

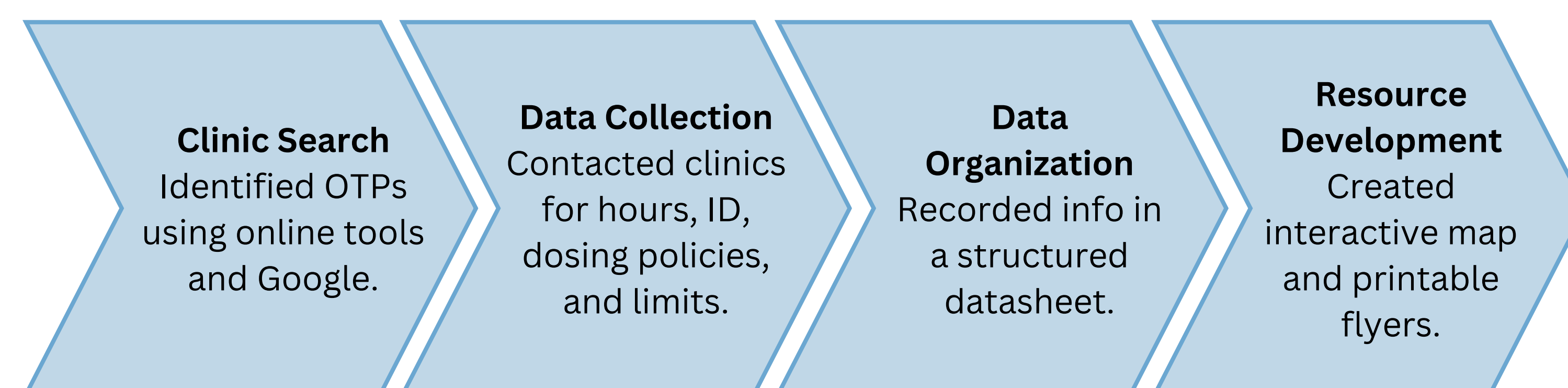
## Background & Introduction

- Methadone was initially utilized to treat heroin addiction, but since the mid-1900s, it has been used to treat all OUDs (1,2).
- Access to treatment remains unequal, disproportionately affecting ethnic and racial minorities and low-income patients (3).
- In Los Angeles, methadone is crucial due to rising fentanyl use, but finding and contacting opioid treatment programs (OTPs) is difficult (4).
- Variability in clinic hours, insurance acceptance, and admissions requirements further complicate access, with limited online information even from national databases like SAMHSA (5).

## Purpose & Aims

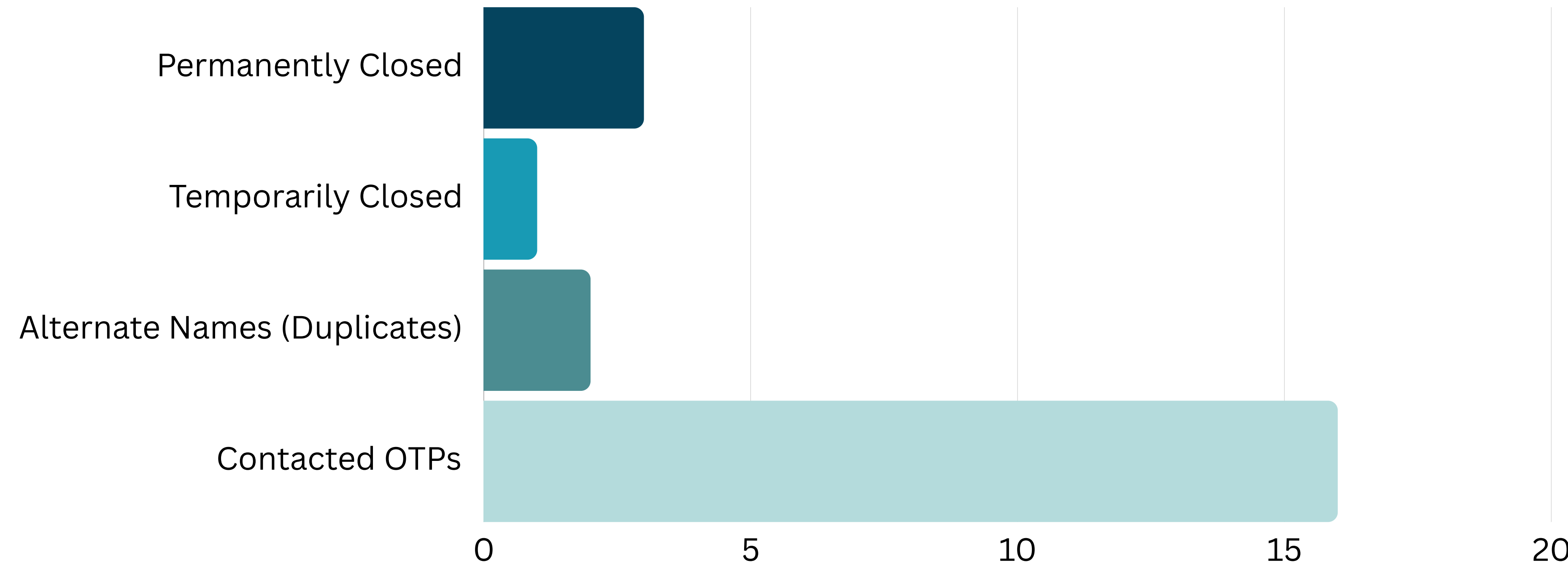
- This project aimed to improve access to methadone treatment by developing a comprehensive, up-to-date database and map of OTPs in Los Angeles. Specifically, we sought to:
  - Identify and document each OTP's intake and dosing hours, insurance policies, and admission requirements.
  - Address barriers to treatment initiation by making this information easily accessible to patients and providers.
  - Provide insights into the challenges of contacting OTPs, highlighting areas for system improvement.

## Methods



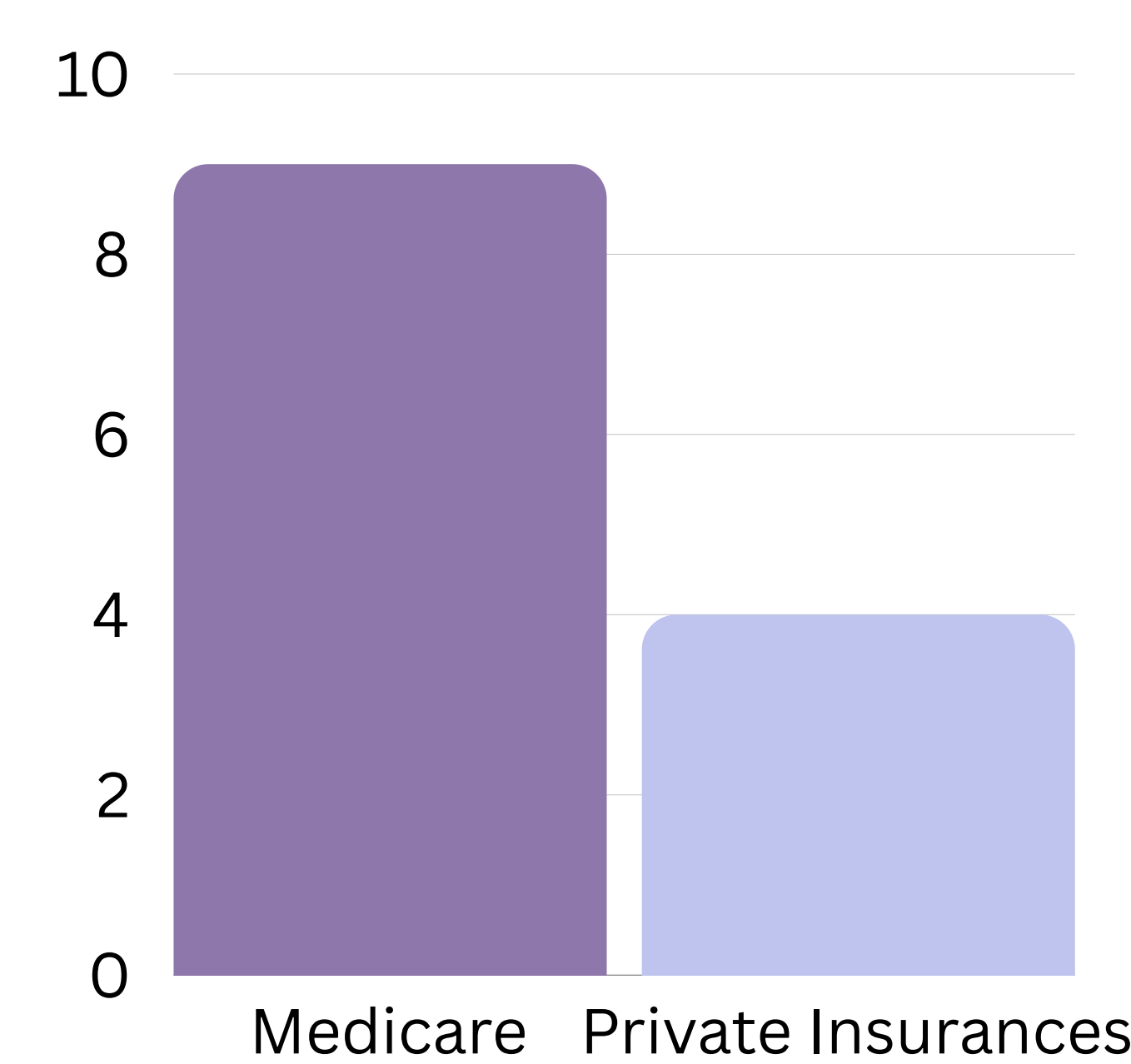
- Identified outpatient OTPs within a 25-mile radius of UCLA using the LA County Service Tool, [startyourrecovery.org](https://startyourrecovery.org), and Google.
- Contacted clinics to collect intake and dosing hours, ID requirements, maximum initial dosing limits, and transfer policies for patients discharged from hospitals.
- Recorded data in a structured datasheet and cleaned it for easy use by providers and patients.
- Developed an interactive map using JavaScript & HTML for clinic filtering.
- Created printable flyers with clinic details and directions for offline access.

## Results



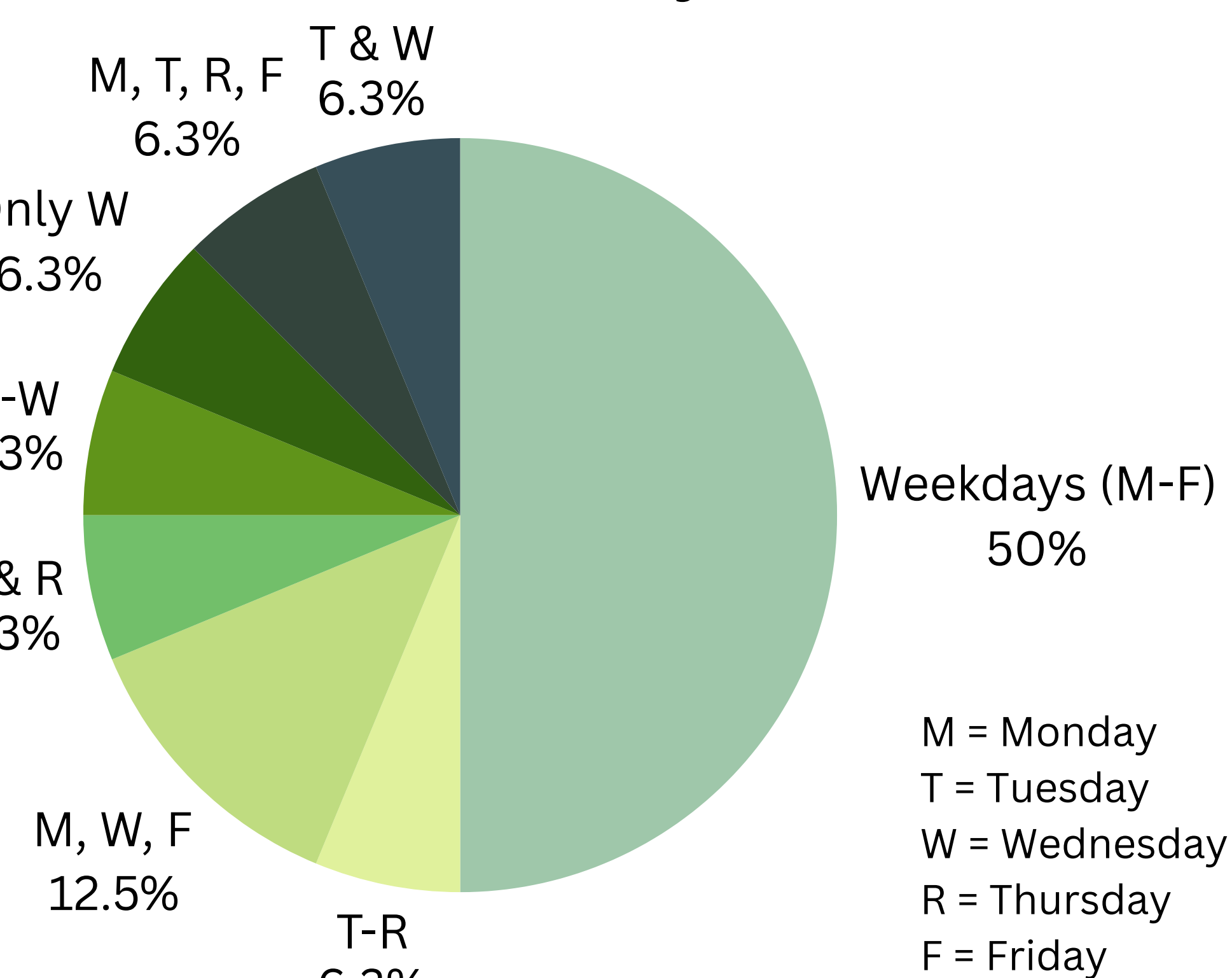
## Policies for the 16 Contacted OTPs

### Insurances Accepted

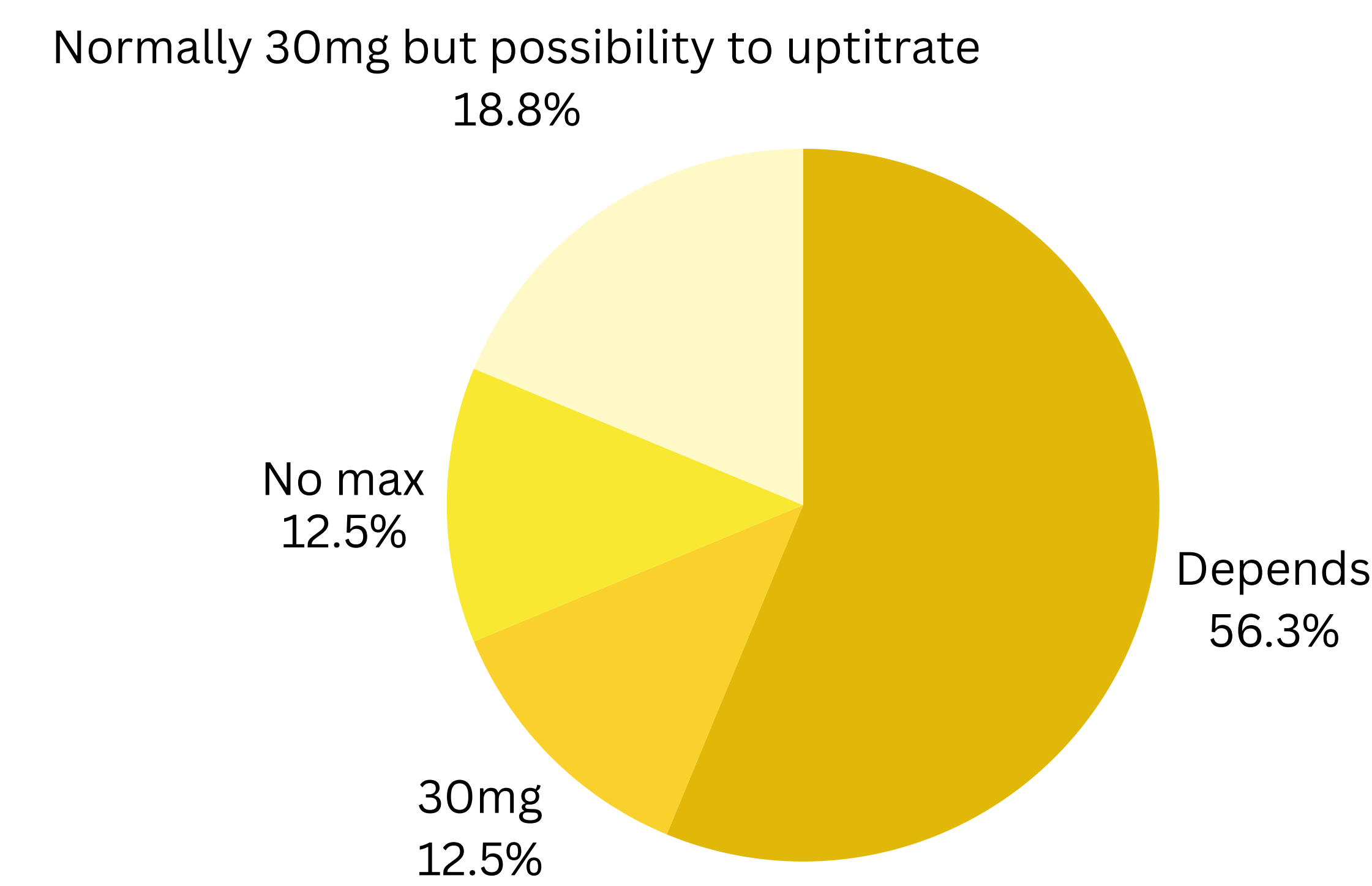


*Note: All OTPs Accepted Medi-Cal*

### Intake Days



### Maximum First Dose of Methadone



## Resources Developed

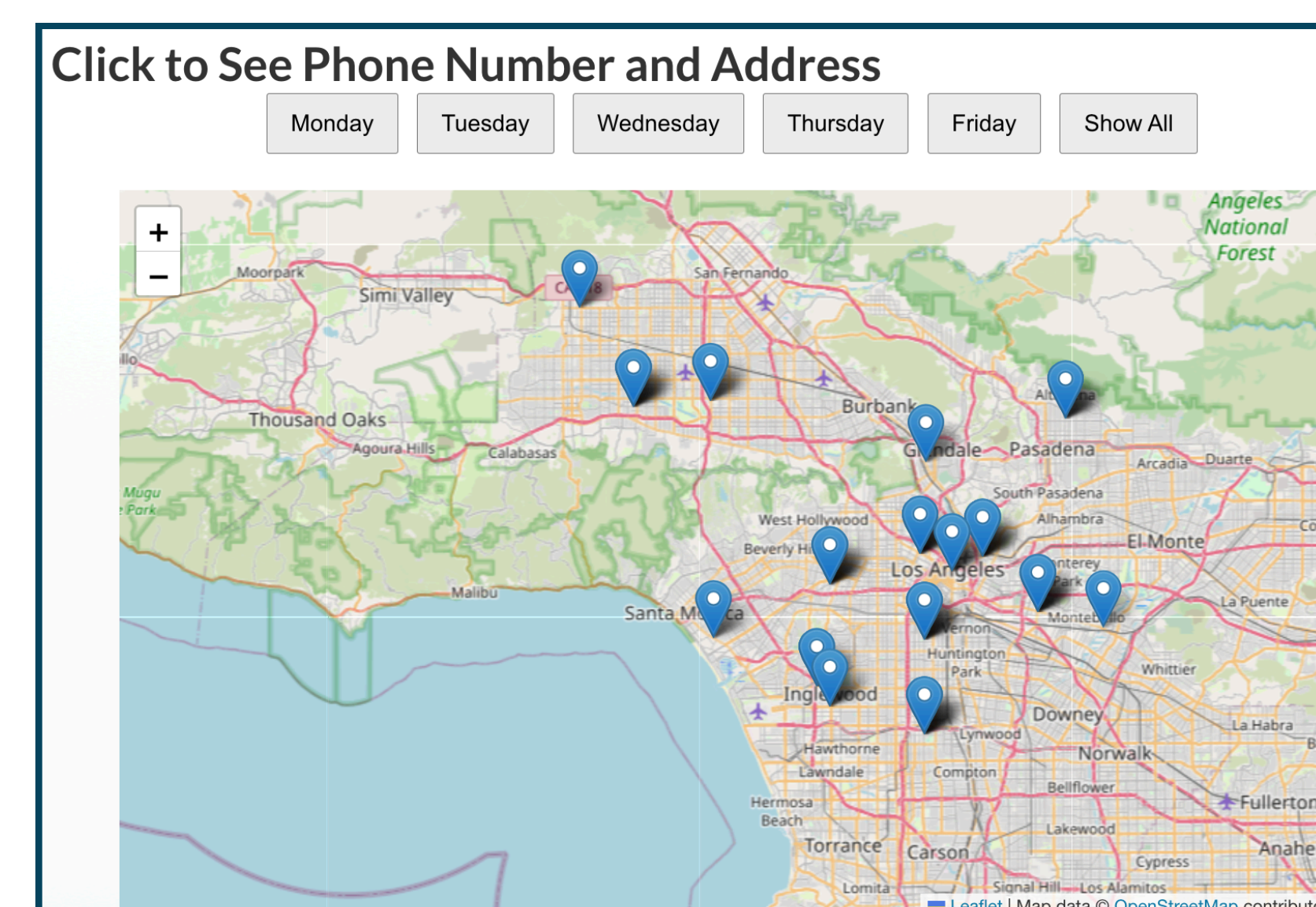
## Spreadsheet

<https://tinyurl.com/methadonespreadsheet>

Project Name	Location	Start Date	End Date	Project Status	Project Manager	Project Sponsor	Project Stakeholder	Project Outcome	Project Impact
Project Alpha	New York, NY	2018-01-01	2018-03-31	Completed	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	Completed	Completed
Project Beta	New York, NY	2018-04-01	2018-06-30	In Progress	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	In Progress	In Progress
Project Gamma	New York, NY	2018-07-01	2018-09-30	On Hold	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	On Hold	On Hold
Project Delta	New York, NY	2018-10-01	2018-12-31	Completed	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	Completed	Completed
Project Epsilon	New York, NY	2019-01-01	2019-03-31	In Progress	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	In Progress	In Progress
Project Zeta	New York, NY	2019-04-01	2019-06-30	On Hold	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	On Hold	On Hold
Project Eta	New York, NY	2019-07-01	2019-09-30	Completed	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	Completed	Completed
Project Theta	New York, NY	2019-10-01	2019-12-31	In Progress	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	In Progress	In Progress
Project Iota	New York, NY	2020-01-01	2020-03-31	On Hold	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	On Hold	On Hold
Project Kappa	New York, NY	2020-04-01	2020-06-30	Completed	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	Completed	Completed
Project Lambda	New York, NY	2020-07-01	2020-09-30	In Progress	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	In Progress	In Progress
Project Mu	New York, NY	2020-10-01	2020-12-31	On Hold	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	On Hold	On Hold
Project Nu	New York, NY	2021-01-01	2021-03-31	Completed	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	Completed	Completed
Project Xi	New York, NY	2021-04-01	2021-06-30	In Progress	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	In Progress	In Progress
Project Omicron	New York, NY	2021-07-01	2021-09-30	On Hold	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	On Hold	On Hold
Project Pi	New York, NY	2021-10-01	2021-12-31	Completed	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	Completed	Completed
Project Rho	New York, NY	2022-01-01	2022-03-31	In Progress	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	In Progress	In Progress
Project Sigma	New York, NY	2022-04-01	2022-06-30	On Hold	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	On Hold	On Hold
Project Tau	New York, NY	2022-07-01	2022-09-30	Completed	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	Completed	Completed
Project Upsilon	New York, NY	2022-10-01	2022-12-31	In Progress	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	In Progress	In Progress
Project Phi	New York, NY	2023-01-01	2023-03-31	On Hold	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	On Hold	On Hold
Project Chi	New York, NY	2023-04-01	2023-06-30	Completed	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	Completed	Completed
Project Psi	New York, NY	2023-07-01	2023-09-30	In Progress	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	In Progress	In Progress
Project Omega	New York, NY	2023-10-01	2023-12-31	On Hold	John Doe	John Doe	John Doe	On Hold	On Hold

## Interactive Map

<https://examplemethadonemap.weebly.com>



## Printable Flyers

<https://tinyurl.com/lamethadonemaps>



## Conclusions

- A centralized resource is essential to offer accurate, up-to-date information on available OTPs in Los Angeles.
- Expanded access to OTPs can help ensure that patients with varying schedules, including unhoused individuals and those with limited flexibility, can receive timely methadone treatment.
- Ongoing research can provide valuable insights into how information access affects methadone treatment outcomes and how to identify strategies to improve methadone access.
- Community-based outreach can play a key role in reducing stigma and increasing awareness of methadone treatment options, thereby encouraging more individuals to seek care.

## Implications & Limitations

- Limited intake hours disproportionately impact vulnerable populations, including unhoused individuals and those with inflexible schedules.
- Difficulty in accessing accurate intake information and variability among clinics create unnecessary hurdles for patients seeking methadone treatment.
- Greater transparency in clinic policies and database updates is essential for connecting patients with timely, effective care.
- While 26 OTPs were contacted, the sample size is limited, and their locations within a 25-mile radius around UCLA might not capture the full range of OTPs across Los Angeles County.
- The data gathered from the OTPs may not be entirely reliable and may change over time.

## References

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