APPENDIX

Definition of predisposing, enabling and need variables

Variables	Definition
Predisposing Factors	
Level of Disability	Agencies rated level of disability either as borderline (70+), mild (56-70), moderate (41-55), severe (26-40) or profound (25 and below) based on DSM-IV. For analysis, borderline and mild were merged into one category and moderate, severe and profound were merged into one category.
Age	Age was collapsed into 25 year intervals: <25, 25-49, 50+
Gender	Categorized as female and male
Cultural Background	Agency staff selected an individual's ethnic background based on one of the following options: Caucasian, African descent, East Indian, Hispanic/Latino, Asian, Aboriginal, unknown, other. For analysis, the variable was then collapsed into 2 categories: Not visible minority (i.e. Caucasian) and visible minority (i.e. African descent, East Indian etc.)
Enabling Factors	
Type of Residence	Individuals were identified to be in one of 9 residential services. All low support settings (supported independent living, street, independent, shelter, boarding home) were collapsed into a category labeled <i>minimal support</i> ; individuals living with their families were categorized as family; individuals living in 24 hour staffed group homes were categorized as group home.
Access to Primary Care	From checklist inquiring on clinical services received: Does client have regular primary care access? yes or no
Access to a Crisis Plan	From checklist inquiring on clinical services received: Does client have a crisis plan? yes or no.
Access to Daytime Activity Access to Counseling	Staff members were asked to select all the day programs the client was involved in from a list of options; the daytime activity category was then collapsed into either: structured activities (sheltered workshop, day program, school, supported employment, and independent employment) or no activities. From checklist inquiring on clinical services

Convicos	received. Does client have recular counceling
Services	received: Does client have regular counseling access? yes or no.
Access to Behaviour	From checklist inquiring on clinical services
Therapy	received: Does client have regular behavior
	therapy access? yes or no.
Access to a Psychiatrist	From checklist inquiring on clinical services
	received: Does client have regular psychiatry care
	access? yes or no.
Need Factors	
History of emergency	Under the history section of the client background
department visit	form, staff were asked to report on whether client
	had been to the emergency department before.
History of involvement	Under the history section of the client background
with the criminal justice	form, staff were asked to report on whether the
system	client had previous forensic or legal involvement
History of suicidal	Under the history section of the client background
behaviour or self injury	form, staff were asked to report on whether the
	client had previous suicidal behaviour or self injury
Life Event	Based on 18 life events occurring in past year from
	Psychiatric Assessment for Adults with
	Developmental Disabilities Checklist (PAS ADD
	checklist) with 3 added items: change in
	roommates, change in client's primary
	staff/worker, and recent trauma/abuse. Life events
	were then categorized into 3 groups: no life
	events, one life event, two or more life events
Psychiatric Diagnosis	All psychiatric diagnoses were listed and then
	tallied. Individuals were categorized as having 1 or
	more psychiatric diagnosis or no psychiatric
	diagnosis.
Aggression during the	The seriousness of aggression was recorded in the
crisis	crisis report using the following: 1-Not serious
	(verbal aggression e.g. threats), 2-Slightly serious
	(verbal aggression with non-contact behavior e.g.
	slamming, hitting walls and/or minor property
	damage), 3-Moderately serious (minor contact
	behavior e.g. pushing and/or major property
	damage), 4-Very serious (physical aggression
	without tissue damage e.g. hitting, kicking, biting),
	5- Extremely serious (physical aggression with
	tissue damage e.g. lacerations, broken). For
	analysis, groups 1 and 2 were combined to create
	a not serious category; group 3 was labeled
	somewhat serious; and group 4 and 5 were
	combined to create a <i>very serious</i> category.