## News



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 15, 2020

Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
Contact: Jim Siemianowski
james.siemianowski@ct.gov
(860) 305-6810 (cell)

## DMHAS Releases Aggregate Data of Laboratory Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 in DMHAS Facilities

**Hartford, CT** – The Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) today released aggregate data of the reported number of laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19 identified in patients within its state-operated inpatient facilities and staff employed throughout the DMHAS system.

	Laboratory Confirmed Cases of COVID-19	
	Patients	Staff
Connecticut Valley Hospital	10	9
Whiting Forensic Hospital	6	12
Capitol Regional Mental Health Center	0	1
Connecticut Mental Health Center	0	3
River Valley Services	0	0
Southeast Mental Health Authority	0	0
Southwest Connecticut Mental Health System	0	2
Western Connecticut Mental Health Network	0	2
Total:	16	29

As outlined in the non-test based criteria disseminated by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention Guidance regarding Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Disposition of Patients with COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings, patients at DMHAS are recovering from COVID-19. To date, six patients at Connecticut Valley Hospital and six patients at Whiting Forensic Hospital have recovered from the virus. Additionally, nine staff members have provided medical documentation showing they have recovered from COVID-19, allowing them to return safely to work.

DMHAS has taken significant steps to protect clients and staff from COVID-19 throughout the DMHAS system. These include:

• Identifying spaces in all state-operated facilities to be used for the isolation of patients with COVID-19;

- Distributing personal protective equipment (PPE) including n95 masks, surgical masks, gowns, gloves and hand sanitizer to all state-operated facilities;
- Developing quarantine and isolation protocols for patients and staff that have been reviewed and approved by the Department of Public Health;
- Adjusting outpatient services while promoting social distancing including telephone check-ins and closing wellness centers and social clubs;
- Restricting visitors from DMHAS facilities;
- Conducting health screenings of all individuals who enter DMHAS facilities, including staff and clients:
- Approving over 1,100 employees for telework to promote social distancing and minimize exposure to clients and staff at DMHAS facilities; and,
- Directing staff who are symptomatic or have been in close contact with individuals suspected of or having COVID-19 to stay home and self-quarantine to prevent infecting clients and other staff.

For more information, visit the DMHAS COVID-19 Response webpage at https://portal.ct.gov/DMHAS-COVID-19.

###