

Mesa Renfrew County Mobile Substance Use Service

Impact Report April - June, 2026

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Canada Canada

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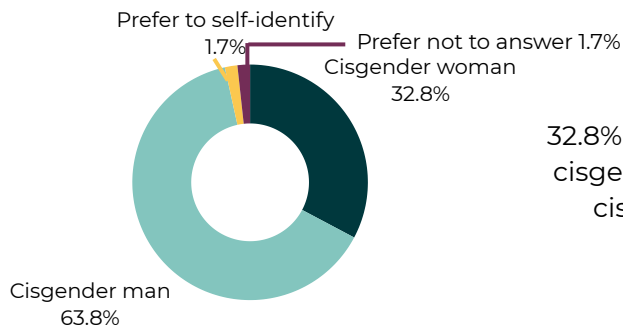
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CLIENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Between April 1st and June 30th 2026, 77 individuals received services through the Mesa Mobile Outreach Team, which is a core component of the Renfrew County Mobile Substance Use Service. **Demographics have been collected for 58 of the 77 clients reached.** Below are the demographics of clients served*.

Gender



Community

85% of clients live in a medium to small community.

14% of clients live in a rural community.

1% of clients live in an Indigenous community

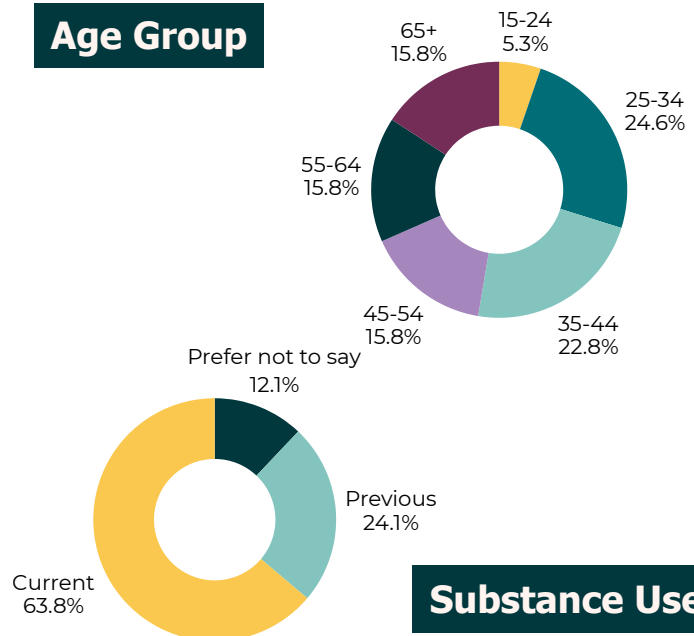
Housing



38% of clients reported unstable housing.

62% of clients reported having stable housing.

Age Group



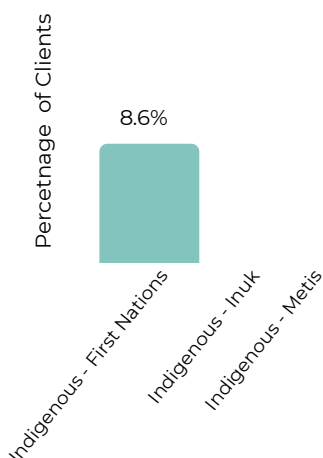
Language



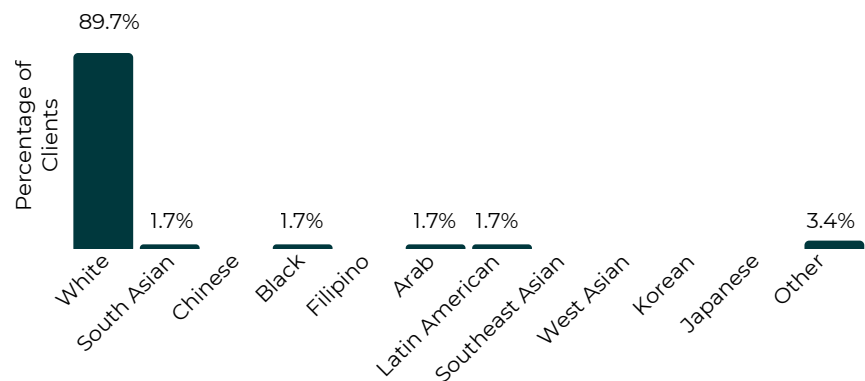
100% of clients speak English (n=58).
3% (n=2) speak both English and French.

Substance Use

Indigenous Identity



Ethnicity

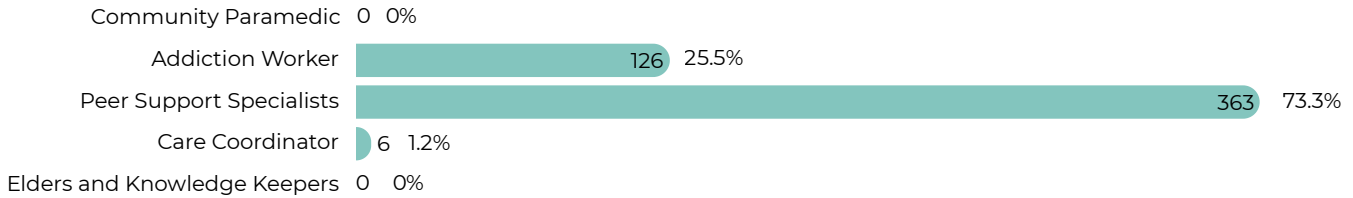


*If a client characteristic changed during this period, only the most recent is reported.

ENCOUNTERS

Between April 1st and June 30th 2026, there were 495 total encounters through the Mesa Mobile Community Outreach Team Expansion. During this period, the Community Paramedics had to unexpectedly transition to a new EMR system. Due to this transition, Community Paramedic data was unavailable to report on for this period.

Service Provider

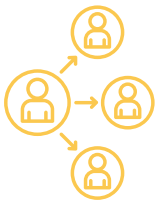


Number and Percentage of Encounters

Reason Encounter Was Initiated

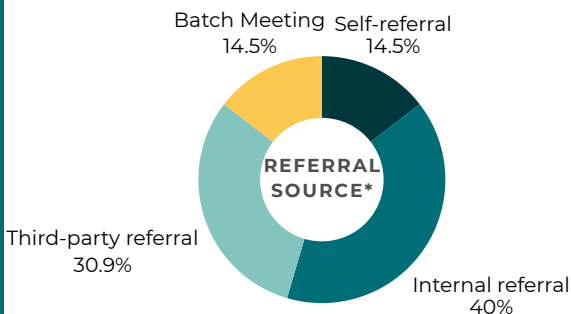


Total Number of Referrals



The Mobile Outreach Team has provided **235** referrals to external supports during this reporting period.

Referral Source



What Clients Like About Mesa

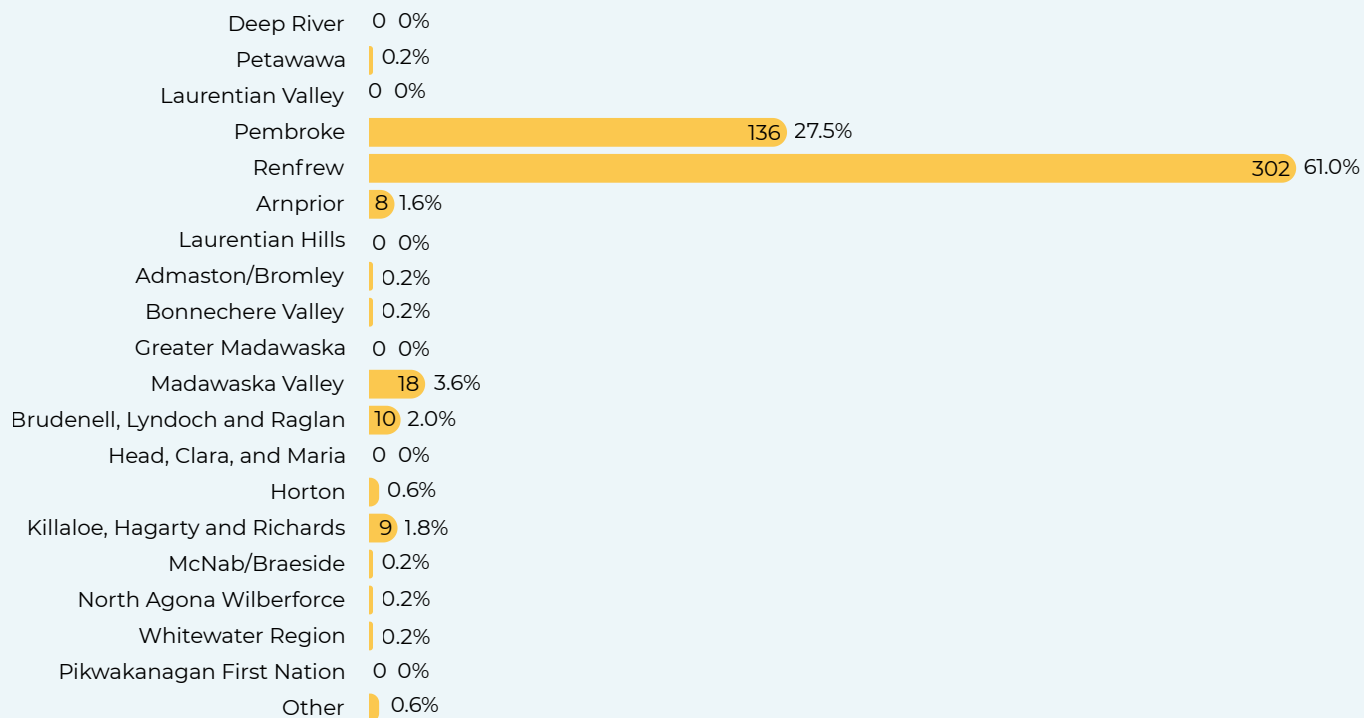
"Allow you to do things at your own pace"

"They are there for you when you need them"

"They're already going above and beyond with everything"

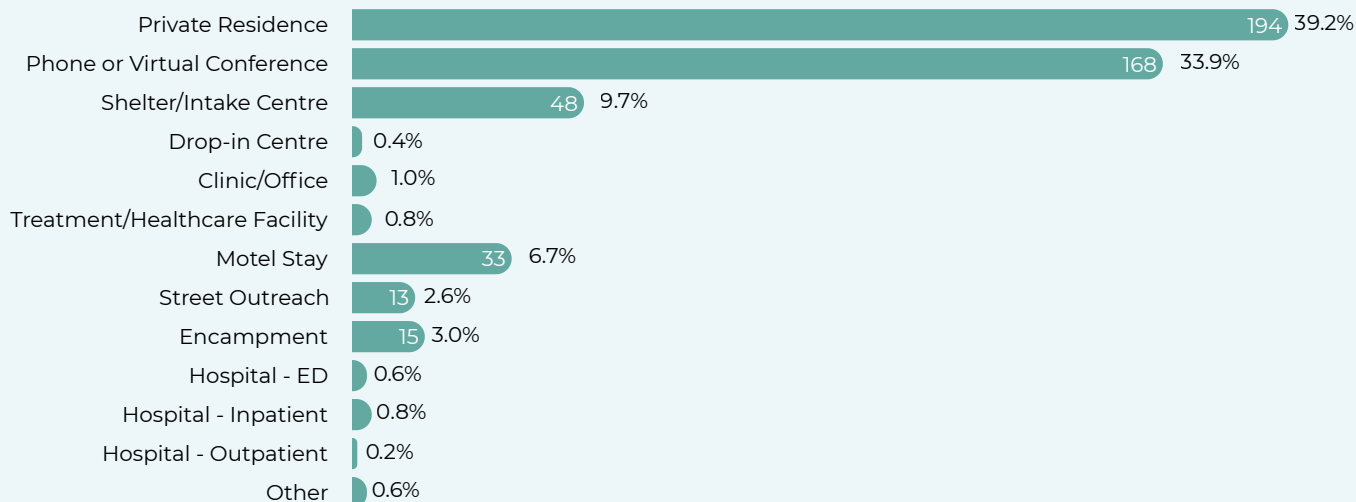
ENCOUNTER LOCATIONS

Nearest Town/City of the Encounter



Number and Percentage of Encounters

Location of the Encounter

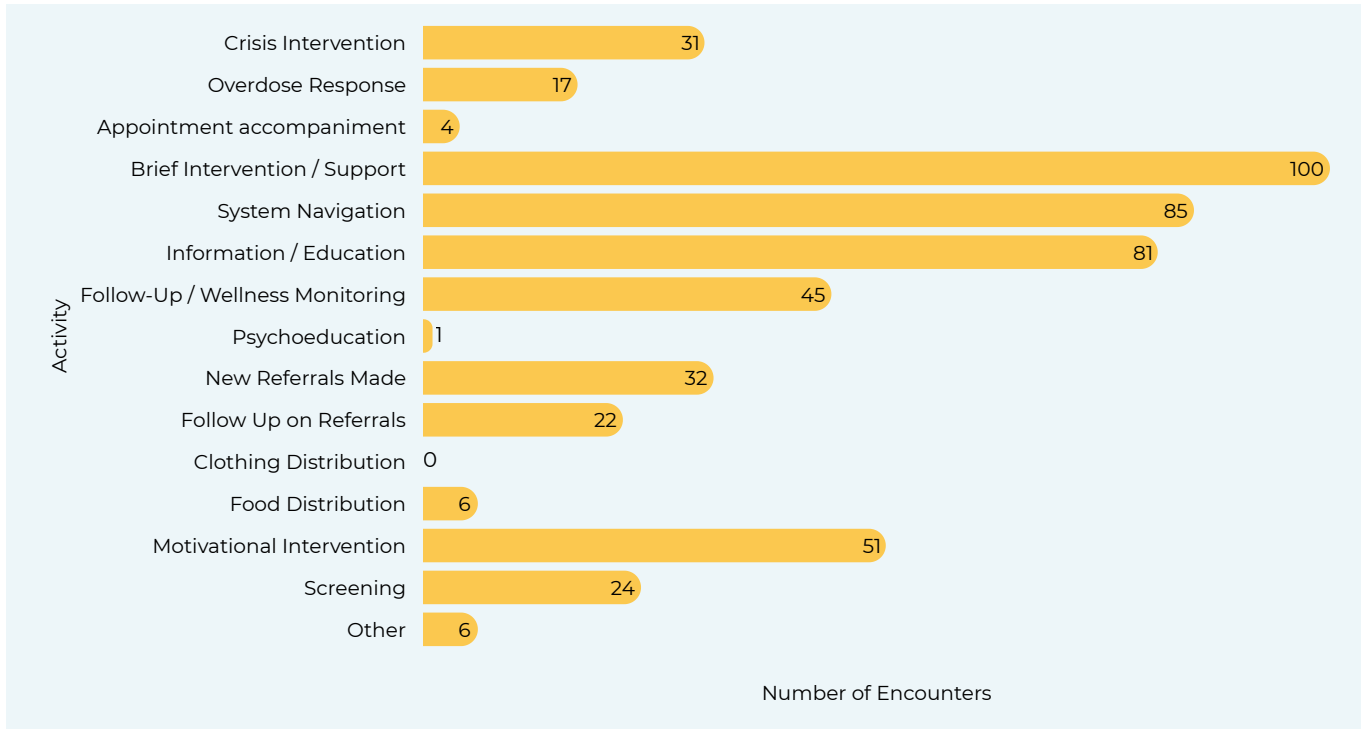


Number and Percentage of Encounters

ENCOUNTER METRICS- ADDICTIONS WORKERS

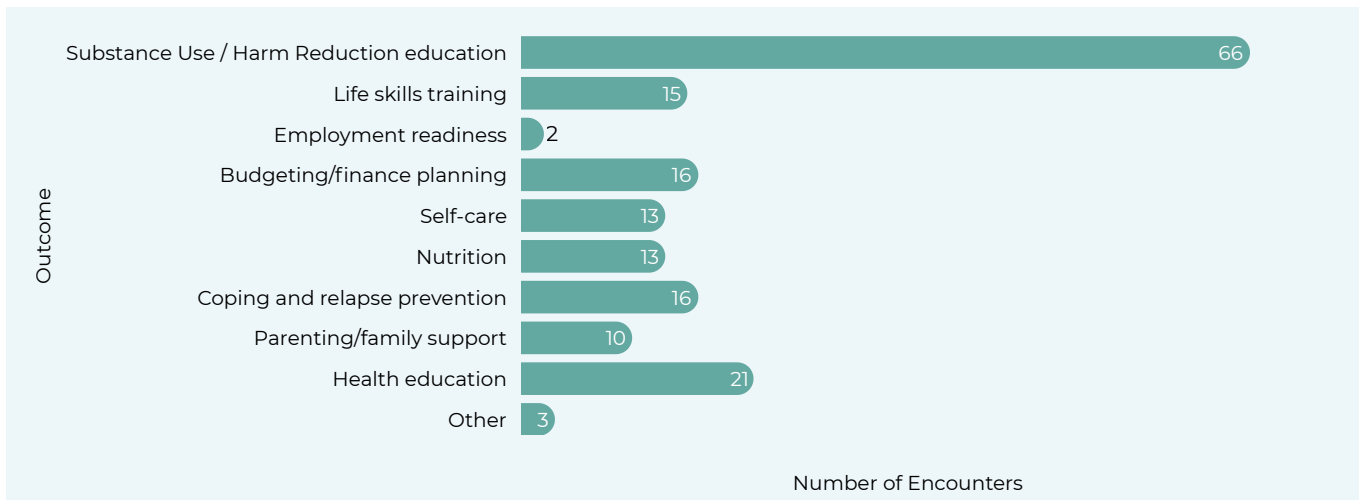
Service Delivery Activities

There were 126 recorded encounters by Addictions Workers between April - June, 2026.



Skill Building Areas

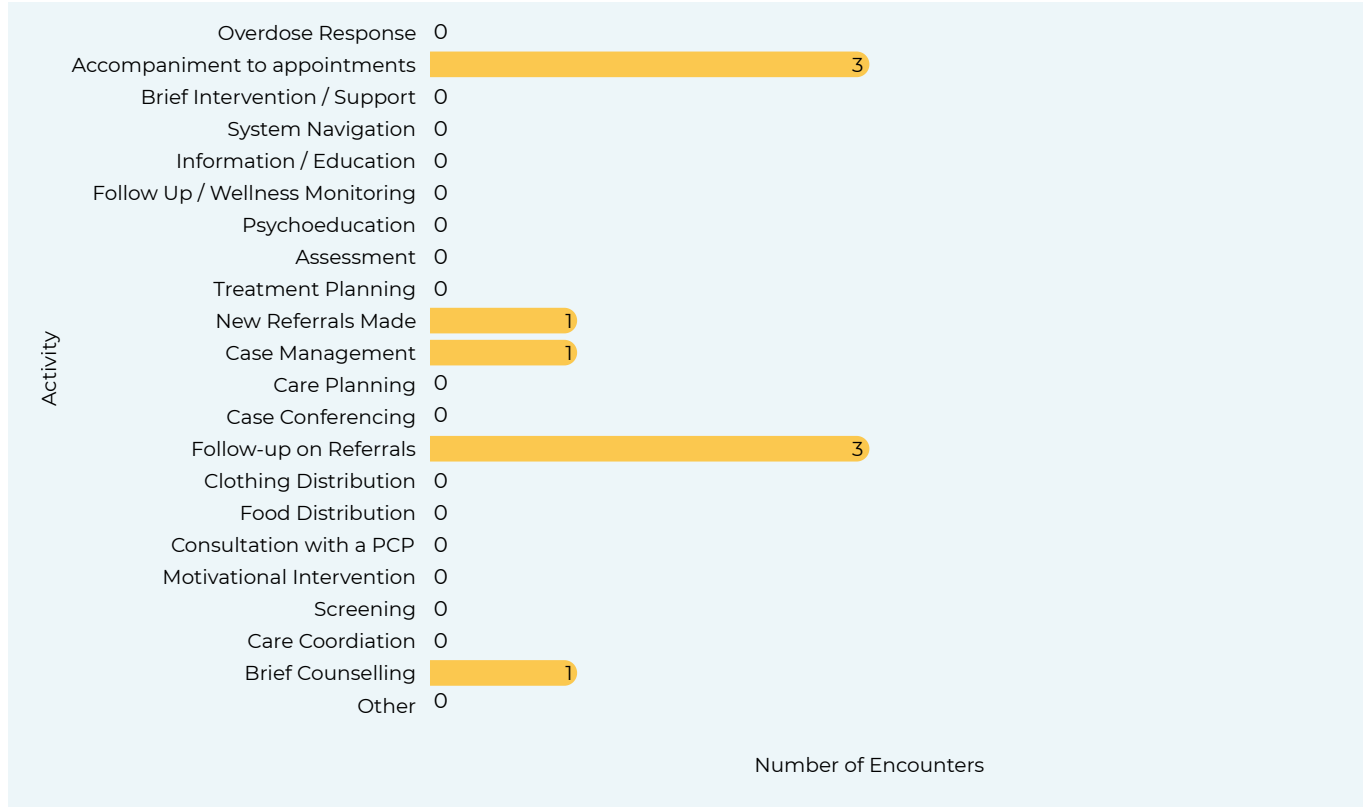
Between April - June, 2026, Addictions Workers worked on the following skill building areas with clients.



ENCOUNTER METRICS- CARE COORDINATORS

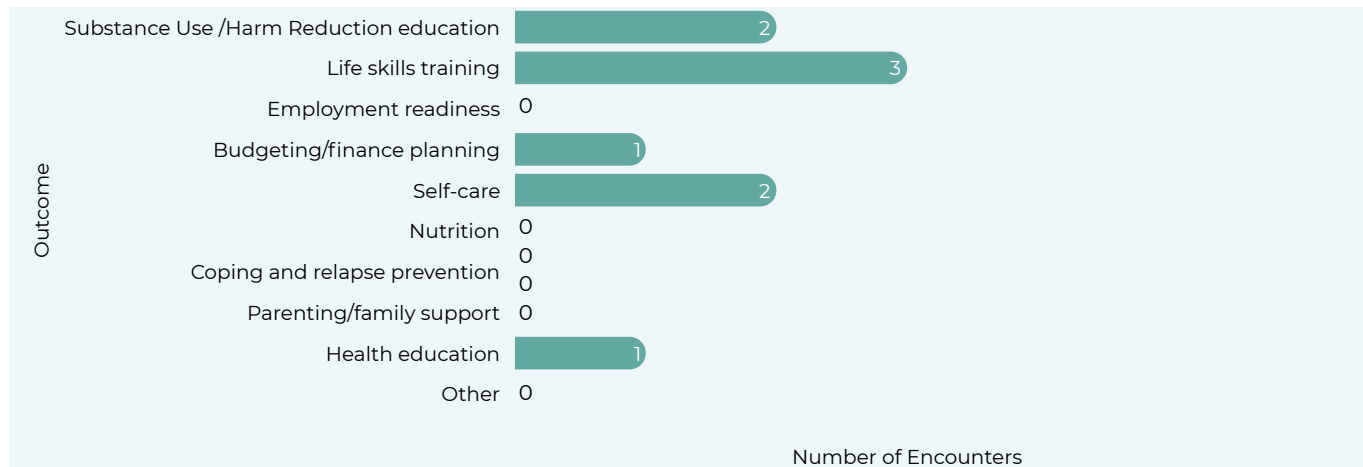
Service Delivery Activities

There were 6 recorded encounters by Care Coordinators between April - June 2026.



Skill Building Areas

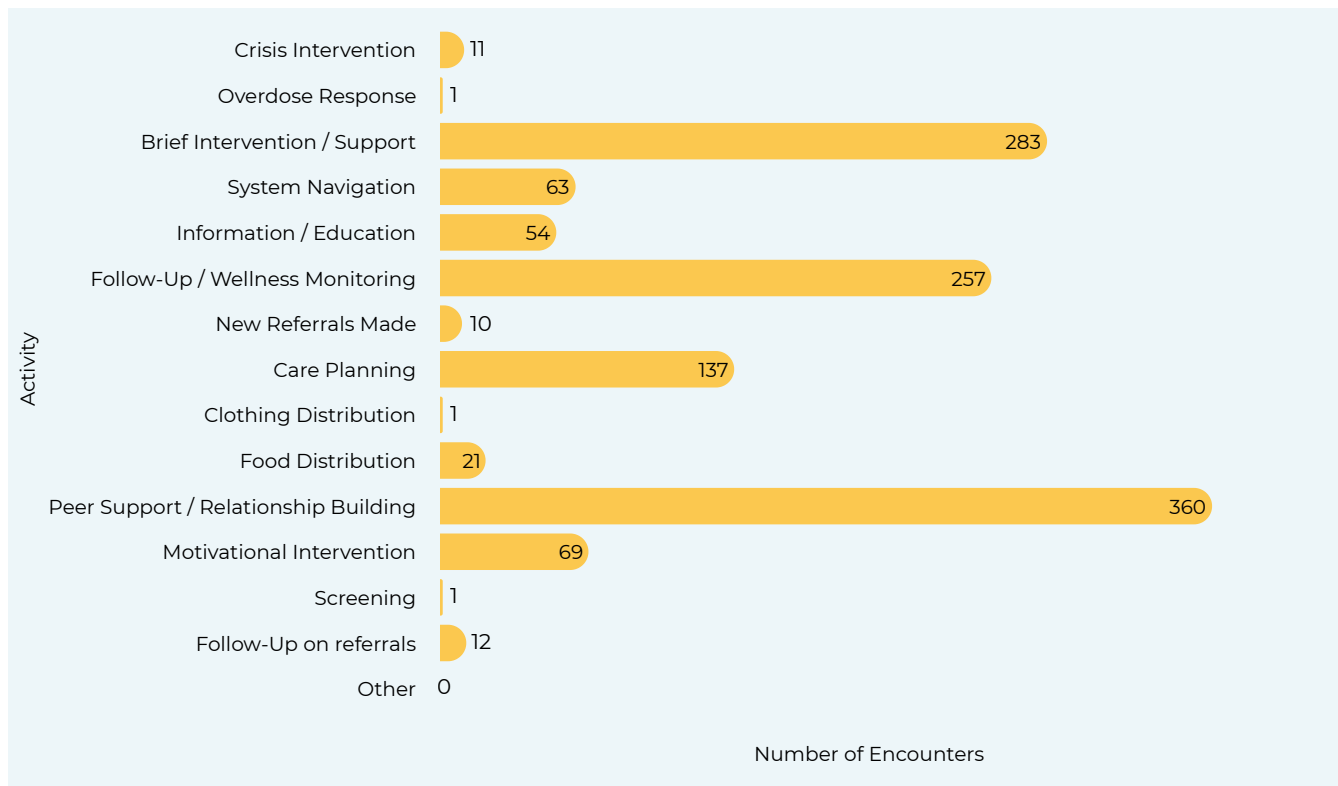
Between April - June, 2026, Care Coordinators worked on the following skill building areas with clients.



ENCOUNTER METRICS- PEER SUPPORT SPECIALISTS

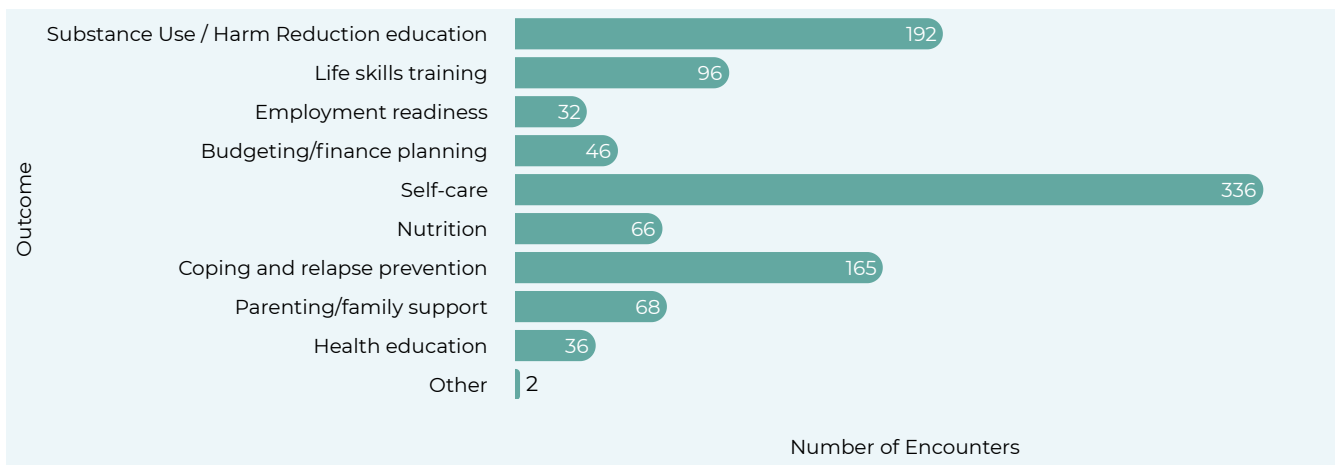
Service Delivery Activities

There were 363 recorded encounters by Peer Support Specialists between April - June 2026.



Skill Building Areas

Between April - June, 2026, Peer Support Specialists worked on the following skill building areas with clients.



ENCOUNTER METRICS

Harm Reduction

Of all encounters, **52%** provided substance use / harm reduction education.



As of March 2026, the Mesa Mobile Outreach Team has started distribution of harm reduction supplies to clients.

Between April-June 2026, **2** Naloxone kits have been provided, **3** clients have accessed harm reduction supplies, **1** client has accessed safer sex supplies, and **1** client has received education on Naloxone kits, harm reduction, and safer sex.

Referrals

344 referrals were made to services, including the SUAP funded outreach team.



Basic Needs

76 items related to basic needs were distributed across 496 encounters.



KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION PRODUCTS

Harm Reduction Knowledge Resources

Genital Herpes Basics & Transmission

Herpes is one of the most common sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and is caused by the herpes simplex virus (HSV). Symptoms can appear in 2 to 21 days, and can cause blisters, sores, or in your mouth, itching, swelling, redness, and pain. Lots of people with herpes have no symptoms, or they mistake the symptoms for something else. The Mesa Mobile Outreach Team can connect you with care for STIs. Your health matters and so does your safe and compassionate care.

COMMON SYMPTOMS OF HERPES

- Blisters, individually or in clusters, around the genitalia or anus
- Itchy, tingling, burning or painful skin in affected areas
- Pain in the legs or buttocks
- Watery discharge from the vagina
- Swollen lymph nodes in the groin

HOW IS HERPES TRANSMITTED?

- ✖ Kissing with tongue if someone has sores on their lips or in their mouth
- ✖ Caring or receiving oral sex, including anal/oral, if one partner has sores on their lips or in their mouth
- ✖ Through sexual intercourse, including penis-vagina and penis-anus
- ✖ Through sharing sex toys or during hand job or fingering if fluids get onto the toy or hand

HOW CAN YOU PREVENT HERPES?

- ✔ Avoid kissing if you or your partner have sores on your lips or mouth, or if one of you has an active oral infection, like a herpes outbreak
- ✔ To reduce the risk during oral sex, including anal/oral, cover your partner's genitalia or anus with an oral dam or a condom
- ✔ Use a condom during any sexual intercourse
- ✔ Wash sex toys with soap before and after each use. Use a condom on inserted toys. Use a condom or an oral dam between anal and vaginal.

ASK THE MESA MOBILE OUTREACH TEAM FOR SAFER SEX SUPPLIES!

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT HERPES?

- For people with HIV, herpes may increase the amount of HIV in bodily fluids and could increase the chance of passing on HIV.
- The only way to know if you have herpes is to get tested. Contact with the Mesa Mobile Outreach Team about how to get tested.
- There is no vaccine to protect against genital herpes or a cure for it.
- If you have herpes, talk to the Mesa Mobile Outreach Team about treatments and how to manage herpes.

TREATMENT OF HERPES

If you have herpes, talk to your nurse or doctor, or connect with the Mesa Mobile Outreach Team to talk about treatment. It should be covered by the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP).

While there is no cure for herpes, there are ways that it can be managed. Antiviral medications can help to prevent outbreaks, reduce your symptoms during an outbreak and reduce the chance of passing herpes to a partner.

If you have an outbreak, you can take over the counter pain medication, apply ice packs to any lesions, take a warm bath with salt or baking soda, and wear loose fitting cotton underwear to help reduce pain or irritation.

Connect with the Mesa Mobile Outreach Team about confidential testing and treatment. No judgement here!

Personal contribution from:

Looking to connect with the Mesa Mobile Outreach Team? Call 1-877-819-4181 (toll-free)! Renfrew County District Health Unit provides STI testing.

Herpex coverage was introduced in 2018. Coverage includes: HIV and hepatitis B, syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia, and trichomonas.

Drug Checking

Unregulated substances can change from batch to batch. Drug checking tests your drugs to provide the most accurate information about your drugs before you use them. Drug testing is free, confidential, and you only have to send a tiny sample!

Renfrew County has a SCATR Machine!

A SCATR machine is a small device that uses a laser to test a small sample of drugs and tests for different substances in it. Information about your drugs is available in less than 15 minutes!

Your choice, your information

Drug checking is confidential, non-judgmental, and is meant to support your decisions. You do not have to give your name; you can ask any questions, and you can choose what to do with the results.

Only a tiny sample needed

Results ready in about 15 minutes

Confidential and non-judgmental

You can find out when and where to access the machine by calling: 1-877-819-4181

This suite of harm reduction knowledge resources was informed by key insights from the Outreach Team and the PWLLE Advisory Committee. It includes a range of resources across topics (i.e., Genital Herpes, Staying Safe While Using Substances, Drug Checking, Human Trafficking etc.) in a range of formats (i.e., brochures, postcards, flyers) to be distributed to clients in the community. They are available on the Renfrew County Mobile Substance Use Service Website.

What are Blood Clots and Embolisms?

A blood clot can form in your veins when factors get into your body from an infection or part of an infection breaks off into your blood stream. If a blood clot gets into your blood stream, an embolism can form to obstruct parts of your body and can be very dangerous.

Blood Clots & Embolisms

- ✔ You have a blood clot in your arm or leg - you may feel pain and have redness and swelling in the area
- ✔ You have a blood clot in your lungs - it can cause chest pain, shortness of breath, or you could lose consciousness
- ✔ You have a blood clot in your brain, it can cause a stroke. You may have weakness or numbness, slurred speech, dizziness, loss of vision, or may lose consciousness

Blood clots and embolisms are dangerous

They can get stuck in the vein and block the flow of blood and oxygen to important organs, like your heart and brain. If you think you have a blood clot, you get to a hospital right away!

Renfrew County has a SCATR Machine!

A SCATR machine is a drug checking machine that tests your drugs for dangerous ingredients in drugs. Ask the Mesa Mobile Outreach Team about SCATR units you can attend and get your drugs tested!

Who Should I Call?

Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre

If you have a health concern and are not comfortable calling 911, call RCVTAC for support from medical professionals, family doctors, and community paramedics 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

RCVTAC: 1-877-727-5404

Mackay Manor

To get in touch with the Mesa Mobile Outreach Team, call Mackay Manor and they can get you connected!

Mackay Manor: 1-877-819-4181

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Staying Safe While Using Substances

Your quick guide on staying safe and knowing about potential harms

Human Trafficking

What is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking is when someone is recruited, transported, or held for the purpose of exploiting them for profit. In Canada, the two most common forms of human trafficking are **sex trafficking** and **labour trafficking**.

Sex Trafficking

Sex trafficking is when someone is controlled, threatened, or manipulated into exchanging sexual services for money, and where the trafficker who controls them, takes all or most of the money.

Labour Trafficking

Labour trafficking is the control and exploitation of a person for their labour or service, usually through force, threats, and deception. Labour traffickers use violence, threats, lies, and illegal debts to make people work.

Signs of Sex Trafficking

Do you or someone you know:

- ✔ Have a new relationship with someone older or richer, or maybe someone? Does the person seem to be controlling?
- ✔ Receive gifts or cash from a partner for no reason?
- ✔ Seem to be in a relationship that has taken a sudden negative turn?
- ✔ Have intimate images being shared online with/without consent?
- ✔ Feel intimidated or controlled? For example, controlling location, keeping a phone, or ID?

Signs of Labour Trafficking

Do you or someone you know:

- ✔ Have a job offer that seems too good to be true?
- ✔ Have an employer who makes threats of deportation or reporting immigration status to police?
- ✔ Have an employer that withholds personal identification, like your passport?
- ✔ Have to relocate for work with few details and no payment up front?
- ✔ Feel their life or those they love could be in danger if they don't work long hours and/or accept a lower wage?

Personal contribution from:

Need to connect with the Mesa Mobile Outreach Team? Call 1-877-819-4181 (toll-free)! Are you worried you or someone you know is being trafficked? You can call the confidential Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-833-900-1010

THIS CONTENT WAS ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND CANADIAN CENTRE FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The Toxic Drug Supply

The current drug supply is toxic and unpredictable. You may not always know what is in the substances you use. This brochure outlines how to recognize signs and take steps to stay safer and healthier.

Potential Harms

- Bacterial Infections
- Viral Infections
- Blood Clots & Embolisms

Bacterial Infections

- ✔ Infections can happen when bacteria enters the body through breaks in the skin, the respiratory tract
- ✔ Reduce your risk of infection by cleaning your hands and injection site before injecting, using new needles for each injection, using filters to prepare drugs, cleaning the site with alcohol after injecting, and rotating different injection sites
- ✔ If you experience symptoms of an infection (fever, warmth, pain), check in with your healthcare provider or the Mesa Mobile Outreach Team

Breathing is important for your health!

Taking part in regular screening for viruses like Hep B, Hep C, or HIV, as well as other blood-borne infections is really important to maintain your health. It will help you get connected to treatment more quickly. Ask the Mesa Mobile Outreach Team about regular screening!

Combining substances can be dangerous, proceed with caution if you do!

Viral Infections

- ✔ **Hepatitis B** is a virus that infects your liver. It can be passed through sex or sharing equipment used for injection, snorting, or smoking. There are vaccines to prevent Hepatitis B, but there is no cure. Treatment can manage disease. Hep B is infectious.
- ✔ **HIV** (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) weakens your immune system. It can be passed through sex and sharing injection equipment. There is no cure to prevent HIV, but there are a lot of prevention strategies to greatly reduce your chance of passing it. Having your HIV status is important for your health.

Start low and go slow

Always begin with a small amount to see how strong the substance is. Your drug can include toxic ingredients. If you can, get your drugs checked and ask the Outreach Team about the local drug supply.