



THE STATE
of ALASKA
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Health and Social Services

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January 27, 2022

The Honorable Representative Andy Josephson
House Finance Subcommittee Chair
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol Room 504
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Josephson:

The Department of Health and Social Services received the following questions from the House Health and Social Services Finance Subcommittee, department overview presentation on January 20, 2022.

What is the definition of DET?

Designated Evaluation and Treatment (DET) facilities provide psychiatric inpatient services for individuals experiencing a psychiatric crisis who are on a voluntary or involuntary court order. DETs provide psychiatric evaluation, treatment, crisis stabilization, and transitional services from inpatient care to community-based services. In order to be designated as a DET by the department, a hospital must meet the statutory definition of AS 47.30.915(5) "designated treatment facility" and AS 47.30.915(7) "evaluation facility", meaning they have the capability to receive individuals on a Title 47 involuntary commitment ex parte, perform 72-hour evaluations, and provide treatment for up to 30 days in the same fashion the Alaska Psychiatric Institute does.

DETs require psychiatric and inpatient hospital services.

There are three criteria for admission into a DET facility:

1. An individual has been determined to be mentally ill (as defined in AS 47.30.915), and
2. An individual presents a likelihood of serious harm to self or others, or is psychologically gravely disabled (as defined in AS 47.30.915), and
3. An individual cannot be treated in a lesser restrictive environment.

In addition to the state psychiatric hospital, the Alaska Psychiatric Institute (API), there are currently three DETs in Alaska:

- Bartlett Regional Hospital – 12 beds
- Fairbanks Memorial Hospital – 20 beds
- Mat-Su Regional Medical Center – 16 beds

Finally, we would like to share that the division recently updated our Designated Evaluation & Treatment program manual, which provides detailed information around policies, procedures, and the requirements of designated facilities.

<https://dhss.alaska.gov/dbh/Documents/TreatmentRecovery/Designated%20Evaluation%20and%20Treatment/DET%20Program%20Manual%20November%202020.pdf>

What are “other” funds?

Below is an explanation of “other” fund sources for the department.

Alaska Pioneer Homes

- **Inter-Agency receipts**
 - Interagency receipt authority resulting from billing Medicaid for long-term waiver services provided to Medicaid-eligible Pioneer Home residents
 - Interagency receipt authority to draw from the Payment Assistance Component as needed to subsidize elders' resources to meet the need of care.
- **Statutory-Designated Program Receipts:**
 - These receipts represent resident and third-party insurance payments for residential service rates and pharmaceuticals dispensed from the centralized Pioneer Home Pharmacy

Inpatient Mental Health

- **Inter-Agency receipts:**
 - Medicaid receipts
 - Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) allocation for psychiatric hospitals
- **Statutory-Designated Program Receipts:**
 - Veteran's Administration receipts for psychiatric patient billings for Part A and Part B claim submissions
 - Psychiatric patient billing for hospital Part A and Part B claim submissions

Office of Children's Services

- **Inter-Agency receipts:**
 - Reimbursable services agreements with agencies for Child Care Assistance and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- **Statutory-Designated Program Receipts:**
 - Receipts from the City of Wrangell for coordinated support of a Protective Services Specialist

Division of Juvenile Justice

- **Inter-Agency receipts**
 - Reimbursable services agreements with multiple agencies for Child Nutrition Program, Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act, Therapeutic Services, Youth Delinquency Prevention
- **Statutory-Designated Program Receipts**
 - Receipts for collection of payment from the Anchorage School District for one-half of the lease cost for the Step-Up Program and collection of parking lot rental contract

Division of Behavioral Health

- **Inter-Agency Receipts**
 - Reimbursable services agreement with Alaska Court System to fund positions within the Therapeutic Courts system
 - Reimbursable services agreement with Alaska Court System for Daybreak contract and Partners for Progress Contract
 - Reimbursable services agreement with Alaska Housing Finance Corporation and Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority to support capacity and development, and to provide technical assistance and education to providers
- **Statutory-Designated Program Receipts**
 - Authority to expand and support Alaska Automated Information Management System (AKAIMS)
- **Mental Health Trust Authority Authorized Receipts**
 - Authority to support various behavioral health programs as authorized by the Mental Health Trust Authority

Division of Public Assistance

- **Inter-Agency Receipts**
 - Includes reimbursable services agreements where Public Assistance budget components collect interagency receipts from the Permanent Fund Dividend Hold Harmless budget component that provide the replacement funding for the loss of Division of Public Assistance program eligibility in the month the recipient receives the Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend
- **PFD Fund**
 - Provides funding to various Division of Public Assistance programs in the month the recipient receives the Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend
- **Capital Improvement Project Receipts**
 - Capital Improvement Project receipts from the Eligibility Information System replacement appropriation
- **Statutory Designated Program Receipts**
 - Manufacturer's rebates received for including specific infant formula products in Women, Infants and Children food packages. Federal regulations require the infant formula rebate revenues be expended only on Women, Infants and Children food.

Senior and Disabilities Services

- **Inter-Agency Receipts**
 - Reimbursable services agreement with Department of Education and Early Development for Alaska State School for the Deaf residential services
- **Mental Health Trust Authority Authorized Receipts**
 - Authority to support various programs and grants administered by the Division of Seniors and Disabilities Services

Health Care Services

- **Inter-Agency Receipts**
 - Reimbursable services agreements with multiple agencies for items such as background checks, medical expertise and counsel, and pharmacy support
- **Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Inter-Agency Receipts**
 - Potential reimbursable services agreements, such as work on the Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS)
- **Statutory-Designated Program Receipts**
 - Civil money penalties when nursing homes are not in compliance with federal participation requirements

Public Health

- **Inter-Agency Receipts**
 - Reimbursable services agreements with multiple agencies for items such as laboratory services, vital statistics records, opioid response work with Behavioral Health, work with the Department of Environmental Conservation, and education and training work done with the University of Alaska
- **Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Inter-Agency Receipts**
 - Reimbursable services agreement with Department of Transportation related to toxicology
- **Mental Health Trust Authority Authorized Receipts**
 - Authority to support various behavioral health programs as authorized by the Mental Health Trust Authority, including work on the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences and work on the Alaska Comprehensive Integrated Mental Health five-year plan
- **Statutory-Designated Program Receipts**
 - From health care providers for the SHARP-3 program; from prescription drug rebates for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP); from Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for public health; from Washington University in St. Louis for Alaska Longitudinal Child Abuse and Neglect Linkage; from the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors for work on diabetes prevention; from groups when questions are included in the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey; from groups that use State Medical Examiner facility for work related to organ donations.

Please define Health Homes and Home Health in writing.

Basic Definition

- Home Health = services provided in recipient's home
- Health Home = a central location (home) for all medical and therapeutic resources to treat chronic condition; think one-stop shop
 - Providence project is example of Health Home

The following is an extract from 42 CFR 440.70 **Home health services**

- (a) "Home health services" means the services in paragraph (b) of this section that are provided to a beneficiary –
 - (1) At his place of residence, as specified in paragraph (c) of this section; and
 - (2) On orders written by a physician, nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist or physician assistant, working in accordance with State law, as part of a written plan of care that the ordering practitioner reviews every 60 days for services described in (b)(1), (2), and (4) of this section; and
 - (3) On his or her physician's orders or orders written by a licensed practitioner of the healing arts acting within the scope of the practice authorized under State law, as part of a written plan of care for services described in paragraph (b)(3) of this section. The plan of care must be reviewed by the ordering practitioner as specified in paragraph (b)(3)(iii) of this section
- (b) Home health services include the following services and items. Paragraphs (b)(1), (2) and (3) of this section are required services and items that must be covered according to the home health coverage parameters. Services in paragraph (b)(4) of this section are optional. Coverage of home health services cannot be contingent upon the beneficiary needing nursing or therapy services.
 - (1) Nursing service, as defined in the State Nurse Practice Act, that is provided on a part-time or intermittent basis by a home health agency as defined in paragraph (d) of this section, or if there is no agency in the area, a registered nurse ...
 - (2) Home health aide service provided by a home health agency,
 - (3) Medical supplies, equipment, and appliances suitable for use in any setting in which normal life activities take place, as defined at § 440.70(c)(1)....
 - (4) Physical therapy, occupational therapy, or speech pathology and audiology services, provided by a home health agency or by a facility licensed by the State to provide medical rehabilitation services....

The following is from the Social Security Act, SSA 1945 definitions.

- (4) HOME HEALTH SERVICES.—
 - (A) IN GENERAL.—The term "health home services" means comprehensive and timely high-quality services described in subparagraph (B) that are provided by a designated provider, a team of health care professionals operating with such a provider, or a health team.

(B) SERVICES DESCRIBED. —The services described in this subparagraph are—

- (i) comprehensive care management;
- (ii) care coordination and health promotion;
- (iii) comprehensive transitional care, including appropriate follow-up, from inpatient to other settings;
- (iv) patient and family support (including authorized representatives);
- (v) referral to community and social support services, if relevant; and
- (vi) use of health information technology to link services, as feasible and appropriate.

(5) Designated provider.—The term “designated provider” means a physician, clinical practice or clinical group practice, rural clinic, community health center, community mental health center, home health agency, or any other entity or provider (including pediatricians, gynecologists, and obstetricians) that is determined by the State and approved by the Secretary to be qualified to be a health home for eligible individuals with chronic conditions on the basis of documentation evidencing that the physician, practice, or clinic—

(A) has the systems and infrastructure in place to provide health home services; and

(B) satisfies the qualification standards established by the Secretary under subsection (b).

(6) Team of health care professionals.—The term “team of health care professionals” means a team of health professionals (as described in the State plan amendment) that may—

(A) include physicians and other professionals, such as a nurse care coordinator, nutritionist, social worker, behavioral health professional, or any professionals deemed appropriate by the State; and

(B) be free standing, virtual, or based at a hospital, community health center, community mental health center, rural clinic, clinical practice or clinical group practice, academic health center, or any entity deemed appropriate by the State and approved by the Secretary.

If you have additional questions, please contact me at 465-1630.

Sincerely,



Sylvan Robb

Assistant Commissioner

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