

Involuntary Treatment System Integration – October 2017- Updates

HB 1713 Sec. 201 (2016) directs the Department (DSHS) to:

1. Develop a transition process and combine the function of Designated Chemical Dependency Specialist (DCDS) and Designated Mental Health Professional (DMHP) by April 1, 2018, to carry out the functions of RCW 71.05 and RCW 71.34 as Designated Crisis Responders (DCR).

DBHR has developed a 16-hour training for current DMHPs in consultation with community stakeholders and is currently providing that training statewide with anticipated completion November 2017. Additional training for new hires will be scheduled in January and February 2018. A schedule for DCR training after April 1, 2018, will be developed.

2. Ensure that at least one sixteen-bed secure detoxification facility is operational by April 1, 2018, and that at least two sixteen-bed secure detoxification facilities are operational by April 1, 2019.

DBHR requested both capital and operational funding to facilitate the development of secure detoxification facilities and provide for treatment in those facilities. Operational funding is included in the budget for fiscal year 2018.

DBHR has written WAC 388-877B-0160 – Plan of care and treatment defining secure detoxification facilities (Secure Withdrawal Management and Stabilization Facilities) for certification. The WAC is pending the CR102 (Public Rules Hearing) scheduled for October 24, 2017. Anticipated approval of this WAC is December 2017.

3. Letter of Interest was sent to Agencies Interested in Developing Secure Withdrawal Management Stabilization Services.

On August 16, 2017, The Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) sent notifications to public and private agencies who provide services to individuals with substance use disorders to determine their willingness or interest in applying for certification as a secure withdrawal management and stabilization facility. The letter has generated favorable responses, and there are SUD agencies proactively developing (SWMS) facility capacity or have interest in applying for certification as a secure withdrawal management stabilization facility. DBHR expects to have facility capacity options available within the timelines established in HB 1713.

4. DBHR is providing ongoing updates and facilitated discussions with stakeholders and providers at BHO meetings, professional association meetings, and in response to questions from the community.

DBHR has continued to invite the input of stakeholders throughout the different stages of planning and implementation of the directives given by the 2016 Legislature in E3SHB 1713. The division developed and continues to conduct trainings across the state as part of the process to combine the functions of Designated Mental Health Professionals into the new Designated Crisis Responder role. In addition, DBHR has communication with BHOs/MCOs at regularly scheduled monthly meetings and fields response questions, and suggestions from stakeholders via the DBHR website.