

Department of Human Services

General Definitions

AES (Affiliated Emergency Services): Assessment and crisis intervention available 24-hours a day for mental health and psychiatric emergencies.

CCIS: Children's Crisis Intervention Services.

CIMU (Critical Incident Management Unit): A unit within the OPIA that facilitates and oversees the appropriate tracking, management and organizational response to all reported unusual incidents. It administratively reviews individual agency reports involving abuse, neglect and exploitation for closure.

Danielle's Law: Requires certain staff working with persons with developmental disabilities or traumatic brain injury to call 911 emergency telephone services in life-threatening emergencies.

DHS: Refers to the New Jersey Department of Human Services.

DSM: Refers to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.

EISS (Early Intervention Support Services): Means short-term, mental health services for adults who are experiencing significant emotional or psychiatric distress and are in need of immediate intervention. Early Intervention Support Services offers crisis intervention and crisis stabilization services in a setting that is an alternative to hospital based emergency room treatment. Outreach (non-office based) services are available.

ICMS (Integrated Case Management Services): Refers to consumer-centered services provided predominantly off-site in the consumer's natural environment. Personalized, collaborative and flexible outreach services are designed to engage, support and integrate adult consumers who are severely mentally ill, into the community of their choice and facilitate access to needed mental health, medical, social, educational, vocational, housing and other services and resources.

IOC (Involuntary Outpatient Commitment): Refers to programs that provide comprehensive outpatient services, coordination and referrals that address the needs of individuals committed to outpatient treatment including: 1) consumer-inclusive treatment planning and development; 2) treatment plan adherence support; 3) assessment of dangerousness and clinical progress; 4) arrangements for transportation to court hearings, evaluation, and programs; 5) provision of, or direct linkage to ongoing clinical and support services as identified in each consumer's Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) and any psychiatric advance directive; 6) capacity to interface with the court system, including but not limited to, the committing judge, the county adjuster's office and the lawyers involved in the process.

IOTSS (Intensive Outpatient Treatment and Support Services): Community based ambulatory treatment alternatives for adults who have a serious mental illness. Access to the service is intended to provide an option for Designated Screening Programs and other acute care and hospital referral sources to assure that appropriate, intensive, community based, recovery-oriented outpatient services are readily accessible. These programs provide a comprehensive outpatient service package that addresses the needs of an individual experiencing an exacerbation of the symptoms of mental illness and/or a co-occurring substance abuse disorder.

JIS (Justice Involved Services): Refers to services designated to assist persons with serious and persistent mental illness who become involved with the criminal justice system. Services are designed to avoid or radically reduce the number of days and individual is incarcerated and/or assist the individual with their re-entry into the community through the provision of appropriate treatment.

Medical co-morbidity: Refers to one or more medical conditions or diseases that co-exist with a serious mental illness.

Metabolic Syndrome: Refers to a name for a group of risk factors that raises the individual's risk for heart disease and other health problems, such as diabetes and stroke.

OOL/SO (Office of Licensing/Special Operations): A unit within OPIA's Office of Licensing that reviews and closes operational incidents. The unit conducts site visits to agencies as warranted.

OPIA (Office of Program Integrity and Accountability): A unit within DHS that has direct responsibility for allegation/incident reporting and investigations, licensing of human services programs and facilities and ensuring fiscal and program accountability of community programs and departmental units. OPIA is the entity that certifies DHS compliance with various state and federal regulations. It provides the functional structure for improving outcomes and quality of service across all divisions and operating units.

PACT (Program of Assertive Community Treatment): A program offering comprehensive, integrated rehabilitation, treatment and support services to individuals with serious and persistent mental illness who have experienced repeated involuntary hospitalizations. PACT, provided in vivo by a multi-disciplinary service delivery team, offers highly individualized services, employ a low staff to consumer ratio, conduct the majority of their contacts in natural community settings and are available for psychiatric crises 24 hours a day/7 days a week. Service intensity is flexible and regularly adjusted to consumer needs and services are offered for an unlimited time period.

PATH (Projects for Assistance in Transitioning from Homelessness): A program providing outreach and case management services to adult individuals who are homeless and who have serious and persistent mental illness. The program assists individuals in obtaining housing and in accessing mental health services.

PES (Psychiatric Emergency Services): A public or private ambulatory care service designated by the Commissioner, which provides mental health services 24-hours a day including prompt assessment and crisis intervention, emergency and referral services to persons with mental illness in a specified geographical area. Screening is the process by which it is ascertained that the individual being considered for commitment meets the standards for both mental illness and dangerousness as defined in P.L. 1987,c.116 (N.J.S.A. 30.4-27.1 et seq.) and that all stabilization options have been explored or exhausted.

Preponderance of evidence: A term used to make an investigative finding and refers to the fact that there is evidence sufficient to generate a belief that the conclusion advanced is likely and more probable than not. It is the greater weight of credible evidence; the tipping of the scales (51%).

Psychiatric/Mental Health Advance Directives (PAD): Refers to written instructions making a decision in advance about mental health treatment, including medications, voluntary admission to inpatient treatment and electroconvulsive therapy.

Residential Services: A program for adults with mental illness in community residences owned or leased by the provider or through service agreements providing support and encouragement in the development of life skills required to sustain successful living within the community.

RIST (Residential Intensive Support Team): A program that supports consumers with severe and persistent mental illness and consumers with co-occurring disorders to live independently in the community.

RHCF (Residential Health Care Facility): Refers to a long-term residential facility licensed under Division of Community Affairs.

Service Recipient/Consumer/Client: Refers to a person receiving services from a community provider licensed, regulated, funded directly or indirectly or affiliated with the New Jersey Department of Human Services.

Substantiated finding: Investigative finding meaning there is a preponderance of credible evidence that an allegation or a situation is true and/or occurred.

SRU (Special Response Unit): A unit within the OPIA that ensures that the most serious allegations and suspicions of abuse, neglect and exploitations are investigated.

STCF (Short Term Care Facility): A closed acute care adult psychiatric unit in a general hospital for short-term admission of individuals who meet the legal standards for commitment.

Supportive Housing (Supported Housing): Refers to a living arrangement to ensure consumers of mental health services with a choice of permanent, safe, affordable housing. Supportive housing offers individuals opportunities for involvement in community life. Emphasis is placed on the development and strengthening of natural supports in the community.

Unfounded finding: Investigative finding meaning there is no credible evidence, information of facts to support that the allegation or situation is true and/or occurred.

Unsubstantiated finding: Investigative finding meaning there is less than preponderance of credible evidence, facts or information to support that the allegation or situation is true and/or occurred.

USTF (Unified Services Transaction Form): The Client Registry is a computerized reporting system for all state and county hospitals and community mental health agencies funded by the state or federal government.

Wellness and Recovery Action Plan (WRAP): A self-defined mental health plan for staying well, for helping the individual to feel better when he/she is not feeling well, and to increase personal responsibility.

Definitions of Legal Status

CEPP (Conditional Extension Pending Placement): A status of individuals who no longer meet the standard for involuntary commitment, but for whom there is no present appropriate placement in the community.

NGRI: Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity.

IST: Incompetent to Stand Trial.

Detainer: A service recipient/consumer involuntarily committed to a treatment facility who was originally in the legal custody of a correctional facility and found to be in need of mental health services. The individual is returned to the custody of the correctional facility upon the conclusion of treatment.

Megan's Law: Convicted sex offenders are required to register with local police and to notify law enforcement authorities whenever they move to a new location.

Krol Status: An individual with mental illness is found not guilty by reason of insanity (NGRI); his/her behavioral health treatment is monitored by a Superior Court, which issues orders regarding involuntary confinement at a facility, discharge planning and community reintegration.