

Mobile Crisis Response

The Trueblood v. DSHS lawsuit challenged unconstitutional delays in competency evaluation and restoration services for individuals detained in city and county jails. The Trueblood Contempt 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:

- Phase 1: Pierce, Southwest and Spokane regions (July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021)
- Phase 2: King region (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023)
- Phase 3: To be determined (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025)

The Health Care Authority (in close collaboration with the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) and community stakeholders, is leading this element of the Trueblood Settlement Agreement. Mobile Crisis Response is identified as crisis services. For this reason, services are contracted through a Behavioral Health Administrative Service Organization.

The goal is to enhance established regional teams in order to provide a more timely intervention for individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis and to prevent people from entering into unneeded hospitalization, arrest or incarceration.

Regional MCR teams are comprised of behavioral health professionals skilled in providing professional services to individuals at the community level. While the makeup of the teams may vary, their core personnel consists of mental health professionals, behavioral health specialists and certified peer specialists.

Although regions' proposals will differ based on needs, proposals received from Phase 1 regions uniformly included a desire to:

- Hire additional mobile crisis response staff
- Increase community awareness of services through outreach and education
- Enhance collaboration efforts with law enforcement, co-responders, and other first responders
- Provide additional training opportunities

Pierce region

The enhancements to Pierce regional MCR services are contracted through Pierce Beacon Health Options, which subcontracts directly with MultiCare Behavioral Health.

Southwest region

The enhancements to the Southwest region MCR services are contracted through Southwest Beacon Health Options, which subcontracts directly with multiple agencies:

- Clark County Seamar/CSNW
- Klickitat County Comprehensive Health
- Skamania County Skamania County Community Health

Spokane region

The enhancements to the Spokane region MCR services are contracted through Spokane County Regional Behavioral Health (Administrative Services Organization), which subcontracts directly with multiple agencies:

- The joint counties of Spokane, Stevens, Pend Oreille, Lincoln, and Ferry – Frontier Behavioral Health Mobile Crisis Response
- Adams County Integrated Health Care provides MCR services in Adams County.

For more information

- Email: truebloodtaskforce@dshs.wa.gov
- If you are not on the Listserv and would like to receive information, please email the Trueblood taskforce.

