

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

Transforming
Lives

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

Statewide Accounting of Contracted SVP Housing and Treatment Providers

RCW 71.09.097

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Executive Summary

RCW 71.09.097 directs that the Department of Social and Health Services shall maintain a statewide accounting of the contracted community housing and treatment providers in each county and provide a biannual report to the legislature and Governor by December 1st on the availability and adequacy of less restrictive alternative placements and the department's compliance with fair share principles. This report is responsive to that directive.

Matrix of Contracted Treatment Providers by County

Table 1 reflects the numbers of contracted treatment providers by county.

Table 1: Matrix of Contracted Treatment Providers by County

Counties Served by Provider	Number of Contracted Providers	Number of residents on LRAs
King	5	14
Kitsap & Pierce	6	49
Walla Walla & Spokane	3	7

Matrix of Contracted Housing Providers by County

The numbers of contracted housing providers by county are provided in the table below.

Table 2: Matrix of Contracted Housing Providers by County

Counties Served by Provider	Provider	Number of residents on LRAs
Kitsap	West Sound Support	2
Pierce	Grace and Hope	6
Pierce	Boston Avenue	3
Pierce	Detroit Avenue	1
King County	Everett House	3

Availability and Adequacy of Less Restrictive Alternative Placements

The current availability at West Sound Support in Kitsap County, under contract, is 3 beds. The current availability at Grace and Hope in Pierce County, under contract, is 1 bed.

The SCC has successfully completed the contract with Isabel Valle at Lakewood and Everett Properties LLC. This housing provider houses 4 SCC residents in the Lakewood home, and 3 SCC residents in the Everett home, for a total of 4 residents in Pierce County and 3 in King County. The SCC continues to work with Rolly Beltran with the

hopes of contracting with him and completion of this contract will add six contracted beds in Pierce County--three of which are already occupied by SCC residents. In addition, SCC is in the process of contracting with Joe's Place in Spokane, which currently houses 5 SCC residents and Avalon 1 and 2 in Pierce County, which currently houses five SCC residents with a capacity of twelve.

The SCC continues to pursue contracts with housing providers in counties where housing options for conditional release are not currently available to ensure each county has an adequate number of housing options equivalent to the number of residents committed from that county as a SVP. To facilitate that pursuit, the SCC has an active and on-going competitive solicitation--or Request for Proposals; RFP 2313-837.

A greater availability of state-operated and contracted housing options would provide better cost controls and oversight of placements in the community. SCC works with non-contracted housing providers when the courts approve discharge plans with placement in a non-contracted housing option. In the absence of a requirement to contract with the SCC, there is a limited ability for the SCC to control costs of these non-contracted housing placements and no incentive for housing and treatment providers to enter into contracts with the SCC. The SCC continues to prioritize the development of contracted housing to ensure compliance with service deliverables, while also maintaining fiscal responsibility of state funds.

Secure Community Transition Facilities (SCTFs) provide a step-down type housing option for residents who are transitioning from total confinement to an LRA. The existence of these facilities in Pierce and King County provides adequate and readily available housing in those counties.

The SCTF in Pierce County (SCTF-PC) currently houses eight residents, with a total capacity of twenty-three beds. Seven beds at the SCTF-PC are identified for High-Acuity residents (two High Acuity residents currently in residence) and the other sixteen beds identified for regular and special needs track residents. The SCTF in King County (SCTF-KC) currently houses seven residents with a total capacity of twelve beds.

The design for a SCTF in Snohomish County (as directed by the legislature) will allow for more housing options in that county which has the third largest number of commitments under RCW 71.09 in the state behind King and Pierce Counties, respectively. This means that there is a total of twenty SVPs committed from Snohomish County. The SCC continues working toward the completion of the siting project for the SCTF in Snohomish County.

An increase in contracted housing options, a greater number of contracted treatment providers, and the expansion of state-operated facilities such as the SCTF's or SOLA's would create a more robust network of transition supports to better meet the individualized needs of residents as they transition to community-based LRAs. Also, the SCC recognizes a need for medical or nursing home type housing options to meet the needs of our residents with ongoing or chronic medical issues.

While the SCC is working to build more state-operated beds and contracted options, a requirement for providers and housing placements to contract with SCC would provide better cost control of state funds, increase accountability of service delivery, and better assist the SCC when developing clinically appropriate and individualized discharge planning for residents. Contracting with the SCC will help to ensure residents' treatment and housing needs are met and provide a stable basis for residents to have a successful community transition and ensure community safety.

Compliance with Fair Share Principles

The SCC currently has a total of seventy-three residents residing in community based LRAs in a total of six counties (King, Kitsap, Pierce, Snohomish, Spokane, and Walla Walla). Five of the six counties where SVPs reside are currently in compliance with the Fair Share Principal.

Pierce County is the only county that currently exceeds its' identified Fair Share number (31 committed from Pierce, 47 currently residing in Pierce); however, the Fair Share Principle (RCW 71.09.092) refers to a number "generally equivalent" and the SCC is working to develop LRA housing providers outside of Pierce County to help bring Pierce county's Fair Share number back into compliance.

Fair Share numbers by county:

- **King County**- 59 total committed as SVP, 14 current LRA residents.
- **Kitsap County**- 9 total committed as SVP, 2 current LRA residents.
- **Pierce County**- 31 total committed as SVP, 47 current LRA residents.
- **Snohomish County**- 16 total committed as SVP, 3 current LRA residents.
- **Spokane County**- 10 total committed as SVP, 2 current LRA residents.
- **Walla Walla County**- 3 total committed as SVP, 5 current LRA residents.

Conclusion

The Special Commitment Center continues to work towards contracting with housing and treatment providers to create a more robust network of transition supports to better meet the individualized needs of residents as they transition to community-based LRAs.