

REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
 Special Commitment Center
High Acuity Client Interventions



2016 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

Request	FY16	FY17	15-17
FTE	9.1	18.2	13.7
GF-State	\$666,000	\$1,366,000	\$2,032,000
Total	\$666,000	\$1,366,000	\$2,032,000

DECISION PACKAGE SUMMARY

The Rehabilitation Administration (RA) requests resources to address the treatment/rehabilitative care requirements for high acuity residents of the Special Commitment Center (SCC). Historically, SCC’s units have primarily focused on safety and security. By funding this request, RA is expected to provide individualized treatment, rehabilitative support, and resident advocacy for civilly committed residents with disabilities and multiple serious mental health issues. Independent evaluators from the Inspection of Care (IOC) (as well as Disability Rights Washington (DRW)) identified shortcomings in the care and treatment of the high acuity resident population. Implementation of an individualized programming model to address the unique needs of this group will provide a rehabilitative pathway for these residents and address the previous findings of concern.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

SCC supports a broad range of residents, including those with significant disabilities and multiple serious mental health issues that make treatment and management of psychological issues more complicated. There is a unique group of SCC high acuity residents who have very complex cognitive and/or developmental disabilities as well as difficult-to-treat psychological issues that defy use of standard intervention strategies. The currently implemented across-the-board staffing model has focused extensively on safety and security requirements and needs to be enhanced by a professional and ancillary support team who will better meet the complex transformational needs of high acuity residents. Due to staff funding limitations, the SCC continues to experience difficulty providing a comprehensive, high acuity support program that meets nationally recognized standards and eliminates adverse findings of external reviewers. The addition of critical services is necessary to implement required program improvements.

The requested services are believed to be the minimum resources needed for the implementation of the needed corrective plan. This request does not include addressing requirements for support and expansion of placement of high acuity residents in Less Restrictive Alternatives.

PROPOSED SOLUTION

This Decision Package requests funding for **18.2 FTEs**. This is the need to create a treatment and rehabilitative support program that better addresses the needs of the high acuity residents. Funding is requested to add the needed personnel, beginning in Fiscal Year 2016. Necessary positions include:



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

12.2 FTE Institutional Counselor 3 (IC3) –These staff have the knowledge, skills and abilities to implement principles and practices to manage individual and group behavior, counsel and advise regressed or severely withdrawn institutional residents, and employ techniques and interventions as assigned by the Resident Treatment Team and other associated team members.

One Occupational Therapist 1 and One Occupational Therapy Assistant 2 – Both are needed to evaluate, treat, and support residents with a variety of physical and mental disabilities to achieve maximum functional capacity. Such support is also critical to prepare high acuity residents for independent or assisted living.

One Recreation Therapist 2 – This service will provide therapeutic recreational services to residents with complex conditions or injuries, such as brain injury or complex physical or mental disabilities. The lack of this service currently significantly decreases the likelihood of successful high acuity resident transformation and significantly impedes successful intervention strategies by the multi-discipline team.

One Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor – This service would provide case management for residents with varying degrees of disabling conditions with a special focus on vocational rehabilitation. The intervention plan developed by this specialist would align with the multidisciplinary team who works with the high acuity residents toward self-sufficiency, independent living, or in living conditions where some assistance is available.

One Clinical Training Manager –The planning, implementation, evaluation and reporting of outcomes of a comprehensive training program are integral to this program’s success. The SCC will be implementing new services focused on treatment and rehabilitation of high acuity residents. All SCC employees will be engaged in an effort that requires new knowledge, skills and abilities. The training manager will orchestrate needed changes by implementing a near term and long term training program that assures continuous improvements in care delivery.

One Ombudsman. Reinstatement of this position will provide residents access to an independent advocate. This is also expected to lead to a reduction in litigation brought by residents of SCC.

EXPECTED RESULTS

By funding this request, SCC will be able to change its focus from primarily a safety and security force to one that emphasizes the unique need for treatment and rehabilitation of high acuity residents. By changing the services for high acuity residents, SCC will be able to address adverse findings of independent program evaluators such as the IOC. More importantly, the high acuity residents of SCC will be afforded treatment and rehabilitation that addresses their individualized needs and supports the statutory framework. These changes directly support DSHS’ and RA’s mission of transforming lives. This change will have a dramatic and positive impact on the lives of 30 plus high acuity residents and will also have a positive impact on the other 230 plus residents of SCC. As residents in this unique group achieve the desired outcomes of this program, the citizens of the state will also benefit from improved safety and security as well as an eventual decrease in the resources needed for the long term care of this group of residents.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACT

Stakeholders will support this request as it makes progress toward providing high acuity residents with needed services, addresses concerns identified in the IOC and DRW reviews, and ensures statutory compliance.