

Trueblood Contempt Settlement Agreement (FHARPS)



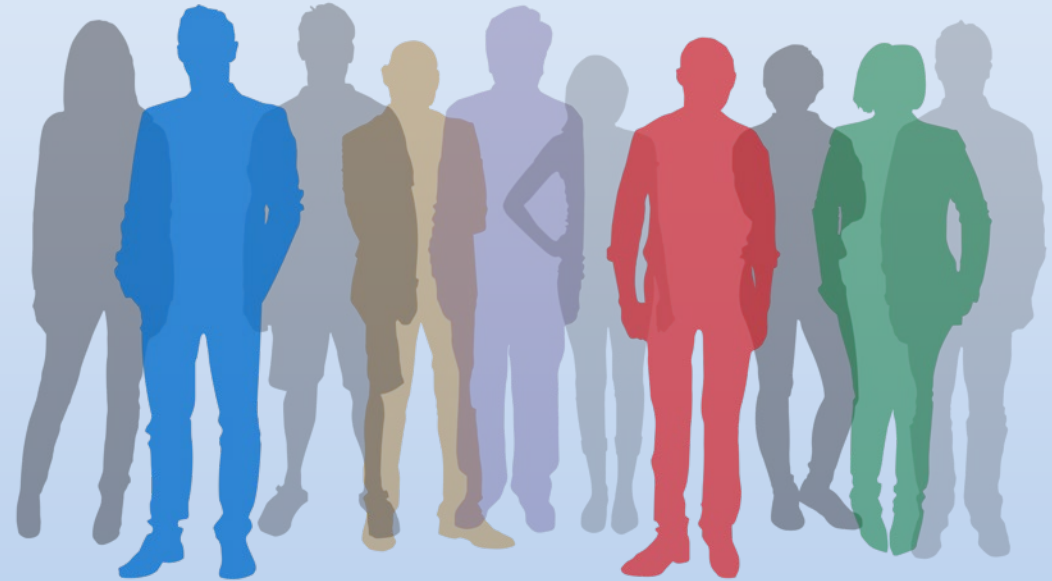
Trueblood Background

- In April 2015, the court ruled that the Department of Social and Health Services was taking too long to provide competency evaluation and restoration services.
- In December 2018, the court approved an agreement related to the contempt findings in this case. The agreement is designed to move the state closer to compliance with the court's injunction.

Trueblood Class Members

All people who are now, or will be in the future, charged with a crime in the state of Washington and:

- Are ordered by a court to receive competency evaluation or restoration services through DSHS,
- Are waiting in jail for those services, and
- For whom DSHS receives the court order.



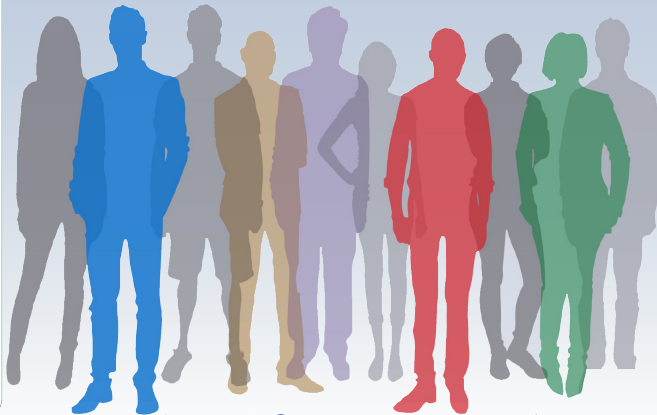
Forensic Mental Health System Overview

Forensic Navigators help guide, support and advocate for their participants as they undergo competency evaluations, competency restoration services and transition back into the community, offering coordinated transitions and warm handoffs to community resources.

Forensic Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness offers targeted outreach and case management services for people who have been identified as likely to be referred to an additional competency evaluation in the next six months. The goal is to connect people to behavioral health and community supports in hopes of preventing them from further involvement in the criminal court system.

Forensic Housing and Recovery through Peer Services focus on helping participants overcome barriers to find and maintain housing. Staffed by people with lived behavioral health experiences, FHARPS teams work with participants who are referred by forensic navigators or FPATH.

The **Outpatient Competency Restoration Program** offers outpatient competency restoration when courts deem a person appropriate for community-based rather than inpatient services. OCRP is provided by contracted behavioral health agencies and includes psychoeducational interventions, assessments, medication management and requests for competency reevaluation.



Enhanced Peer Services are integrated into OCRP, FHARPS and FPATH to provide continuing education and specialized training to certified peer counselors who support peers who are forensically involved.

Trueblood Settlement Agreement Programs (FHARPS)

FHARPS providers must adhere as much as possible to the evidence-based model of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). PSH principles include the following.

- Choice in housing and living arrangements;
- Functional separation of housing and services;
- Decent, safe, and affordable housing;
- Community integration and rights of tenancy;
- Access to housing and privacy; and
- Flexible, voluntary, and Recovery-focused services.



Strategies

Since February 2021 FHARPS housing supports and subsidies may be extended on a case-by-case basis by request to HCA.

HCA approved over 40 requests for an extension when providers showed the following.

- An individual in need is clinically unique;
- Has shown improvement in the program within the first six months; and
- The person would likely reenter the forensic or criminal court system; or
- Experience unstable housing or homelessness if support services and subsidies are not extended.

Strategies

- HCA encourages providers to utilize housing subsidy dollars in all manners of ways which could increase stability of housing and decrease the likelihood of people reentering the criminal court or forensic systems.
- This includes master leasing projects, that could aid FHARPS teams in their ability to offer longer term housing solutions for FHARPS eligible people.
- Phase 1 region providers started master leasing projects in late 2021 and these projects will continue into fiscal year 2023.



Strategies

- In a continued effort to braid together all housing resources and subsidies, HCA also worked with the Department of Commerce so that FHARPS teams will be able to access longer term housing vouchers through the Community Behavioral Health Rental Assistance Program (CBRA).
- FHARPS is one of the approved long-term services providers for CBRA in the Spokane, King, Southwest, and Pierce regions.
- Access to CBRA vouchers will increase housing stability for Trueblood Class Members and FHARPS eligible people.

More Information

The Trueblood Contempt Settlement Agreement

www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/BHSIA/FMHS/Trueblood/2018Trueblood/623_OrderFinalApprovalSettlement.pdf


Sign up for the Trueblood listserv

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Thank you for your
time today.