

WAC 246-341-0200 Behavioral health services—Definitions. The definitions in this section contain words and phrases used for behavioral health services.

"Absentee coverage" means the temporary replacement a clubhouse provides for the clubhouse member who is currently employed in a time-limited, part-time community job managed by the clubhouse.

"Administrator" means the designated person responsible for the operation of either the licensed treatment agency, or certified treatment service, or both.

"Adult" means an individual eighteen years of age or older. For purposes of the medicaid program, adult means an individual twenty-one years of age or older.

"ASAM criteria" means admission, continued service, and discharge criteria for the treatment of substance use disorders as published by the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM).

"Assessment" means the process of obtaining all pertinent biopsychosocial information, as identified by the individual, and family and collateral sources, for determining a diagnosis and to plan individualized services and supports.

"Authority" means the Washington state health care authority.

"Background check" means a search for criminal history record information that includes nonconviction data. A background check may include a national fingerprint-based background check, including a Federal Bureau of Investigation criminal history search.

"Behavioral health" means the prevention, treatment of, and recovery from any or all of the following disorders: Substance use disorders, mental health disorders, or problem and pathological gambling disorders.

"Behavioral health agency" or "agency" means an entity licensed by the department to provide behavioral health services.

"Behavioral health organization" or "BHO" means any county authority or group of county authorities or other entity recognized by the health care authority in contract in a defined region.

"Branch site" means a physically separate licensed site, governed by a parent organization, where qualified staff provides certified treatment services.

"Care coordination" means a process-oriented activity to facilitate ongoing communication and collaboration to meet multiple needs of an individual. Care coordination includes facilitating communication between the family, natural supports, community resources, and involved providers and agencies, organizing, facilitating and participating in team meetings, and providing for continuity of care by creating linkages to and managing transitions between levels of care.

"Certified" or "certification" means the status given by the department to provide substance use disorder, mental health, and problem and pathological gambling program-specific services.

"Certified problem gambling counselor" is an individual certified gambling counselor (WSCGC) or a nationally certified gambling counselor (NCGC), certified by the Washington State Gambling Counselor Certification Committee or the International Gambling Counselor Certification Board to provide problem and pathological gambling treatment services.

"Change in ownership" means one of the following:

(a) The ownership of a licensed behavioral health agency changes from one distinct legal owner to another distinct legal owner;

(b) The type of business changes from one type to another, such as, from a sole proprietorship to a corporation; or

(c) The current ownership takes on a new owner of five per cent or more of the organizational assets.

"Chemical dependency professional" or "CDP" means a person credentialed by the department as a chemical dependency professional (CDP) under chapter 246-811 WAC.

"Child," "minor," and "youth" mean:

(a) An individual under the age of eighteen years; or

(b) An individual age eighteen to twenty-one years who is eligible to receive and who elects to receive an early and periodic screening, diagnostic, and treatment (EPSDT) medicaid service. An individual age eighteen to twenty-one years who receives EPSDT services is not considered a "child" for any other purpose.

"Child mental health specialist" means a mental health professional with the following education and experience:

(a) A minimum of one hundred actual hours (not quarter or semester hours) of special training in child development and the treatment of children with serious emotional disturbance and their families; and

(b) The equivalent of one year of full-time experience in the treatment of seriously emotionally disturbed children and their families under the supervision of a child mental health specialist.

"Clinical record" means either a paper, or electronic file, or both that is maintained by the behavioral health agency and contains pertinent psychological, medical, and clinical information for each individual served.

"Clinical supervision" means regular and periodic activities performed by a professional licensed or certified under Title 18 RCW practicing within their scope of practice. Clinical supervision includes review of assessment, diagnostic formulation, treatment planning, progress toward completion of care, identification of barriers to care, continuation of services, authorization of care, and the direct observation of the delivery of clinical care.

"Clubhouse" means a community-based, recovery-focused program designed to support individuals living with the effects of mental illness, through employment, shared contributions, and relationship building. A clubhouse operates under the fundamental principle that everyone has the potential to make productive contributions by focusing on the strengths, talents, and abilities of all members and fostering a sense of community and partnership.

"Community mental health agency" means the same as "behavioral health agency."

"Community relations plan" means a plan to minimize the impact of an opioid treatment program as defined by the Center for Substance Abuse Guidelines for the Accreditation of Opioid Treatment Programs, section 2.C.(4).

"Community support services" means services authorized, planned, and coordinated through resource management services including, at a minimum:

(a) Assessment, diagnosis, emergency crisis intervention available twenty-four hours, seven days a week;

(b) Prescreening determinations for persons who are mentally ill being considered for placement in nursing homes as required by federal law;

(c) Screening for patients being considered for admission to residential services;

(d) Diagnosis and treatment for children who are mentally or severely emotionally disturbed discovered under screening through the federal Title XIX early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment (EPSDT) program;

(e) Investigation, legal, and other nonresidential services under chapter 71.05 RCW;

(f) Case management services;

(g) Psychiatric treatment including medication supervision;

(h) Counseling;

(i) Psychotherapy;

(j) Assuring transfer of relevant patient information between service providers;

(k) Recovery services; and

(l) Other services determined by behavioral health organizations.

"Complaint" means an alleged violation of licensing or certification requirements under chapters 71.05, 71.12, 71.24, 71.34 RCW, and this chapter, which has been authorized by the department for investigation.

"Consent" means agreement given by an individual after the person is provided with a description of the nature, character, anticipated results of proposed treatments and the recognized serious possible risks, complications, and anticipated benefits, including alternatives and nontreatment, that must be provided in a terminology that the person can reasonably be expected to understand.

"Consultation" means the clinical review and development of recommendations by persons with appropriate knowledge and experience regarding activities or decisions of clinical staff, contracted employees, volunteers, or students.

"Co-occurring disorder" means the coexistence of both a mental health and a substance use disorder. Co-occurring treatment is a unified treatment approach intended to treat both disorders within the context of a primary treatment relationship or treatment setting.

"Crisis" means an actual or perceived urgent or emergent situation that occurs when an individual's stability or functioning is disrupted and there is an immediate need to resolve the situation to prevent a serious deterioration in the individual's mental or physical health, or to prevent the need for referral to a significantly higher level of care.

"Critical incident" means any one of the following events:

(a) Any death, serious injury, or sexual assault that occurs at an agency that is licensed by the department;

(b) Alleged abuse or neglect of an individual receiving services, that is of a serious or emergency nature, by an employee, volunteer, licensee, contractor, or another individual receiving services;

(c) A natural disaster, such as an earthquake, volcanic eruption, tsunami, urban fire, flood, or outbreak of communicable disease that presents substantial threat to facility operation or client safety;

(d) A bomb threat;

(e) Theft or loss of data in any form regarding an individual receiving services, such as a missing or stolen computer, or a missing or stolen computer disc or flash drive;

(f) Suicide attempt at the facility;

(g) An error in program-administered medication at an outpatient facility that results in adverse effects for the individual and requires urgent medical intervention; and

(h) Any media event regarding an individual receiving services, or regarding a staff member or owner(s) of the agency.

"Cultural competence" or "culturally competent" means the ability to recognize and respond to health-related beliefs and cultural values, disease incidence and prevalence, and treatment efficacy. Examples of culturally competent care include striving to overcome cultural, language, and communications barriers, providing an environment in which individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds feel comfortable discussing their cultural health beliefs and practices in the context of negotiating treatment options, encouraging individuals to express their spiritual beliefs and cultural practices, and being familiar with and respectful of various traditional healing systems and beliefs and, where appropriate, integrating these approaches into treatment plans.

"Deemed" means a status that may be given to a licensed behavioral health agency as a result of the agency receiving accreditation by a recognized behavioral health accrediting body which has a current agreement with the department.

"Department" means the Washington state department of health.

"Designated crisis responder" or "DCR" means a mental health professional appointed by the county or the BHO who is authorized to conduct investigations, detain persons up to seventy-two hours at the proper facility, and carry out the other functions identified in chapters 71.05 and 71.34 RCW. To qualify as a designated crisis responder, a person must complete substance use disorder training specific to the duties of a designated crisis responder.

"Disability" means a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities of the individual and the individual:

- (a) Has a record of such an impairment; or
- (b) Is regarded as having such impairment.

"Early and periodic screening, diagnosis and treatment" or "EPSDT" means a comprehensive child health medicaid program that entitles individuals age twenty and younger to preventive care and treatment services. These services are outlined in chapter 182-534 WAC.

"Governing body" means the entity with legal authority and responsibility for the operation of the behavioral health agency, to include its officers, board of directors or the trustees of a corporation or limited liability company.

"Grievance" means the same as defined in WAC 182-538D-0655.

"HIV/AIDS brief risk intervention" means a face-to-face interview with an individual to help the individual assess personal risk for HIV/AIDS infection and discuss methods to reduce infection transmission.

"Individual" means a person who applies for, is eligible for, or receives behavioral health services from an agency licensed by the department.

"Less restrictive alternative (LRA)" means court ordered outpatient treatment in a setting less restrictive than total confinement.

"Licensed" or "licensure" means the status given to behavioral health agencies by the department under its authority to license and certify mental health and substance use disorder programs under chapters 71.05, 71.12, 71.34, and 71.24 RCW and its authority to certify problem and pathological gambling treatment programs under RCW 43.20A.890.

"Medical necessity" or "medically necessary" is a term for describing a required service that is reasonably calculated to prevent, diagnose, correct, cure, alleviate or prevent the worsening of conditions in the recipient that endanger life, or cause suffering or pain,

or result in illness or infirmity, or threaten to cause or aggravate a handicap, or cause physical deformity or malfunction, and there is no other equally effective, more conservative or substantially less costly course of treatment available or suitable for the person requesting service. Course of treatment may include mere observation or, where appropriate, no treatment at all.

"Medical practitioner" means a physician, advance registered nurse practitioner (ARNP), or certified physician assistant. An ARNP and a midwife with prescriptive authority may perform practitioner functions related only to specific specialty services.

"Medication administration" means the direct application of a medication or device by ingestion, inhalation, injection or any other means, whether self-administered by a resident, or administered by a guardian (for a minor), or an authorized health care provider.

"Mental health disorder" means any organic, mental, or emotional impairment that has substantial adverse effects on a person's cognitive or volitional functions.

"Mental health professional" or "MHP" means a designation given by the department to an agency staff member or an attestation by the licensed behavioral health agency that the person meets the following:

(a) A psychiatrist, psychologist, physician assistant working with a supervising psychiatrist, psychiatric advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP), psychiatric nurse, or social worker as defined in chapters 71.05 and 71.34 RCW;

(b) A person who is licensed by the department as a mental health counselor or mental health counselor associate, marriage and family therapist, or marriage and family therapist associate;

(c) A person with a master's degree or further advanced degree in counseling or one of the social sciences from an accredited college or university who has at least two years of experience in direct treatment of persons with mental illness or emotional disturbance, experience that was gained under the supervision of a mental health professional recognized by the department or attested to by the licensed behavioral health agency;

(d) A person who meets the waiver criteria of RCW 71.24.260, and the waiver was granted prior to 1986; or

(e) A person who had an approved waiver to perform the duties of a mental health professional (MHP), that was requested by the behavioral health organization (BHO) and granted by the mental health division prior to July 1, 2001.

"Minor" means the same as "child."

"Off-site" means the provision of services by a provider from a licensed behavioral health agency at a location where the assessment or treatment is not the primary purpose of the site, such as in schools, hospitals, long-term care facilities, correctional facilities, an individual's residence, the community, or housing provided by or under an agreement with the agency.

"Outpatient services" means behavioral health treatment services provided to an individual in a nonresidential setting. A residential treatment facility (RTF) may become certified to provide outpatient services.

"Peace officer" means a law enforcement official of a public agency or governmental unit, and includes persons specifically given peace officer powers by any state law, local ordinance, or judicial order of appointment.

"Peer counselor" means the same as defined in WAC 182-538D-0200.

"Probation" means a licensing or certification status resulting from a finding of deficiencies that requires immediate corrective action to maintain licensure or certification.

"Problem and pathological gambling" means one or more of the following disorders:

(a) "Pathological gambling" means a mental disorder characterized by loss of control over gambling, progression in preoccupation with gambling and in obtaining money to gamble, and continuation of gambling despite adverse consequences;

(b) "Problem gambling" is an earlier stage of pathological gambling that compromises, disrupts, or damages family or personal relationships or vocational pursuits.

"Progress notes" means permanent written or electronic record of services and supports provided to an individual documenting the individual's participation in, and response to, treatment, progress in recovery, and progress toward intended outcomes.

"Recovery" means the same as defined in RCW 71.24.025.

"Relocation" means a physical change in location from one address to another.

"Remodeling" means expanding existing office space to additional office space at the same address, or remodeling interior walls and space within existing office space to a degree that accessibility to or within the facility is impacted.

"Secretary" means the secretary of the department of health.

"Service area" means the geographic area covered by each behavioral health organization (BHO) for which it is responsible.

"Short-term facility" means a facility licensed and certified by the department of health under RCW 71.24.035 which has been designed to assess, diagnose, and treat individuals experiencing an acute crisis without the use of long-term hospitalization. Length of stay in a short-term facility is less than fourteen days from the day of admission.

"State minimum standards" means minimum requirements established by rules adopted by the secretary and necessary to implement this chapter for delivery of behavioral health services.

"Substance use disorder" means a cluster of cognitive, behavioral, and physiological symptoms indicating that an individual continues using the substance despite significant substance-related problems. The diagnosis of a substance use disorder is based on a pathological pattern of behaviors related to the use of the substances.

"Summary suspension" means the immediate suspension of either a facility's license or program-specific certification or both by the department pending administrative proceedings for suspension, revocation, or other actions deemed necessary by the department.

"Supervision" means the regular monitoring of the administrative, clinical, or clerical work performance of a staff member, trainee, student, volunteer, or employee on contract by a person with the authority to give direction and require change.

"Suspend" means termination of a behavioral health agency's license or program specific certification to provide behavioral health treatment program service for a specified period or until specific conditions have been met and the department notifies the agency of the program's reinstatement of license or certification.

"Triage facility" means a short-term facility or a portion of a facility licensed and certified by the department under RCW 71.24.035 that is designed as a facility to assess and stabilize an individual or determine the need for involuntary commitment of an individual. A

triage facility must meet department residential treatment facility standards and may be structured as either a voluntary or involuntary placement facility or both.

"Triage involuntary placement facility" means a triage facility that has elected to operate as an involuntary facility and may, at the direction of a peace officer, hold an individual for up to twelve hours. A peace officer or designated crisis responder may take or cause the person to be taken into custody and immediately delivered to the triage facility. The facility may ask for an involuntarily admitted individual to be assessed by a mental health professional for potential for voluntary admission. The individual has to agree in writing to the conditions of the voluntary admission.

"Triage voluntary placement facility" means a triage facility where the individual may elect to leave the facility of their own accord, at any time. A triage voluntary placement facility may only accept voluntary admissions.

"Tribal authority" means, for the purposes of behavioral health organizations and RCW 71.24.300 only, the federally recognized Indian tribes and the major Indian organizations recognized by the secretary as long as these organizations do not have a financial relationship with any behavioral health organization that would present a conflict of interest.

"Vulnerable adult" has the same meaning as defined in chapter 74.34 RCW.

"Withdrawal management" means services provided during the initial period of care and treatment to an individual intoxicated or incapacitated by substance use.

"Work-ordered day" means a model used to organize clubhouse activities during the clubhouse's normal working hours. Members and staff are organized into one or more work units which provide meaningful and engaging work essential to running the clubhouse. Activities include unit meetings, planning, organizing the work of the day, and performing the work that needs to be accomplished to keep the clubhouse functioning. Members and staff work side-by-side as colleagues. Members participate as they feel ready and according to their individual interests. While intended to provide members with working experience, work in the clubhouse is not intended to be job-specific training, and members are neither paid for clubhouse work nor provided artificial rewards. Work-ordered day does not include medication clinics, day treatment, or other therapy programs.

"Youth" means the same as "child."

[Statutory Authority: 2019 c 324, RCW 71.24.037, 71.24.648, and 71.24.649. WSR 20-07-091, § 246-341-0200, filed 3/17/20, effective 5/1/20. Statutory Authority: 2018 c 201 and 2018 c 291. WSR 19-09-062, § 246-341-0200, filed 4/16/19, effective 5/17/19.]