

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

Description:

The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) is the state healthcare service agency responsible for health promotion and the prevention and treatment of mental illness and substance abuse in Connecticut. The single overarching goal of DMHAS is promoting and achieving a quality-focused, culturally responsive and recovery-oriented system of care. DMHAS has focused its efforts on greater involvement of persons in recovery in planning and developing services, expanding system capacity through better care management of persons in treatment, promoting age, gender, sexual orientation and culturally responsive services and strengthening supportive community-based services.

Mental Health Services:

Mental health treatment services include inpatient hospitalization, outpatient clinical services, 24-hour emergency care, day treatment, psychosocial and vocational rehabilitation, restoration to competency and forensic services, outreach services for homeless persons with serious mental illness and comprehensive, community-based mental health treatment and support.

Substance Abuse Services:

Substance abuse treatment services may include ambulatory care, residential detoxification, long-term care, intensive and intermediate residential services, methadone or chemical maintenance outpatient services, partial hospitalization recovery support services and aftercare/continuing care.

Prevention Services:

Prevention services may include disseminating information, providing education, offering alternative activities, strengthening communities, promoting positive values, identifying problems and making referral for services.

DMHAS provides collaborative programs for individuals with special needs, such as persons living with HIV/AIDS, persons in the criminal justice system or persons with traumatic brain injury. Emphasis is placed on providing residential, supportive, rehabilitative and crisis intervention services in local community settings; inpatient treatment is provided only when absolutely necessary. DMHAS operates and/or funds Local Mental Health Authorities (LMHA) that provide treatment and support at the community level statewide and four inpatient treatment facilities that provide inpatient psychiatric hospital care.

Health Care Systems Unit:

The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), Health Care Systems Unit within the Office of the Commissioner offers community programs to persons with mental health, substance use or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders, including older adults, which include the following programs:

General Assistance Behavioral Health Program

The State-Administered General Assistance Behavioral Health Program works to increase self-sufficiency of individuals seeking General Assistance by coordinating behavioral health services with vocational services and entitlement assistance.

Basic Needs Program

The Recovery Supports Program provides assistance with basic necessities for eligible State Administered General Assistance (SAGA) and General Assistance (GA) participants who do not currently receive cash benefits and who are actively involved in behavioral health treatment. The Recovery Supports Program is a temporary support for individuals with mental illness and/or substance use disorders who are unable to secure basic living needs when there are no other resources available. Recovery Supports are available under several categories such as housing assistance, security deposit assistance, utilities, transportation, clothing, food, personal care items and other needed supports. The Recovery Supports Program needs that are covered by the program include personal care items or services, utilities, clothing, transportation and other needed supports. The Basic Needs Program is not a cash benefit; participants are allotted vouchers that are redeemable only at participating vendors

Statewide Services:

Statewide Services is a division of the Office of Community Services and Hospitals and provides very specific programs and services designed to meet the diverse and unique needs of current and potential consumers. The Division responds to issues related to aging, housing and homelessness, special education, nursing home placement, HIV/AIDS, traumatic brain injury, visual/hearing impairment, compulsive gambling, trauma survival and women who are pregnant or parents.

Senior Outreach and Senior Services

Senior Outreach and Senior Services programs locate older persons with substance abuse problems either by direct contact or through the mediation and/or referral of other agencies that serve older adults. These programs offer individuals and agencies training, referral, consultation and treatment services either in programs held at Local Mental Health Authorities and DMHAS funded agencies or in the community, in which professionals are available to visit consumer's homes.

Nursing Home Program

The Nursing Home Program assures that persons with mental illnesses receive services in the most appropriate setting. It screens, evaluates and monitors persons with serious mental illness who either apply to or reside in Connecticut's nursing homes. Follow-up and consultative services are offered to assist in developing individualized care plans that meet participants' mental health needs.

Homeless Services

DMHAS provides services to persons who are homeless and suffer from a serious mental illness or who are dually-diagnosed with a serious mental illness and a substance abuse disorder. Through the Project for Assistance with Transitioning from Homelessness (PATH) program, which is nationwide and federally-funded, DMHAS provides assertive outreach to persons who are homeless. PATH Outreach Workers build a trusting relationship with such individuals and provide case management services. The Shelter Plus Care program is also offered by DMHAS as a service to persons who are homeless. Please refer to Housing Services – Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services on page ___ for additional information.

HIV/AIDS Services

HIV services are offered in the context of substance abuse treatment to clients who are already admitted to a DMHAS program. HIV counseling and testing are offered as well as prevention and case management services and education. HIV positive clients develop a treatment plan to determine their HIV needs and priorities. Services are also offered to family members and significant others. AIDS residences are available to persons who are HIV positive, homeless or in danger of becoming homeless and have a substance abuse problem. Shelter, support, training, case management and individualized programs are provided in both the residence and in the community.

Programs for the Visual/Hearing Impaired

Consumers of DMHAS operated/funded mental health or substance use services who have a visual and/or hearing impairment receive the same services that other consumers receive, but in a way that is sensitive to their impairment. Persons who are visually or hearing impaired may be provided interpreters that help persons use existing services. DMHAS-operated mental health and substance use facilities within each service region also have specific programs for DMHAS consumers who have visual or hearing impairments.

Traumatic Brain Injury Unit

Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Community Services provides comprehensive clinical consultations, access to community resources, advocacy services, liaison nursing, housing coordination and educational resources to DMHAS consumers with an eligible Acquired Brain Injury. The Traumatic Brain Injury Unit provides inpatient services for DMHAS consumers with Traumatic Brain Injury/Acquired Brain Injury.

Eligibility Requirements, Service Areas and Program Year:

Eligibility Requirements:

To qualify for DMHAS services, a person must:

- Have a severe and persistent mental illness.
- Be at risk for hospitalization.
- Have no medical insurance benefits.
- Be 18 years of age or older.

Service Areas:

Statewide

Program Year:

July 1 – June 30

Contact Information:

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

410 Capitol Avenue

P.O. Box 341431

Hartford, CT 06134

Telephone: 860-418-7000 or 800-446-7348

TDD: 860-418-6707 or 888-621-3551

Health Care Systems Unit

Lauren Siembab, Director

Telephone: 860-418-6897

Senior Outreach/Senior Services

Jim Donagher

Telephone: 860-418-6830

HIV/AIDS

Jim Donagher

Telephone: 860-418-6830

Statewide Services

Barbara Geller

Telephone: 860-418-6813

Homeless Services

Steve Dilella

Telephone: 860-418-6910

Traumatic Brain Injury Unit

M. Billye Simmers

Telephone: 860-262-5579

OBRA Unit (Nursing Homes)

Jennifer Glick

Telephone: 860-262-5818

Visual/Hearing Impaired

Jim Donagher

Telephone: 860-418-6830

Older Adult Services

Laurel Reagan

Telephone: 860-418-8729

State-Operated Inpatient Treatment Facilities:

Cedarcrest Hospital
525 Russell Road
Newington, CT 06111
Telephone: 860-666-4613
Fax: 860-666-7642
Admissions: 860-666-7635

Connecticut Valley Hospital
Silver Street
P.O. Box 351
Middletown, CT 06457
Telephone: 860-262-5000
Fax: 860-262-5989

Connecticut Mental Health Center
34 Park Street
New Haven, CT 06790
Telephone: 203-974-7300
24-Hour Crisis Service: 203-974-7735 or
203-974-7713 (9:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.)
203-974-7300 (10:00 p.m.-8:00 a.m.)

Greater Bridgeport Community
Mental Health Center
1635 Central Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Telephone: 203-551-7400
Fax: 203-551-7446

Local Mental Health Authorities:

Region 1:

Greater Bridgeport Community
Mental Health Center
1635 Central Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Telephone: 203-551-7400
Fax: 203-551-7446
Admissions:
Mental Health: 203-551-7507
Substance Abuse: 203-551-7428
Crisis Service: (8:00 a.m. – 8:00 pm)
203-551-7507

Community Services and
Administrative Services
97 Middle Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Telephone: 203-579-7300
Fax: 203-579-6305

F.S. DuBois Center
780 Summer Street
Stamford, CT 06901
Telephone: 203-388-1600
Fax: 203-388-1681

Homeless Outreach Team
753 Fairfield Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Telephone: 203-455-2160

Towns Served:

Bridgeport
Darien
Easton
Fairfield
Greenwich

Monroe
New Canaan
Norwalk
Stamford
Stratford

Trumbull
Weston
Westport
Wilton

Region 2:

Birmingham Group Health Services
Valley Mental Health Center
435 East Main Street
Ansonia, CT 06401
Telephone: 203-736-2601
Fax: 203-736-2641

Bridges...A Community
Support System, Inc.
949 Bridgeport Avenue
Milford, CT 06460
Telephone: 203-878-6365
Fax: 203-877-3088

Connecticut Mental Health Center
34 Park Street
New Haven, CT 06790
Telephone: 203-974-7300
24-Hour Crisis Service: 203-974-7735 or
203-974-7713 (9:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.)
203-974-7300 (10:00 p.m.-8:00 a.m.)

Harbor Health Services
14 Sycamore Way
Branford, CT 06405
Telephone: 203-483-2630
Fax: 203-483-2659

River Valley Services
Leak Hall
P.O. Box 351
Middletown, CT 06457
Telephone: 860-262-5200
Fax: 860-262-5203
24-Hour Crisis Service: 860-344-2100

Rushford Center
384 Pratt Street
Meriden, CT 06450
Telephone: 203-235-1792
Fax: 203-634-2799
24-Hour Crisis Service: 800-567-0902

Towns Served:

Ansonia	Essex	North Haven
Bethany	Guilford	Old Lyme
Branford	Haddam	Old Saybrook
Chester	Hamden	Orange
Clinton	Killingworth	Oxford
Cromwell	Madison	Portland
Deep River	Meriden	Seymour
Derby	Middlefield	Shelton
Durham	Middletown	Wallingford
East Haddam	Milford	Westbrook
East Hampton	New Haven	West Haven
East Haven	North Branford	Woodbridge

Region 3:

Southeastern Mental Health Authority
401 West Thames Street, Building 301
Norwich, CT 06360
Telephone: 860-859-4500; 24-Hour Crisis Service 860-886-9302
Fax: 860-859-4797

United Services
1007 North Main Street
P.O. Box 839
Dayville, CT 06241
Telephone: 860-774-2020
Fax: 860-774-0826

Towns Served:

Ashford	Killingly	Salem
Bozrah	Lebanon	Scotland
Brooklyn	Ledyard	Sprague
Canterbury	Lisbon	Sterling
Chaplin	Lyme	Stonington
Colchester	Mansfield	Thompson
Columbia	Montville	Uncasville
Coventry	New London	Union
Eastford	North Stonington	Voluntown
East Lyme	Norwich	Waterford
Franklin	Plainfield	Willington
Griswold	Pomfret	Windham
Groton	Preston	Woodstock
Hampton	Putnam	

Region 4:

Capitol Region Mental Health Center
500 Vine Street
Hartford, CT 06112
Telephone: 860-297-0800
Fax: 860-297-0914
24-Hour Crisis Service: 860-297-0999

Inter-Community Mental Health Group
281 Main Street
East Hartford, CT 06118
Telephone: 860-569-5900
Fax: 860-731-5536

Community Mental Health Affiliates, Inc.
29 Russell Street
New Britain, CT 06052
Telephone: 860-826-1268
Fax: 860-229-6575

Community Health Resources
995 Day Hill Road
Windsor, CT 06095
Telephone: 860-731-5522
Fax: 860-731-5536

Towns Served:

Andover	Burlington	Enfield
Avon	Canton	Farmington
Berlin	East Granby	Glastonbury
Bloomfield	East Hartford	Granby
Bolton	East Windsor	Hartford
Bristol	Ellington	Hebron

Manchester
Marlborough
New Britain
Newington
Plainville
Plymouth
Rocky Hill

Simsbury
Somers
South Windsor
Southington
Stafford
Suffield

Tolland
Vernon
West Hartford
Wethersfield
Windsor
Windsor Locks

Region 5:

Western Connecticut Mental
Health Network
55 West Main Street, Suite 410
Waterbury, CT 06702
Telephone: 203-805-6400
Fax: 203-805-6432

Western Connecticut Mental Health
Network – Danbury Area
78 Triangle Street, Bldg. I-4
Danbury, CT 06810
Telephone: 203-448-3200
Fax: 203-448-3199

Western Connecticut Mental
Health Network – Waterbury Area
95 Thomaston Avenue
Waterbury, CT 06706
Telephone: 203-805-5300
Fax: 203-805-5310

Western Connecticut Mental Health
Northwest Mental Health Authority
249 Winsted Road
Torrington, CT 06790
Telephone: 860-496-3700
Fax: 860-496-3800

Towns Served:

Barkhamsted
Beacon Falls
Bethel
Bethlehem
Bridgewater
Brookfield
Canaan
Cheshire
Colebrook
Cornwall
Danbury
Goshen
Hartland
Harwinton

Kent
Litchfield
Middlebury
Morris
Naugatuck
New Fairfield
New Hartford
New Milford
Newtown
Norfolk
North Canaan
Prospect
Redding
Ridgefield

Roxbury
Salisbury
Sharon
Sherman
Southbury
Thomaston
Torrington
Warren
Washington
Waterbury
Watertown
Winchester
Wolcott
Woodbury

Related Information:

[DMHAS - Employment Services, refer to page XV – 32.](#)

DMHAS - Housing Services, refer to page XV – 40.

Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities, refer to page XV – 54.