

Enhancing Crisis Triage and Crisis Stabilization

The Trueblood v. DSHS lawsuit challenged unconstitutional delays in competency evaluation and restoration services for people detained in city and county jails. The Trueblood Contempt Settlement Agreement establishes a plan for providing services to those 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)

Crisis triage and crisis stabilization facilities offer a place for people recovering from a behavioral health crisis to receive stabilization support from a multi-disciplinary treatment team. These facilities can help divert people from inpatient hospitalization or incarceration. The treatment may include counseling, medication management and administration, peer support and other resources.

Crisis Triage and Stabilization and the Trueblood Contempt Settlement Agreement

As part of the Trueblood Contempt Settlement Agreement, the Health Care Authority, in close collaboration with the Department of Social and Health Services and community stakeholders, increased enhance crisis triage and stabilization services in Phase 1 of the agreement:

Phase 1 Region Enhancements

Pierce County, Recovery Innovation International

- Key Enhancements: Increased staffing for acute population, increased staffing salaries to maintain retention, technical and medical equipment (blood pressure cuffs, IVA vital machines, computer equipment and residential enhancement equipment (Bariatric recliners, weighted blankets, exercise equipment, yoga mats) and increased evidence-based training supports. Frontier Behavioral Health - Spokane Region
- Key Enhancements: Added specialized staffing to serve people with broader medical needs, increased staffing personnel on milieu, infrastructure build out, purchase of medical equipment and residential enhancement equipment.

Southwest Region, Lifeline Connections

- Key Enhancements: Client transportation, evidenced-based training, supportive housing.

Phase 2

Discussions are underway with representatives of King County as Trueblood-funded enhancements are being introduced to support people experiencing behavioral health crises in the region. Agencies operating these facilities are licensed and certified by the state.

For more information

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- For more information about Trueblood, or to be added to the Listserv, email truebloodtaskforce@dshs.wa.gov

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