

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & SERVICE
INTEGRATION ADMINISTRATION
Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit**



Request	FY16	FY17	15-17
FTE	16.9	29.0	22.9
GF-State	\$1,633,000	\$2,682,000	\$4,315,000
Total	\$1,633,000	\$2,682,000	\$4,315,000

DECISION PACKAGE SUMMARY

The Behavioral Health and Service Integration Administration (BHSIA) requests additional funding for staffing required for the Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at Eastern State Hospital. The PICU will serve violent and assaultive patients located both at Western State Hospital (WSH) and Eastern State Hospital (ESH). The PICU will house high acuity patients for short term stays with a transition back to a standard ward after stabilization. PICU patients will be provided specialized care and treatment targeted at reduction of violence and assaults. Staffing to ensure the PICU patients are receiving the treatment required is essential for successful patient outcomes. By funding this request, the PICU is expected to increase patient and staff safety.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Patient violence and patient-to-staff assaults at the state hospitals results in poor staff morale, staff retention problems, increased overtime costs due to injury related absenteeism, labor relation issues, and assault related industrial insurance claims. Patient-to-staff assault claims are a significant contributor to the cost of DSHS industrial insurance premiums through the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries.

If this request for additional staffing is not funded, recent collaborative efforts by DSHS and labor organizations to address the problem will be compromised and a key mitigation strategy for reducing patient violence, patient-to-staff assaults and industrial insurance claims and premiums will not be implemented. Staffing this most intensive ward at an optimum level is critical to maintain staff safety while ensuring positive patient outcomes.

PROPOSED SOLUTION

The PICU at Eastern State Hospital has been funded at a maximum of three beds in the current biennium. The additional funding requested would enable the PICU to operate utilizing safer direct patient care staffing levels, and ensure success with appropriate support staffing while serving up to eight of the highest acuity patients in our Washington State psychiatric hospitals.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The budget request supports DSHS Goal 1: Health – Each individual and each community will be healthy.



DSHS VISION

People are healthy • People are safe • People are supported • Taxpayer resources are guarded

DSHS MISSION

To transform lives

DSHS VALUES

Honesty and Integrity • Pursuit of Excellence • Open Communication • Diversity and Inclusion • Commitment to Service

This request directly supports the goal of decreased patient-to-staff assault claims filed at Eastern State Hospital and Western State Hospital. Desired and expected results are a reduction in the rate of patient-to-staff violence and assaults. This will reduce patient assault related industrial insurance claims and contribute to a reduction in DSHS industrial insurance premiums through the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries.

It is desired and expected that patient care and treatment will be more efficient with separating out high-risk, violence prone patients from the general hospital population. This will be accomplished by having more specialized environments of care and provisions of treatment for the patient populations.

Other desired and expected results are improved staff morale and retention at the state hospitals, improved labor relations and a reduction in citations and investigations by the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACT

Patient advocacy organizations, such as Disability Rights Washington, may have an interest in patient rights and visitation while on the PICU, policies and standards for PICU admission, and related issues.

Families and other patient support persons may be interested in visitation policies and other considerations for patients relocated from Western State Hospital to the PICU at Eastern State Hospital.

Hospital staff and labor organizations may have interest in staff training, safety equipment and staffing levels for the PICU.