



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Behavioral Health and Service Integration Administration
PO Box 45050, Olympia, WA 98504-5050

July 9, 2015

Dear BHSIA Partners,

I am writing to update you on the 2015-2017 state operating and capital budgets just enacted by the legislature and signed by Governor Inslee.

I am pleased to announce that these budgets make substantial investments in behavioral health services in Washington state, from community-based services for mental health and substance use disorders to our state psychiatric hospitals. Major initiatives were funded, such as integrating treatment services through Behavioral Health Organizations, and our response to the State Supreme Court decision requiring that appropriate mental health treatment be provided to people detained for involuntary treatment.

Critical safety investments at the state psychiatric hospitals are funded. In addition, funding is provided for more staffing and treatment beds to substantially reduce the amount of time people wait in jail for competency evaluation and restoration treatment services after being charged with a crime. Under the recent Federal District Court decision in *Trueblood v. DSHS*, we are required to provide these services within seven days of a court order, beginning in January 2016.

Below is a description of additions and reductions for state-funded behavioral health services. We will share information about how the new budget will impact our contracts with providers as soon as possible. For other questions about the budget, please email [Wendi Gunther](#) or [Melissa Clarey](#).

We have hard work ahead of us to successfully implement the new investments. I'm confident that we can achieve these goals.

Thank you for all you do to transform lives by supporting recovery, independence, and wellness.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jane Beyer".

Jane Beyer, Assistant Secretary
Behavioral Health and Service Integration Administration
Department of Social and Health Services

Enacted 2015-17 Operating and Capital Budgets for Washington State Impacts for the Behavioral Health and Service Integration Administration

Significant Policy Investments

Ending Psychiatric Boarding (D.W. v. DSHS and Pierce County) - \$57.3 million

Provide individualized mental health treatment in appropriate settings to individuals who are detained or committed under the Involuntary Treatment Act.

- Increased community evaluation and treatment capacity - 4.5 FTEs; \$49.7 million.
- New 30 Bed Civil Admissions Ward at WSH - 30 FTEs; \$7.6 million.

Integrating Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services - \$55.9 million

Effective April 1, 2016, Behavioral Health Organizations will be providing managed care behavioral health treatment services.

- ***Substance Use Disorder Medicaid Rate Increase - \$6.8 million***
 - Group outpatient treatment, opiate substitution treatment and residential treatment for pregnant and parenting women are increased from July 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016.
 - Case management for substance use disorder services for pregnant and parenting women receives an on-going rate increase.
- ***BHO Rate Adjustment - \$49.1 million***
 - Provide updated actuarially sound rate ranges for integrated mental health and chemical dependency services.

I-502 Dedicated Marijuana Account Funding - \$14.3 million

Initiative 502 (I-502), passed by voters in 2012, authorizes the regulation and taxation of marijuana use by adults, which funds the following services:

- Washington State Institute for Public Policy cost benefit evaluation of the impact of I-502 - \$400,000.
- Healthy Youth Survey - \$1.0 million.
- Increase in prevention services to youth - \$5.0 million.
- Increase in the Parent Child Assistance Program funding - \$791,000.
- Increase in prevention and treatment activities provided by Tribes to children and youth - \$772,000.
- Increase in youth residential treatment services - \$5.2 million.
- Implementation of evidence-based, research-based and promising programs that prevent and reduce youth substance use disorders - \$500,000.
- Increased funding for home visiting services through the Department of Early Learning - \$2.0 million.
- Life Skills training to children and youth in schools through the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction - \$500,000.

Improvements to Forensic Mental Health Services (Trueblood v. DSHS) - \$40.9 million

Funding is provided for staff and services to provide competency evaluation and restoration treatment services within seven days of signing a court order.

- ***Competency Evaluation Staff – 18.0 FTEs; \$4.67 million***
 - Provide additional evaluations in the community to meet the mandatory timeline.

- **Community Competency Evaluations - \$402,000**
 - Reimburse counties for local evaluation services when state hospital evaluators are unable to meet the mandatory timeline.
- **Competency Restoration Wards – 129.2 FTEs; \$26.9 million**
 - 60 additional beds at state psychiatric hospitals;
 - 30 additional competency restoration beds.
- **Non-Felony Diversion - \$4.8 million**
 - Funding for community-based services, for people charged with non-violent crimes who can be safely diverted from prosecution into treatment.
- **Office of Forensic Mental Health - 11.0 FTEs; \$4.2 million**
 - Strengthen quality and management of forensic mental health services.

Investments in Safety at State Psychiatric Hospitals - \$9.4 million

Several staff and patient safety improvements are funded at the State Psychiatric Hospitals.

- **L&I Settlement Agreement - 11.2 FTEs; \$2.1 million**
 - Backfill staffing on the wards while staff complete additional annual training.
- **Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) - 22.8 FTEs; \$3.8 million**
 - PICU will house high acuity patients for short-term stays with a transition back to a standard ward after stabilization.
- **Psychiatric Emergency Response Team (PERT) - 23.0 FTEs; \$3.5 million**
 - Create additional PERT teams for day and evening shifts to support civil wards at WSH.
 - Add a single team for day and evening shifts at ESH.

Capital Budget Investments at State Psychiatric Hospitals - \$36 million

- **Western State Hospital** investments include patient safety improvements, the new kitchen and commissary building, East Campus and South Hall ward preservation and renewal work, and preparation for new forensic wards.
- **Eastern State Hospital** investments include patient safety improvements, Westlake nurse call system, preparation for a new forensic ward, and water system improvements.
- **Child Study and Treatment Center** investments include an acute treatment addition to Orcas Cottage.

New Legislation

Detention Decision Review - \$7.4 million

Chapter 258, Laws of 2015 (E2SSB 5269) establishes a process allowing an immediate family member, guardian, or conservator to petition the court for review of a designated mental health professional’s decision not to seek a person’s detention under the Involuntary Treatment Act.

Assisted Outpatient Treatment - \$18.6 million

Chapter 258, Laws of 2015 (E2SHB 1450) provides that people meeting certain criteria may be committed by a court for involuntary outpatient mental health treatment on an assisted outpatient treatment order.

Reductions

Program for Adaptive Livings Skills (PALS) - (\$10.4) million

Non-Medicaid state funding to provide alternatives to PALS is eliminated. Medicaid clients must continue to receive medically necessary treatment services; non-Medicaid clients may continue to receive services within available RSN resources.

Medicaid Rates - (\$32.9) million

Regional Support Network rates are adjusted to the lower level of the actuarially sound rate ranges for Disabled and Non-disabled Children and Adults.

IMD Waiver - (\$9.4) million

Non-Medicaid funding is reduced because DSHS received a federal waiver effective October 1, 2014. This allows federal funding to be used in lieu of state funding for certain community inpatient stays in Institutions for Mental Disease.