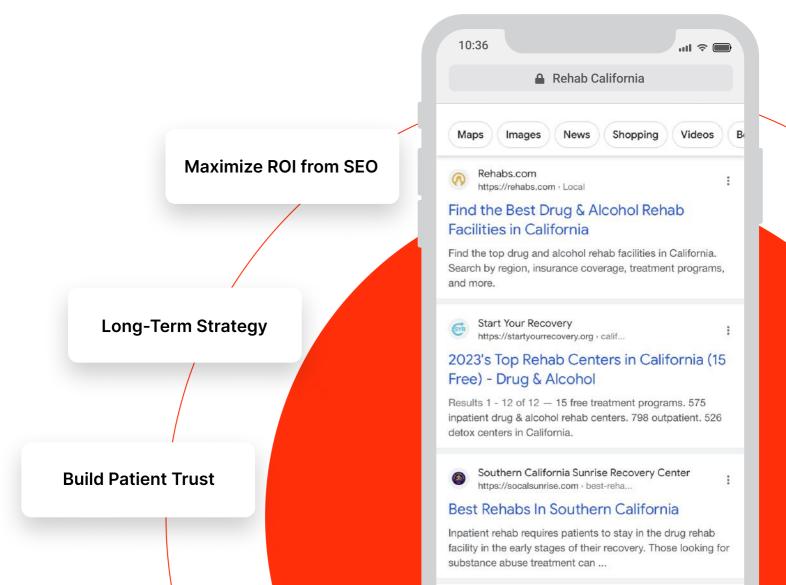


# The Impact of SEO on Behavioral Health Treatment Centers

The importance of SEO in Boosting Visibility, Trust, and Patient Acquisition.



## **Executive Summary**

This market research white paper explores the impact of search engine optimization (SEO) on behavioral health treatment centers, focusing on addiction treatment and mental health treatment sectors. As traditional marketing approaches can face barriers due to the stigma surrounding mental health and addiction, SEO has emerged as an essential tool to connect treatment centers with individuals seeking their services.

Our Healthcare Marketing Agency has conducted extensive research and data analysis to provide valuable insights into the effectiveness of SEO in the behavioral health treatment sector. The key findings of this white paper include:

- SEO plays a crucial role in increasing the online visibility, credibility, and patient acquisition rates for behavioral health treatment centers.
- *w* Tailored SEO strategies, local SEO, and reputation management can significantly improve the overall effectiveness of a treatment center's digital marketing efforts.
- The white paper highlights best practices, case studies, and recommendations to optimize SEO performance for behavioral health treatment centers.

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### **Market Overview**

The behavioral health treatment center landscape consists of a diverse range of facilities, including inpatient and outpatient centers, offering support for individuals struggling with mental health disorders, addiction, and co-occurring conditions.

With the increasing prevalence of mental health issues and substance use disorders, the demand for quality treatment services has been on the rise.

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Approximately 1 in 5 adults in the United States experience mental illness each year

CDC



### **Challenges Treatment Centers Face**

The behavioral health treatment sector faces unique challenges, such as the stigma associated with mental health and addiction, the sensitive nature of treatment, evolving regulations in the healthcare industry, and the increasing number of mental health and addiction treatment centers.

The growing number of treatment centers has led to heightened competition, making it more difficult for individual centers to stand out and reach their target audience. This competitive landscape necessitates effective marketing strategies to differentiate one center from another and connect with potential clients.

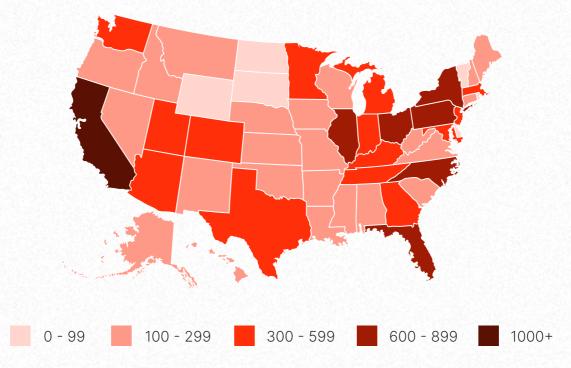
As of 2020, there were **12,275** registered mental health treatment facilities in the U.S.

Statista

In 2020, there were **16,066** substance abuse treatment facilities in the country.

Statista

#### Addiction Treatment Centers by State



\*Data Pulled from Statista

# The Role of SEO in Healthcare

Search engine optimization (SEO) plays a critical role in the healthcare industry by ensuring that websites and online content are easily discoverable by potential patients and clients.

With the majority of people turning to search engines like Google for healthrelated information, it's essential for treatment centers to rank highly in search results.

Effective SEO strategies can help improve a treatment center's online visibility, making it easier for individuals in need of their services to find and connect with them.

Nearly eight-in-ten (77%) of online health seekers say they began at a search engine such as Google, Bing, or Yahoo.

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Pew Research

### **Search Engine Optimization Benefits**

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Investing in SEO can provide numerous benefits for Addiction and Mental Health treatment centers, including:

- Increased online visibility: By optimizing their websites and content for search engines, treatment centers can improve their search rankings and increase their chances of being found by potential clients.
- **Enhanced credibility**: High search rankings can signal trustworthiness and credibility to potential clients, who often perceive top-ranked websites as more reliable sources of information.
- **W** Higher patient acquisition rates: Effective SEO strategies can help drive more targeted traffic to a treatment center's website, leading to higher patient leads and conversion rates.
- Cost-effective marketing: Compared to traditional advertising methods, SEO can be a more cost-effective and sustainable way to reach a target audience.

# **Key SEO Strategies**

To maximize their online presence and reach potential clients, behavioral health treatment centers should consider implementing the following SEO trends and strategies:



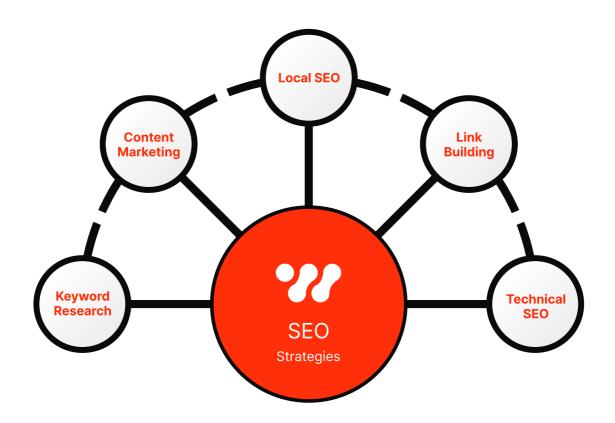
**Keyword research**: Identifying and targeting relevant keywords can help treatment centers optimize their content and website for search engines, making it easier for potential clients to find them.

Content marketing: Creating high-quality, informative, and engaging content that addresses the needs of the target audience can help improve search rankings and establish a center as an industry authority.

Local SEO: Optimizing a center's online presence for local search results can help attract clients from the surrounding community, as people often search for treatment centers near their location.

Link building: Acquiring high-quality backlinks from authoritative websites can boost a treatment center's search engine rankings and credibility. Effective link building strategies include guest posting, outreach, and creating shareable content.

Technical SEO: Ensuring that a website has a solid technical foundation is crucial for optimal search engine performance. Technical SEO involves aspects like website speed, site structure, secure connections (HTTPS), and proper use of meta tags.



### 2022 Data and Analysis

#### **Our Behavioral Health Clients Saw Huge Results**

97,421,049 Total Impressions for our Behavioral

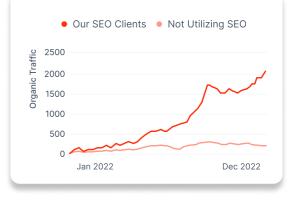
Health Clients in 2022

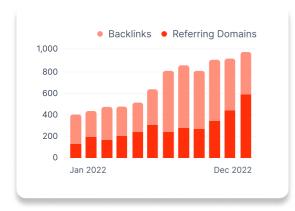
**3,297,806** Total Clicks for our Behavioral Health Clients in 2022 2.50% Average Organic Click Through Rate for Behavioral Health Clients

Impression and Clicks: The substantial number of impressions (97,421,049) and clicks (3,297,806) indicates a significant online presence for our clients, reflecting the effectiveness of our SEO techniques in increasing their visibility in search results.

**Organic click-through rate**: The 2.50% average organic CTR demonstrates that our clients' content is relevant and engaging to users, leading to higher engagement and conversions.

With an average 270% increase in organic traffic within the first year of working with our agency, our tailored SEO strategies have proven to be effective in successfully attracting more targeted visitors to treatment centers' websites.





The impressive growth in backlinks (average 303% increase) and referring domains (average 167% increase) within the first year of working with us highlights the effectiveness of our link building and content marketing efforts in enhancing our clients' online authority and credibility.

# **Addiction Treatment ROI**

### More Than Just Marketing Metrics

When considering the return on investment (ROI) for marketing initiatives, it is crucial for business owners to focus on the most relevant metrics. While marketing metrics such as clicks and impressions are essential indicators of online visibility and engagement, it is important to recognize that the ultimate goal of any marketing campaign is to generate tangible results, such as increased admissions or patient acquisitions.

One of our long-term clients, whose SEO campaign we have been managing for over two years, provided us with their 2022 admissions data. By analyzing this data, we were able to cross-reference admissions coming from organic sources – a direct result of our SEO efforts.

### **Results They Saw from SEO in 2022**

To further illustrate the impact of our SEO efforts on the client's admissions, we have created a table that displays admits and referrals across multiple sources:

Source	# of Calls	# of Admits	# of Referred Out
Google Organic	902	22	40
Google My Business	1,985	46	99
Bing Organic	38	1	1
Yahoo Organic	24	1	0
DuckDuckGo Organic	12	0	12
Direct	191	15	10

3,152	85	150
Calls	Admits	Referred Out

As a business owner, focusing on ROI is crucial because it measures the effectiveness of marketing strategies in generating actual revenue. By examining the admissions data, we can demonstrate the tangible impact of our SEO efforts on the client's business growth.

It is important to note that the results we have achieved for this client, who has been working with us for over two years, may not be typical for those just starting their SEO journey. SEO is an ongoing process that requires continuous optimization and effort, and significant results may not be evident within the first few months.

# **Addiction Treatment ROI**

### Let's Talk Revenue

In order to calculate the revenue generated from the admits we have obtained through our SEO efforts, we have used a formula provided by Kyle McHenry from **RevenueLogic.io**. This formula takes into account the average payout per admit based on the length of stay at the treatment center.

Here is the Original Formula: (\$4,000 per day x 25% Payout x 30 days = Average Payout per Admit per 30 days). However, since our data indicates that the common length of stay for patients is closer to 22 days, we have adjusted the formula accordingly:

#### \$4,000 per day X 25% payout X 22 days = **\$22,000 Per Admit**

Now that we have calculated the average payout per admit for the 22-day stay, we can then multiply that figure by the total number of admits to determine the revenue generated from our SEO efforts.

#### \$22,000 Per Admit X 85 Admits = **\$1,870,000**

Our analysis of the client's admissions data, using the adjusted revenue calculation formula, has estimated their revenue from our SEO efforts to be **approximately \$1.87 million**. It is important to note that this figure is an estimation, as there are several variables that can influence the actual revenue generated.

Factors such as the length of stay, the insurance policies held by patients, and the specific treatment programs offered by the treatment center can all impact the final revenue figures. Nevertheless, the estimated revenue of \$1.87 million demonstrates the significant potential return on investment (ROI) that can be achieved through effective SEO strategies, further emphasizing the value of our tailored marketing initiatives in the behavioral health sector.

Continue reading to discover the calculated ROI for this client, as well as an overview of their marketing spend and the deliverables provided by our team throughout the campaign.

### Let's Talk Return on Investment

To calculate the return on investment (ROI) for our long-standing client, we will use the following formula: **Return on Investment = (Revenue - Marketing Spend) / Marketing Spend.** 

#### ROI = (\$1,870,000 - \$78,000) / \$78,000

Using the provided marketing spend of \$78,000 and the estimated revenue of \$1.87 million generated from our SEO efforts, we calculated an **impressive ROI of approximately 2,297%**. This means that for every dollar invested in our marketing services, the client generated about \$22.97 in revenue.

It is important to emphasize that this level of ROI is a result of a long-standing partnership focused on SEO. Large-scale results like these are not typically achieved within a short period of time. Consistent effort and a tailored SEO strategy, combined with the client's commitment to the marketing plan, have contributed to this success. This example showcases the significant potential return on investment that can be realized through effective SEO strategies and emphasizes the importance of investing in long-term marketing initiatives to drive business growth and success.

### Wrapping Up

Through our analysis of client data, we have demonstrated how tailored SEO efforts can generate substantial increases in organic traffic, backlinks, and referring domains, ultimately leading to increased admissions and revenue.

While it is essential to set realistic expectations and understand that significant growth may not be realized within a short time frame, the results showcased in this paper emphasize the value of investing in long-term marketing initiatives in the behavioral health sector.

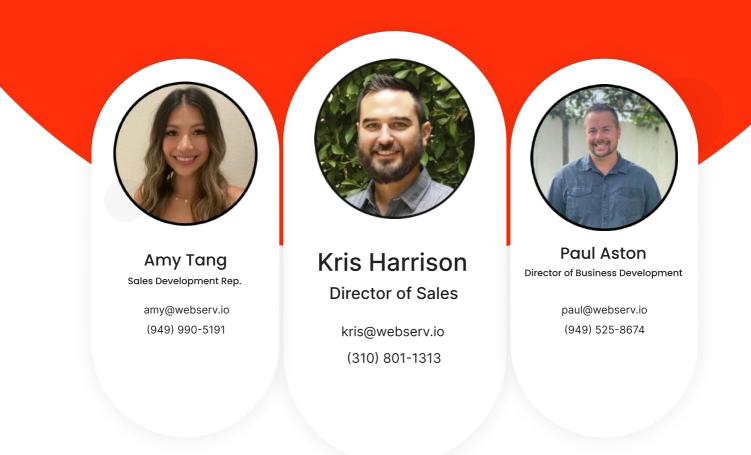
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Just because marketing an addiction treatment center is *extremely challenging*, doesn't mean you can't do it successfully.

Preston Powell CEO at Webserv



# Your Strategic Partner in Behavioral Health Marketing



Webserv is a specialized healthcare marketing agency with a deep understanding of the unique challenges and opportunities within the behavioral health sector. Our team of dedicated professionals is committed to delivering tailored marketing solutions designed to drive growth and success for mental health and addiction treatment centers.

With years of experience in the industry, we have honed our skills and developed proven strategies that yield significant results for our clients.