

Effective Date: 10/29/2008; 7/13/2005
Revised Date: 3/8/2017
Review Date: 3/8/2017

North Sound Behavioral Health Organization

Section 1500 – Clinical: State Hospital Care and Discharge Coordination

Authorizing Source: BHSC & PIHP Contracts

Cancels:

See Also:

Providers must comply with this policy and may develop
Individualized implementation guidelines as needed

Approved by: Executive Director

Responsible Staff: Deputy Director

Signature:

Date: 3/24/2017

POLICY #1536.00

SUBJECT: STATE HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS, CARE, AND DISCHARGE COORDINATION

PURPOSE

To ensure quality care coordination between outpatient providers and State Hospitals, as well as, rapid, appropriate discharges from State Hospitals to the least restrictive community settings possible.

POLICY

North Sound Behavioral Health Organization (North Sound BHO) and its contracted providers shall participate in active care coordination with the State Hospitals to assist with providing high quality treatment and to facilitate rapid and appropriate discharges.

PROCEDURE

North Sound BHO and its providers will serve all people admitted to a State Hospital from the North Sound region and will comply with the Western State Hospital (WSH)/Regional Support Network (RSN)* Working Agreement (*see Attached Western State Hospital/RSN Working Agreement*). An admission packet, as defined in the WSH/RSN Working Agreement, will be provided to the State Hospital at or before the time of transfer whenever possible.

All communication between North Sound BHO providers and the State Hospital regarding an individual's care shall include the Hospital Liaisons. North Sound BHO's Hospital Liaisons or, in some cases, the designated provider will participate with State Hospital staff in developing plans for safe and appropriate discharge to the community with the goal of enabling individuals to leave the State Hospital upon determination the individual is ready for discharge. When necessary, the Hospital Liaisons will develop community discharge plans as Less Restrictive Orders (LRO). If eligible, the individual will select a Behavioral Health Agency (BHA) prior to discharge from the State Hospital with the support of North Sound BHO Hospital Liaison. **The North Sound BHO Hospital Liaison is responsible for scheduling a 'Hospital Discharge Assessment' and will ensure the assigned BHA has all the information necessary for effective continuity of care and quality improvement.**

When admissions slow down significantly or the State Hospitals issue census alert notifications, North Sound BHO will alert its Crisis/Designated Crisis Response (DCR) staff, community psychiatric hospitals, Evaluation & Treatment centers and outpatient providers to make their best efforts to divert State Hospital admissions and to expedite discharges from State Hospitals using alternative community resources and behavioral health services.

North Sound BHAs will provide community behavioral health services for all individuals involuntarily committed under RCW 71.05 who are discharged on Conditional Release (CR) or LRO. BHAs will also serve individuals committed under RCW 10.77 when criminal charges have been dismissed due to incompetence and the individual was subsequently held at the State Hospital under RCW 71.05 before being discharged on a CR or LRO. North Sound BHO Hospital Liaisons are expected to contact BHAs to request in writing that they assume responsibility for the CR or LRO.

North Sound BHO will follow the Inter-RSN Transfer process when an individual is being discharged to another BHO's region.

** RSN is the designation formerly used to describe what are now called Behavioral Health Organizations (BHO). The RSNs became BHOs on April 1, 2016.*

ATTACHMENTS

1536.01 – WSH-RSN Working Agreement