
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1522

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 Regular Session

By House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Green, Ryu, and Morrell; by request of Department of Social and Health Services)

READ FIRST TIME 02/19/13.

1 AN ACT Relating to improving behavioral health services provided to
2 adults in Washington state by defining outcomes for adult behavioral
3 health services, increasing use of evidence-based, research-based, and
4 promising practices for the provision of adult behavioral health
5 services, implementing a strategy for the improvement of the adult
6 behavioral health system, reviewing the provision of forensic mental
7 health services, procuring enhanced services facility services, and
8 requiring timely hospital discharge under the involuntary treatment act
9 when a person no longer requires active psychiatric treatment in a
10 hospital; amending RCW 71.24.025; adding a new section to chapter
11 43.20A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 70.97 RCW; adding a new
12 section to chapter 71.05 RCW; and providing an effective date.

13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.20A RCW
15 to read as follows:

16 (1) The systems responsible for financing, administration, and
17 delivery of publicly funded mental health and chemical dependency
18 services to adults must be designed and administered to achieve
19 improved outcomes for adult clients served by those systems through

1 increased use and development of evidence-based, research-based, and
2 promising practices, as defined in RCW 71.24.025. For purposes of this
3 section, client outcomes include: Improved health status; increased
4 participation in employment and education; reduced involvement with the
5 criminal justice system; enhanced safety and access to treatment for
6 forensic patients; reduction in avoidable utilization of and costs
7 associated with hospital, emergency room, and crisis services;
8 increased housing stability; improved quality of life, including
9 measures of recovery and resilience; and decreased population level
10 disparities in access to treatment and treatment outcomes.

11 (2) To implement a strategy for the improvement of the adult
12 behavioral health system:

13 (a) The department must establish a steering committee that
14 includes at least the following members: Behavioral health service
15 recipients and their families; local government; representatives of
16 regional support networks; representatives of county coordinators; law
17 enforcement; city and county jails; tribal representatives; behavioral
18 health service providers; housing providers; medicaid managed care plan
19 representatives; long-term care service providers; the Washington state
20 hospital association; individuals with expertise in evidence-based and
21 research-based behavioral health service practices; and the health care
22 authority.

23 (b) The adult behavioral health system improvement strategy must
24 include:

25 (i) An assessment of the capacity of the current publicly funded
26 behavioral health services system to provide evidence-based, research-
27 based, and promising practices;

28 (ii) Identification, development, and increased use of evidence-
29 based, research-based, and promising practices;

30 (iii) Design and implementation of a transparent quality management
31 system, including analysis of current system capacity to implement
32 outcomes reporting and development of baseline and improvement targets
33 for each outcome measure provided in this section; and

34 (iv) Identification of behavioral health services delivery and
35 financing mechanisms that will best promote improvement of the
36 behavioral health system described in this section.

37 (c) The department must seek private foundation and federal grant

1 funding to support the adult behavioral health system improvement
2 strategy.

3 (d) By May 15, 2014, the Washington state institute for public
4 policy, in consultation with the department, shall prepare an inventory
5 of evidence-based, research-based, and promising practices for
6 prevention and intervention services pursuant to subsection (1) of this
7 section. The department shall use the inventory in preparing the
8 behavioral health improvement strategy. The department shall provide
9 the institute with data necessary to complete the inventory.

10 (e) By August 1, 2014, the department must report to the governor
11 and the relevant fiscal and policy committees of the legislature on the
12 status of implementation of the behavioral health improvement strategy,
13 including strategies developed, timelines, and costs to implement the
14 adult behavioral health system improvement strategy.

15 (3) The department must contract for the services of an independent
16 consultant to review the provision of forensic mental health services
17 in Washington state and provide recommendations as to whether and how
18 the state's forensic mental health system should be modified to provide
19 an appropriate treatment environment for individuals with mental
20 disorders who have been charged with a crime while enhancing the safety
21 and security of the public and other patients and staff at forensic
22 treatment facilities. By August 1, 2014, the department must submit a
23 report regarding the recommendations of the independent consultant to
24 the governor and the relevant fiscal and policy committees of the
25 legislature.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 70.97 RCW
27 to read as follows:

28 To the extent that funds are specifically appropriated for this
29 purpose, the department must issue a request for a proposal for
30 enhanced services facility services by June 1, 2014, and complete the
31 procurement process by January 1, 2015.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 71.05 RCW
33 to read as follows:

34 When a person has been involuntarily committed for treatment to a
35 hospital for a period of ninety or one hundred eighty days, and the
36 superintendent or professional person in charge of the hospital

1 determines that the person no longer requires active psychiatric
2 treatment at an inpatient level of care, the regional support network
3 responsible for resource management services for the person must work
4 with the hospital to develop an individualized discharge plan and
5 arrange for a transition to the community in accordance with the
6 person's individualized discharge plan within twenty-one days of the
7 determination.

8 **Sec. 4.** RCW 71.24.025 and 2012 c 10 s 59 are each amended to read
9 as follows:

10 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
11 this section apply throughout this chapter.

12 (1) "Acutely mentally ill" means a condition which is limited to a
13 short-term severe crisis episode of:

14 (a) A mental disorder as defined in RCW 71.05.020 or, in the case
15 of a child, as defined in RCW 71.34.020;

16 (b) Being gravely disabled as defined in RCW 71.05.020 or, in the
17 case of a child, a gravely disabled minor as defined in RCW 71.34.020;
18 or

19 (c) Presenting a likelihood of serious harm as defined in RCW
20 71.05.020 or, in the case of a child, as defined in RCW 71.34.020.

21 (2) "Available resources" means funds appropriated for the purpose
22 of providing community mental health programs, federal funds, except
23 those provided according to Title XIX of the Social Security Act, and
24 state funds appropriated under this chapter or chapter 71.05 RCW by the
25 legislature during any biennium for the purpose of providing
26 residential services, resource management services, community support
27 services, and other mental health services. This does not include
28 funds appropriated for the purpose of operating and administering the
29 state psychiatric hospitals.

30 (3) "Child" means a person under the age of eighteen years.

31 (4) "Chronically mentally ill adult" or "adult who is chronically
32 mentally ill" means an adult who has a mental disorder and meets at
33 least one of the following criteria:

34 (a) Has undergone two or more episodes of hospital care for a
35 mental disorder within the preceding two years; or

36 (b) Has experienced a continuous psychiatric hospitalization or

1 residential treatment exceeding six months' duration within the
2 preceding year; or

3 (c) Has been unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity
4 by reason of any mental disorder which has lasted for a continuous
5 period of not less than twelve months. "Substantial gainful activity"
6 shall be defined by the department by rule consistent with Public Law
7 92-603, as amended.

8 (5) "Clubhouse" means a community-based program that provides
9 rehabilitation services and is certified by the department of social
10 and health services.

11 (6) "Community mental health program" means all mental health
12 services, activities, or programs using available resources.

13 (7) "Community mental health service delivery system" means public
14 or private agencies that provide services specifically to persons with
15 mental disorders as defined under RCW 71.05.020 and receive funding
16 from public sources.

17 (8) "Community support services" means services authorized,
18 planned, and coordinated through resource management services
19 including, at a minimum, assessment, diagnosis, emergency crisis
20 intervention available twenty-four hours, seven days a week,
21 prescreening determinations for persons who are mentally ill being
22 considered for placement in nursing homes as required by federal law,
23 screening for patients being considered for admission to residential
24 services, diagnosis and treatment for children who are acutely mentally
25 ill or severely emotionally disturbed discovered under screening
26 through the federal Title XIX early and periodic screening, diagnosis,
27 and treatment program, investigation, legal, and other nonresidential
28 services under chapter 71.05 RCW, case management services, psychiatric
29 treatment including medication supervision, counseling, psychotherapy,
30 assuring transfer of relevant patient information between service
31 providers, recovery services, and other services determined by regional
32 support networks.

33 (9) "Consensus-based" means a program or practice that has general
34 support among treatment providers and experts, based on experience or
35 professional literature, and may have anecdotal or case study support,
36 or that is agreed but not possible to perform studies with random
37 assignment and controlled groups.

1 (10) "County authority" means the board of county commissioners,
2 county council, or county executive having authority to establish a
3 community mental health program, or two or more of the county
4 authorities specified in this subsection which have entered into an
5 agreement to provide a community mental health program.

6 (11) "Department" means the department of social and health
7 services.

8 (12) "Designated mental health professional" means a mental health
9 professional designated by the county or other authority authorized in
10 rule to perform the duties specified in this chapter.

11 (13) "Emerging best practice" or "promising practice" means a
12 (~~practice that presents, based on preliminary information, potential~~
13 ~~for becoming a research-based or consensus-based practice~~) program or
14 practice that, based on statistical analyses or a well established
15 theory of change, shows potential for meeting the evidence-based or
16 research-based criteria, which may include the use of a program that is
17 evidence-based for outcomes other than those listed in subsection (14)
18 of this section.

19 (14) "Evidence-based" means a program or practice that has (~~had~~
20 ~~multiple site random controlled trials across heterogeneous populations~~
21 ~~demonstrating that the program or practice is effective for the~~
22 ~~population~~) been tested in heterogeneous or intended populations with
23 multiple randomized, or statistically controlled evaluations, or both;
24 or one large multiple site randomized, or statistically controlled
25 evaluation, or both, where the weight of the evidence from a systemic
26 review demonstrates sustained improvements in at least one outcome.
27 "Evidence-based" also means a program or practice that can be
28 implemented with a set of procedures to allow successful replication in
29 Washington and, when possible, is determined to be cost-beneficial.

30 (15) "Licensed service provider" means an entity licensed according
31 to this chapter or chapter 71.05 RCW or an entity deemed to meet state
32 minimum standards as a result of accreditation by a recognized
33 behavioral health accrediting body recognized and having a current
34 agreement with the department, that meets state minimum standards or
35 persons licensed under chapter 18.57, 18.71, 18.83, or 18.79 RCW, as it
36 applies to registered nurses and advanced registered nurse
37 practitioners.

1 (16) "Long-term inpatient care" means inpatient services for
2 persons committed for, or voluntarily receiving intensive treatment
3 for, periods of ninety days or greater under chapter 71.05 RCW. "Long-
4 term inpatient care" as used in this chapter does not include: (a)
5 Services for individuals committed under chapter 71.05 RCW who are
6 receiving services pursuant to a conditional release or a court-ordered
7 less restrictive alternative to detention; or (b) services for
8 individuals voluntarily receiving less restrictive alternative
9 treatment on the grounds of the state hospital.

10 (17) "Mental health services" means all services provided by
11 regional support networks and other services provided by the state for
12 persons who are mentally ill.

13 (18) "Mentally ill persons," "persons who are mentally ill," and
14 "the mentally ill" mean persons and conditions defined in subsections
15 (1), (4), (27), and (28) of this section.

16 (19) "Recovery" means the process in which people are able to live,
17 work, learn, and participate fully in their communities.

18 (20) "Regional support network" means a county authority or group
19 of county authorities or other entity recognized by the secretary in
20 contract in a defined region.

21 (21) "Registration records" include all the records of the
22 department, regional support networks, treatment facilities, and other
23 persons providing services to the department, county departments, or
24 facilities which identify persons who are receiving or who at any time
25 have received services for mental illness.

26 (22) "Research-based" means a program or practice that has (~~some~~
27 ~~research demonstrating effectiveness, but that does not yet meet the~~
28 ~~standard of evidence-based practices~~) been tested with a single
29 randomized, or statistically controlled evaluation, or both,
30 demonstrating sustained desirable outcomes; or where the weight of the
31 evidence from a systemic review supports sustained outcomes as
32 described in subsection (14) of this section but does not meet the full
33 criteria for evidence-based.

34 (23) "Residential services" means a complete range of residences
35 and supports authorized by resource management services and which may
36 involve a facility, a distinct part thereof, or services which support
37 community living, for persons who are acutely mentally ill, adults who
38 are chronically mentally ill, children who are severely emotionally

1 disturbed, or adults who are seriously disturbed and determined by the
2 regional support network to be at risk of becoming acutely or
3 chronically mentally ill. The services shall include at least
4 evaluation and treatment services as defined in chapter 71.05 RCW,
5 acute crisis respite care, long-term adaptive and rehabilitative care,
6 and supervised and supported living services, and shall also include
7 any residential services developed to service persons who are mentally
8 ill in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and adult family
9 homes, and may include outpatient services provided as an element in a
10 package of services in a supported housing model. Residential services
11 for children in out-of-home placements related to their mental disorder
12 shall not include the costs of food and shelter, except for children's
13 long-term residential facilities existing prior to January 1, 1991.

14 (24) "Resilience" means the personal and community qualities that
15 enable individuals to rebound from adversity, trauma, tragedy, threats,
16 or other stresses, and to live productive lives.

17 (25) "Resource management services" mean the planning,
18 coordination, and authorization of residential services and community
19 support services administered pursuant to an individual service plan
20 for: (a) Adults and children who are acutely mentally ill; (b) adults
21 who are chronically mentally ill; (c) children who are severely
22 emotionally disturbed; or (d) adults who are seriously disturbed and
23 determined solely by a regional support network to be at risk of
24 becoming acutely or chronically mentally ill. Such planning,
25 coordination, and authorization shall include mental health screening
26 for children eligible under the federal Title XIX early and periodic
27 screening, diagnosis, and treatment program. Resource management
28 services include seven day a week, twenty-four hour a day availability
29 of information regarding enrollment of adults and children who are
30 mentally ill in services and their individual service plan to
31 designated mental health professionals, evaluation and treatment
32 facilities, and others as determined by the regional support network.

33 (26) "Secretary" means the secretary of social and health services.

34 (27) "Seriously disturbed person" means a person who:

35 (a) Is gravely disabled or presents a likelihood of serious harm to
36 himself or herself or others, or to the property of others, as a result
37 of a mental disorder as defined in chapter 71.05 RCW;

1 (b) Has been on conditional release status, or under a less
2 restrictive alternative order, at some time during the preceding two
3 years from an evaluation and treatment facility or a state mental
4 health hospital;

5 (c) Has a mental disorder which causes major impairment in several
6 areas of daily living;

7 (d) Exhibits suicidal preoccupation or attempts; or

8 (e) Is a child diagnosed by a mental health professional, as
9 defined in chapter 71.34 RCW, as experiencing a mental disorder which
10 is clearly interfering with the child's functioning in family or school
11 or with peers or is clearly interfering with the child's personality
12 development and learning.

13 (28) "Severely emotionally disturbed child" or "child who is
14 severely emotionally disturbed" means a child who has been determined
15 by the regional support network to be experiencing a mental disorder as
16 defined in chapter 71.34 RCW, including those mental disorders that
17 result in a behavioral or conduct disorder, that is clearly interfering
18 with the child's functioning in family or school or with peers and who
19 meets at least one of the following criteria:

20 (a) Has undergone inpatient treatment or placement outside of the
21 home related to a mental disorder within the last two years;

22 (b) Has undergone involuntary treatment under chapter 71.34 RCW
23 within the last two years;

24 (c) Is currently served by at least one of the following child-
25 serving systems: Juvenile justice, child-protection/welfare, special
26 education, or developmental disabilities;

27 (d) Is at risk of escalating maladjustment due to:

28 (i) Chronic family dysfunction involving a caretaker who is
29 mentally ill or inadequate;

30 (ii) Changes in custodial adult;

31 (iii) Going to, residing in, or returning from any placement
32 outside of the home, for example, psychiatric hospital, short-term
33 inpatient, residential treatment, group or foster home, or a
34 correctional facility;

35 (iv) Subject to repeated physical abuse or neglect;

36 (v) Drug or alcohol abuse; or

37 (vi) Homelessness.

1 (29) "State minimum standards" means minimum requirements
2 established by rules adopted by the secretary and necessary to
3 implement this chapter for: (a) Delivery of mental health services;
4 (b) licensed service providers for the provision of mental health
5 services; (c) residential services; and (d) community support services
6 and resource management services.

7 (30) "Treatment records" include registration and all other records
8 concerning persons who are receiving or who at any time have received
9 services for mental illness, which are maintained by the department, by
10 regional support networks and their staffs, and by treatment
11 facilities. Treatment records do not include notes or records
12 maintained for personal use by a person providing treatment services
13 for the department, regional support networks, or a treatment facility
14 if the notes or records are not available to others.

15 (31) "Tribal authority," for the purposes of this section and RCW
16 71.24.300 only, means: The federally recognized Indian tribes and the
17 major Indian organizations recognized by the secretary insofar as these
18 organizations do not have a financial relationship with any regional
19 support network that would present a conflict of interest.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Section 3 of this act takes effect July 1,
21 2018.

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