

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND SERVICE
INTEGRATION ADMINISTRATION**



Competency Ward at WSH

2015-17 BIENNIAL BUDGET

Request	FY16	FY17	15-17
FTE	45.9	60.2	53.05
GF-State	\$5,305,000	\$6,417,000	\$11,722,000
Total	\$5,305,000	\$6,417,000	\$11,722,000

DECISION PACKAGE SUMMARY

The Behavioral Health and Service Integration Administration (BHSIA) requests funding to open an additional 30 bed forensic ward at Western State Hospital (WSH) and 5 additional beds and 3 clinical staff at Eastern State Hospital (ESH) to address the increasing demand for inpatient court ordered competency restoration and forensic services for patients found not guilty by reason of insanity. By funding this request, BHSIA will greatly reduce the current waiting list of defendants awaiting admission into the state hospitals for forensic services.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

The demand for forensic inpatient services exceeds the available bed capacity in the state hospitals. WSH Center for Forensic Services (CFS), as of August 6th, had a waitlist for admissions to CFS of 102 mentally ill inmates pending court ordered competency restoration treatment. On the same date the treatment wards in the Forensic Services unit at ESH were at capacity and additional forensic patients were being served on civil wards. Both hospitals are operating at capacity and there is nothing on the horizon to indicate that the current increased demand will be alleviated. This lack of capacity has resulted in an extended waitlist for CFS with several state district and superior courts holding show cause hearings on a regular basis and finding the hospitals in contempt.

Enhanced operating efficiencies have absorbed some of this demand until now, but current demand cannot be met within the existing bed capacity. CFS anticipates a minimum of a 20 bed shortfall in FY15, which accounts for the waitlist for admissions. Many of these forensic patients are eventually transferred to civil beds which will cause increased demand for civil beds.

PROPOSED SOLUTION

To address the need for increased forensic bed capacity, it is proposed to add 5 forensic beds to an existing ward at ESH and to establish one additional 30 bed forensic ward dedicated to Competency Restorations at WSH. In order to ensure that the Competency Restoration Program is operating as effectively and efficiently as possible we are also proposing to add 3 clinical staff to redesign and implement an evidence based competency restoration program that is consistent across the state hospitals and could be used at outpatient community based restoration programs.

EXPECTED RESULTS



DSHS VISION
People are healthy • People are safe • People are supported • Taxpayer resources are guarded

DSHS MISSION
To transform lives

DSHS VALUES
Honesty and Integrity • Pursuit of Excellence • Open Communication • Diversity and Inclusion • Commitment to Service

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The budget request supports DSHS Goal: 2: Safety – Each individual and each community will be safe
3: Protection – Each individual who is vulnerable will be protected

This request supports the Results Washington Goal 4: Help keep people safe in their homes, on their jobs and in their communities.

This proposal will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the competency restoration process that involves the state psychiatric hospitals, courts, and law enforcement.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACT

County Law Enforcement/Jails, County Courts, State Hospital Forensic Programs and State Hospital Unions will support this request.



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