

Outpatient Competency Restoration Program

The Outpatient Competency Restoration Program (OCRP) helps defendants achieve the ability to participate in his or her own defense in a community-based setting. OCRP services are designed to address the individual's barriers to competency. Those services may include education on understanding of the legal system and courtroom process, social skills training and symptom management, and referral to behavioral health treatment, housing and peer support.

OCRP moves individuals from local jails or restoration treatment facilities into community-based services. It is meant for individuals who are not considered a security risk and are likely to adhere to treatment in the community. OCRP has been successfully implemented in several states.

Outpatient Competency Restoration Program and the Trueblood settlement

As part of the Trueblood settlement agreement, Washington is creating OCRP, to be implemented in the Pierce, Spokane and Southwest regions by July 1, 2020. Work under way includes:

- Reviewing reports and evaluations of other programs.
- Establishing stakeholder groups in the three targeted regions to help design the program model and referral criteria by February 2020.
- Establishing performance measures by March 2020.
- Procuring OCRP services in the three regions.
- Working collaboratively by providing training and technical assistance with forensic navigators who work with defendants assigned to OCRP.

The Health Care Authority is leading this part of the Trueblood settlement, in close collaboration with the Department of Social and Health Services and community stakeholders.

About the Trueblood settlement of contempt

The Trueblood v. DSHS lawsuit challenged unconstitutional delays in competency evaluation and restoration services for individuals detained in city and county jails. The Trueblood settlement agreement establishes a plan for providing services to persons involved in the criminal court system and for providing treatment to people when needed so they are less likely to become involved in the criminal court system.

The Trueblood settlement agreement includes a plan for phasing in programs and services:

- Pierce, Southwest and Spokane regions (July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021)
- King region (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023)
- To be determined (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025)

www.dshs.wa.gov/bha/trueblood-et-al-v-washington-state-dshs