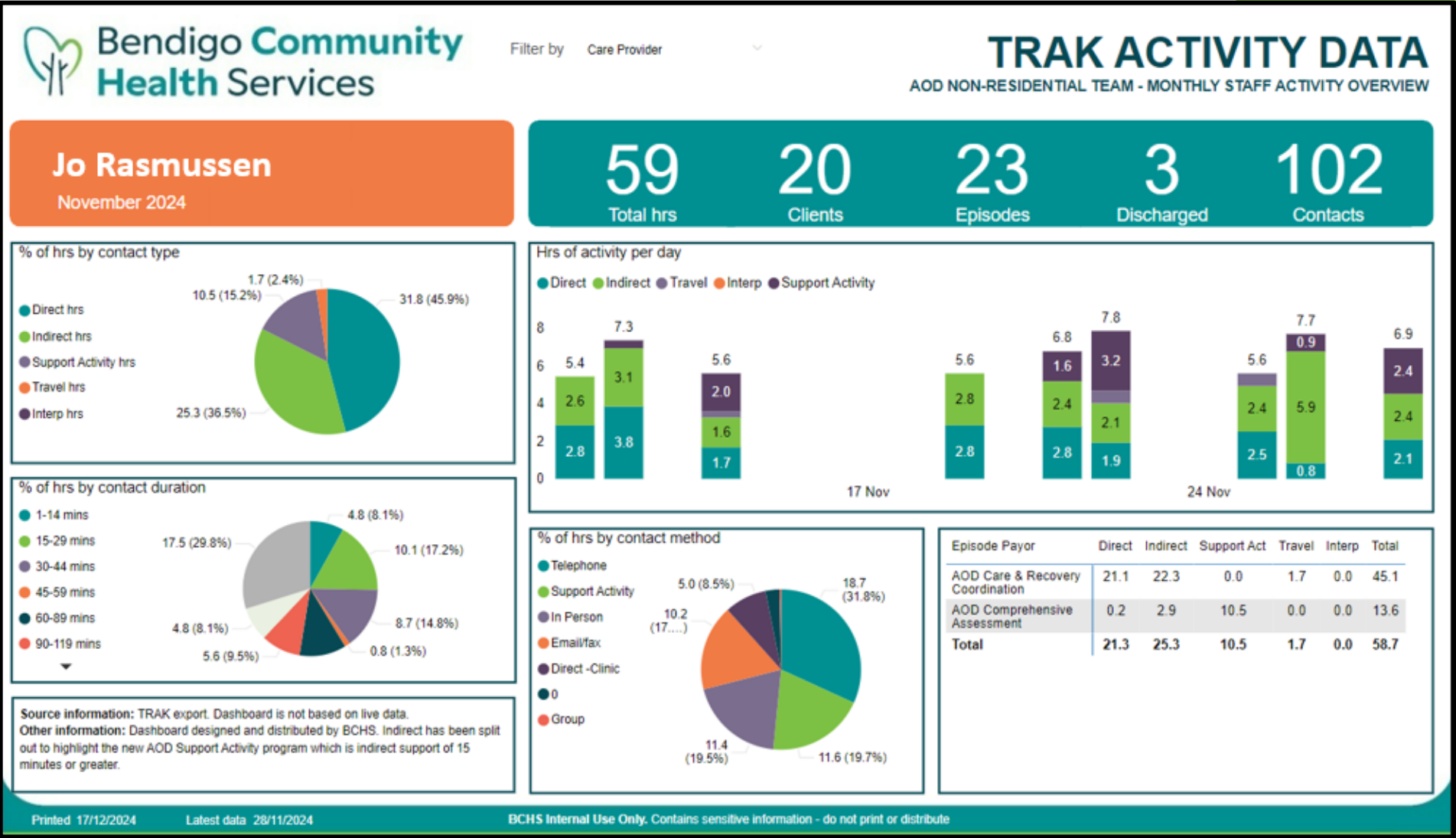


Tool 2 – Activity dashboard (individual staff)

This page is for one staff member

Overview of contact type

Overview of contact duration



Supervision



Both the caseload management tool and activity dashboard are utilised in monthly supervision sessions with staff.

The caseload management tool allows the Senior Leader to monitor client complexity to ensure no one is overloaded with complex clients, which helps prevent burnout.

The activity dashboard facilitates discussion on why there is differences in hours planned versus actual. For example, if clients didn't turn up to sessions, what can we do to reduce disengagement.

Outcomes

48%
**increase in
hours a
month**

18%
**increase in
clients a
month**

**53% increase
in contacts a
month**

**Increase in
data literacy
& quality**

**Waitlist
reduced to
one page**

Was consistently two pages

**Increase in
room
utilization**

At Wanyanimbik Wayawan

**Staff
satisfaction
increased**

100% of staff surveyed indicated the tool was
useful and that they had improved knowledge
and understanding of data

**One staff
member
resignation**

Staff feedback

Gives me a visual of my current workload and helps me see achievements when tracking my discharges.

More accountable, feeling more in control of my workload.

Everyone is encouraged to take responsibility for maintaining high data integrity and accountability

Being data-aware keeps me accountable for meeting performance targets and ensures I'm tracking client progress in a measurable way.

Feeling more empowered and confident in the processes.

It helps track client progress, tasks, and deadlines, reducing the chance of missing important steps.

A more organised approach leads to better care and client satisfaction.

A data entry guide is essential to knowing how to enter data accurately and thanks so much Jo for developing it.

Key learnings

Didn't start out expecting this work to change the team culture.

Management engagement and knowledge with the process is crucial.

You need to close the data loop. Show data back to staff.

Requires investment in data analysis, education and developing resources.

Regular supervision and clinical reviews using the tools, creates an equitable workload and consistent expectations across the team. It also helps in being transparent.



Thank You

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