

# General Advisory Committee

May 4, 2020

## Implementation Update

Washington State  
Health Care Authority

 Washington State  
Department of Social  
& Health Services  

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Transforming lives



# Hire Additional Evaluators

- All positions required for year 1 have been hired
  - 13 Forensic evaluators
  - 1 Forensic supervisor
  - 2 Administrative assistants
- Hiring activities are under way to hire year 2 positions
  - 5 Forensic evaluators
  - 1 Administrative assistant

# Outpatient Competency Restoration

Phase 1 contracts have been finalized:

- Greater Lakes Mental Health (Pierce)
- Lifeline Connections (Southwest)
- Frontier Behavioral Health (Spokane)

WAC language in development to address conditions of participation

## COVID-19 Impacts

Providers are concerned about go live date of July 1, 2020



# Forensic Navigators

- Six forensic navigators have been hired and started May 1; this rounds out the full team of nine for Phase 1
- FN training will take place over the weeks May 4 and May 11
- Navigator Case Management (NCM) development continues and is on schedule
- WAC language in development to address navigator access and caseload management

## COVID-19 Impacts

Will courts and jails be accessible at go live date of July 1, 2020?



# Additional Beds – Eastern State Hospital

## COVID-19 Impacts

- Construction has ceased – force majeure clause enacted due to pandemic
- Hiring continues – 66.9% complete
- Filing a motion with court to seek additional time needed beyond June 30, 2020

# Additional Beds – Western State Hospital

## COVID-19 Impacts

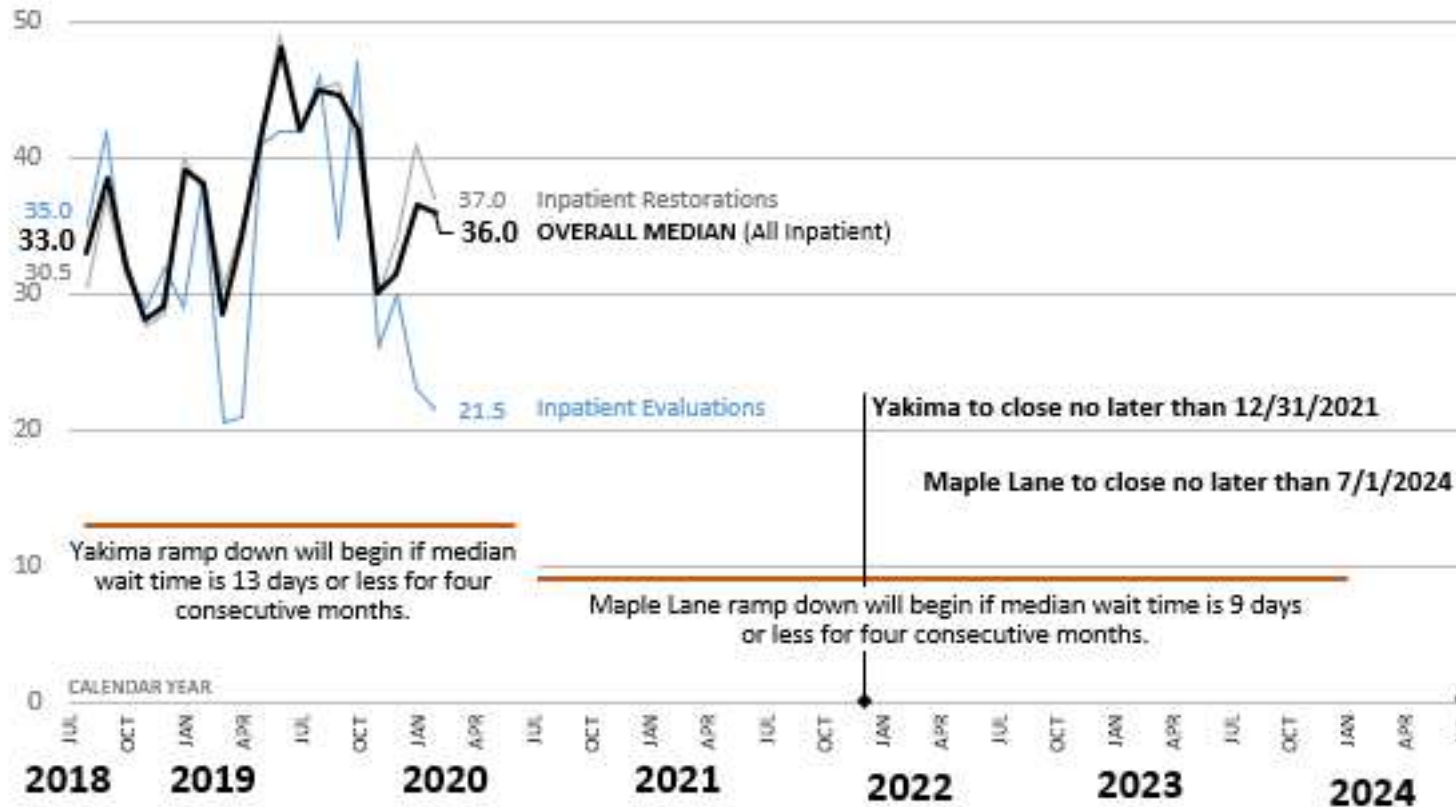
- Construction has ceased – force majeure clause enacted due to pandemic; however, very limited construction has resumed
- Filing a motion with court to seek additional time needed beyond June 30, 2020

# Ramp Down of Maple Lane and Yakima

Hard closure date for Yakima is 12/31/21 (Phase 2). Hard closure date for Maple Lane is 7/1/24 (Phase 3). Earlier closure can be triggered by significantly reduced wait times for inpatient services.

## Closure of Maple Lane and Yakima Residential Treatment Facilities

Median number of days from court order signature for inpatient competency services to hospital admission or order completion



**DATA SOURCE:** BHA Forensic Data System.

**MEASURE DEFINITION:** The median wait time represents the number of days from the beginning of a period of waiting in jail for competency services to order completion among orders completed in the specified month. Includes all inpatient competency evaluation or restoration orders for individuals waiting for services in jail. The order is completed when the individual is admitted for inpatient services, or when the order is dismissed, withdrawn or when the individual is physically released from jail (e.g. on personal recognizance or work release). Includes admissions to WSH, ESH, Maple Lane and Yakima Residential Treatment Facilities.





# Crisis Beds and Enhancements

- Department of Commerce contract for capital funds to support the 16 beds within the Spokane region was issued to Spokane County – scheduled to come online by July 2021.
  - Pioneer Health was chosen through a competitive procurement process
- Crisis triage and stabilization enhancements contracts were issued to Pierce and Southwest regions. This allows for increased ability to accept and support individuals identified as potential class members.
  - Additional support was provided to Frontier Behavioral Health in Spokane region to support services for potential class members

# Crisis Beds and Enhancements

## COVID-19 Impacts

- Crisis facilities are reducing the number of individuals in their facility at any given time to support physical distancing requirements
- Experiencing staffing impacts

# Residential Supports – Forensic HARPS

- Forensic HARPS teams began providing services and subsidies to individuals on March 1, 2020
- FHARPS teams have received training and are using the developed data tracker
- FHARPS teams submitted their first data report April 15, 2020
- All teams have been trained in SAMHSA's permanent supportive housing model

# Residential Supports – Forensic HARPS

## COVID-19 Impacts

- Forensic HARPS trainings provided by the national technical assistant consultant have been effectively transitioned to webinars during this time of social distancing

# Residential Supports - Vouchers

- All funding for the emergency hotel/motel vouchers has been issued through crisis triage and stabilization facilities
- Crisis facilities report they are using vouchers to support individuals who are in crisis due to lack of housing, being unstably housed or other circumstances that might lead the individual to being drawn into the legal system

## COVID-19 Impacts

- Adjusting relationship-building activities to support housing providers and community partners remotely



# Mobile Crisis Response

- All three of the Phase 1 regions have submitted enhancement plans for the mobile crisis response services in their region
- Plans were jointly reviewed by DSHS, local law enforcement, and HCA representatives and have now been sent back to the separate regions for clarification and updating
- Responses from the regions were due for return to HCA by April 30, 2020
- Contracts are expected to be issued to the regions for the enhancement of their mobile crisis response services by end of May 2020

## COVID-19 Impacts

- Regions report that they may not be able to make enhancement work a priority in light of other work taking priority during pandemic



# Co-Responders

## COVID-19 Impacts

- Year 1 grant to Vancouver PD for \$314,917 was returned and reallocated to Spokane and Pierce County (50/50 split)
- Year 2 grants will be allocated in same amounts as year 1 instead of conducting an application process as originally planned

# Forensic PATH

- Forensic PATH teams began providing services on March 1, 2020
- Teams have submitted plans for outreach and engagement for their entire regions
- FPATH teams have been trained on data reporting and their first report was submitted April 20, 2020
- Forensic PATH program has connected with MCOs to discuss their role of care coordination



# Forensic PATH

## COVID-19 Impacts

- Teams have made creative adaptations in how they conduct outreach to individuals with social distancing measures in place
- All teams have actively participated in virtual trainings provided by the national technical assistance consultant
- HCA Trueblood staff have organized and facilitated regional meetings with all Trueblood providers and the ACHs

# Crisis Intervention Training

40-Hour Patrol Training – Goal 25%

- 722 of 2,083 officers trained (35%)

\*visual

8-Hour Corrections Training – Goal 100%

- 351 of 730 staff trained (48%)

8-hour Telecom Training – Goal 100%

- Not yet begun

TOTAL - ALL REGIONS		
NUMBER OF OFFICERS	OFFICERS TRAINED	PERCENT TRAINED
2083	722	34.7%
SMALL AGENCIES	356	42
MEDIUM AGENCIES	309	73
LARGE AGENCIES	1418	607

● Trained ● Remaining



# Crisis Intervention Training

## COVID-19 Impacts

- 1 patrol class series canceled
- 3 corrections classes canceled
- 5 telecom classes canceled
- Currently scheduled June classes may be canceled if COVID-19 impacts continue
- Prolonged gathering restrictions on group size could also have additional impacts

# Technical Assistance to Jails

- Guidebook: Best Practices for Behavioral Health Services in a Jail Setting due June 1, 2020 will be posted on JTA website
- Ongoing monthly WebEx JTA trainings: Schedule and PowerPoints are posted on website: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/bha/office-forensic-mental-health-services/trainings>
- Surveys were conducted at multiple Phase 1 sites to assess training needs regarding subject matter and method of delivery; the results will be used to inform future training plans, which are in development

## COVID-19 Impacts

- Cancellation of the WASPC Spring Conference prevented planned education and outreach efforts on the JTA program; the team is working to raise awareness of JTA Program through other avenues



# Enhanced Peer Support

- The curriculum for the Enhanced Peer Services Program continuing education training “The Intersection of Behavioral Health and the Law” was completed by the March 1, 2020, implementation plan deadline
- The Enhanced Peer Services Program is providing technical assistance to provider agencies with Forensic HARPS, Forensic PATH, and Outpatient Competency Restoration Program teams
- Enhanced Peer Services Program received funding from Education and Outreach to provide three Certified Peer Counselor trainings in the Phase 1 regions to increase the workforce of qualified peer counselors.
  - First training will begin May 4 through a virtual format



# Enhanced Peer Support

## COVID-19 Impacts

- HCA was unable to hold the 2-day in-person continuing education to provide enhanced peer support training
  - A virtual overview of the training to those certified peer counselors working on Trueblood projects or programs will be offered prior to May 1, 2020
  - In-person training will be rescheduled for a time when social distancing restrictions are lifted

# Workforce Development

- Annual Workforce Development progress report to be completed by June 1, 2020
- Breaking Barriers Training and Certification Program Master Trainer workshop completed; final trainer workshop scheduled for May 2020
- WFD team members continue to participate in various regional Workforce Development workgroups with external stakeholders
- WFD staff in partnership with HCA completed the Introduction to Behavioral Health and the Law curriculum; training overview to be delivered by May 1
- Groundswell Inc. completed a research and gap analysis of the forensic workforce in the state; this report will assist the team in planning for workforce development needs

## COVID-19 Impacts:

- WFD team members unable to attend a WFD conference due to cancellation
- Unable to hold the in-person training for the Intro to Behavioral Health and the Law, co-trained with HCA; a virtual overview recording will be provided with the written curriculum and handouts

