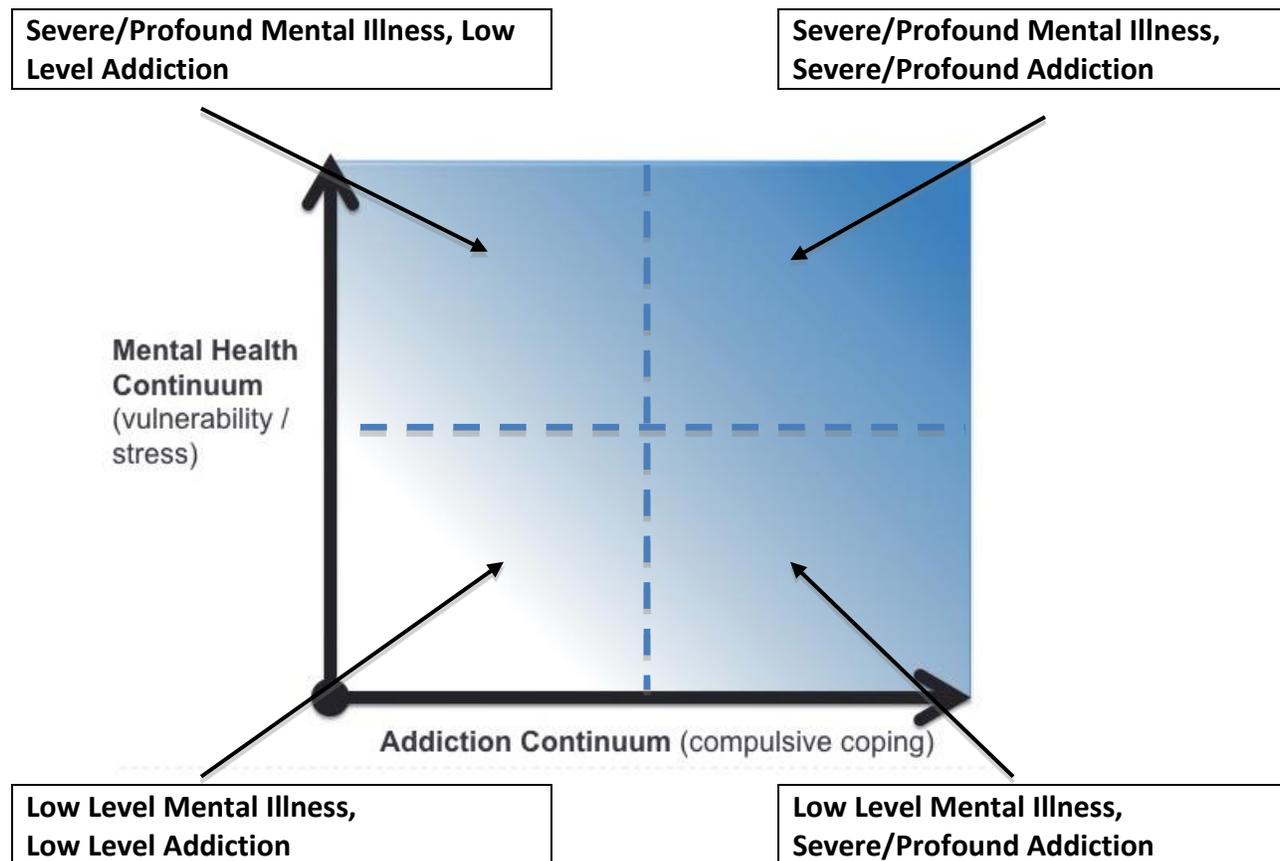




When we combine these continuums, the result is a full spectrum of experiences – all of which get classified as co-occurring disorders.



Rather than those with co-occurring disorders being a specific population with specific needs, it is a diverse population with diverse needs. Part of the complexity for treatment programs is addressing the unique needs of each individual. This spectrum alone has us considering the unique needs of four groups:

- Severe/Profound Mental Illness with Severe/Profound Addiction
- Severe/Profound Mental Illness with Low Level of Addiction
- Low Level of Mental Illness with Severe/Profound Addiction
- Low Level of Mental Illness with Low Level of Addiction

The concerns and needs are different between each group, let alone all the differences within each group. Treatment programs that fail to take these differences into account undermine their own programming.