

# Children's Long-Term Inpatient Program (CLIP)

## Overview

The Children's Long-Term Inpatient Program (CLIP) is the only publicly funded, longer-term inpatient program for youth in Washington where youth ages 5-17 years old may be voluntarily committed and those from 13-17 years old may be involuntarily committed. The five CLIP inpatient psychiatric facilities have an average of 84 total beds. These facilities are:

- Child Study and Treatment Center (CSTC)
  - Located in Lakewood, CSTC is the state psychiatric hospital for children and youth. CSTC is under the authority of the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) within the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS).
- Community-based facilities
  - Sun Stone/Navos, Burien
  - Two Rivers Landing, Yakima
  - Tamarack Center, Spokane
  - Pearl Street Center, Tacoma

## Eligibility requirements

Children and youth admitted to the CLIP facilities have a primary diagnoses of a serious psychiatric illness. Most have been served by various systems, have past hospitalizations, and multiple challenges. Many have histories of suicidal/self-injurious behavior, intense aggression or sexualized behavior, medical needs, co-occurring substance use disorders, complex family and legal issues, and co-occurring developmental disabilities.

All children/youth admitted to CLIP qualify for Medicaid due to their categorical need. For voluntary admission to CLIP, applicants must be residents of Washington State and under the age of 18.

Certification of need for CLIP requires that:

- Age-appropriate application and consent requirements are met.
- Resources in the community do not meet the treatment needs.
- Treatment of the psychiatric condition requires inpatient services, under the direction of a physician.
- Services can reasonably be expected to improve the child/youth's level of functioning or prevent further regression.
- The child/youth has been diagnosed with an emotional/behavioral disorder, or was ordered to involuntary commitment for 180 days.
- The child/youth has been diagnosed with a severe psychiatric disorder which warrants extended care in the most intensive and restrictive treatment setting available.

## Authority

CLIP is regulated by federal Medicaid law: 42 CFR 441 Subpart D – Inpatient Psychiatric Services for Individuals under Age 21 in Psychiatric Facilities or Programs and RCW 71.34.

## Primary partners

CLIP is informed by system of care values that include being culturally and linguistically competent, family driven, youth guided, and community based. Providers work with families, behavioral health administrative service organizations (BH-ASOs) and managed care organizations (MCOs), staff, schools, juvenile courts, and system partners such as the Department of Child, Youth, and Families (DCYF) and DSHS Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) and providers around the state. These partners conduct a regular CLIP quality improvement team which identifies and collaborates on key improvements in care transition between the community and CLIP.



## Oversight

HCA's Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery contracts out the CLIP administration office that conducts quality and clinical reviews of admissions, discharges, and need for treatment. The CLIP Inspection of Care (IOC) team audits all programs annually. Accreditation is required by the Joint Commission for Accreditation of Hospitals Organizations.

CLIP facilities, other than CSTC, are licensed and certified by the state Department of Health. The CLIP Director's Association and the CLIP Parent Steering Committee serve as key stakeholders and leaders of quality for the system.

### For more information

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