Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

A New Competency Restoration Facility

Transforming Lives

Building 27 Project Summary

Building 27 –located on Western State Hospital (WSH) campus –will be remodeled as a Residential Treatment Facility (RTF) to provide competency restoration treatment services to 30 patients. This project is a collaborative effort between the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), the Court Monitor and her experts, and the plaintiffs in the *Trueblood et al v. Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (Trueblood)* federal court case. In April 2015, the Federal Court found DSHS was taking too long to provide competency evaluation and restoration services. One of the requirements of the *Trueblood* lawsuit is that when a defendant is found not competent to stand trial and is ordered for restoration, they are to be admitted to competency restoration services within seven days. To meet this demand, DSHS has opened 104 restoration beds at WSH, Eastern State Hospital and RTF facilities at Maple Lane in Thurston County, and Yakima, since April 2015. The Building 27 RTF will create 30 additional beds.

Updates

- The Building 27 Project, is managed through the Office of Forensic Mental Health Services (OFMHS) in the DSHS Behavioral Health Administration. The project receives agency-wide executive level guidance, support and resources.
- To complete the creation of Building 27, project teams from across DSHS have formed and are working to support planning and implementation activities in areas covering a wide range of topics such as; staffing, licensure, construction, information technology, patient records, training, services, etc.
- An architectural project manager and a construction contractor hired by the court monitor are working with all remodel planning aspects of the project.
- The remodel is anticipated to begin June 2018.
- Policies and procedures, and staffing models have begun to take shape to operate Building 27 with support from Western State Hospital.
- DSHS plans to accept its first patient into the facility in January 2019.



DSHS will update information as it becomes available on its Trueblood webpage.



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