

News



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Connecticut Department of Mental Health
and Addiction Services

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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. DMHAS operates over 760 mental health and substance use beds and employs approximately 3,300 staff throughout the state-operated service system.

Cumulative Laboratory Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in DMHAS Facilities

| | Laboratory Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 | |
|--|---|--------------|
| | Patients | Staff |
| Connecticut Valley Hospital | 63 | 45 |
| Whiting Forensic Hospital | 10 | 24 |
| Capitol Regional Mental Health Center | 0 | 4 |
| Connecticut Mental Health Center | 0 | 9 |
| River Valley Services | 0 | 3 |
| Southeast Mental Health Authority | 0 | 2 |
| Southwest Connecticut Mental Health System | 0 | 7 |
| Western Connecticut Mental Health Network | 0 | 3 |
| Total: | 73 | 97 |

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, 58 patients at Connecticut Valley Hospital (CVH) and 10 patients at Whiting Forensic Hospital (WFH) have recovered from the virus. There have been no new COVID cases involving patients in the past seven weeks and currently we have no patients active with COVID.

Additionally, 92 of 97 staff members have provided medical documentation showing they have recovered from COVID-19, allowing them to return safely to work. Only 4 staff have tested positive for the virus over the past 4 weeks, further evidence that DMHAS is successfully managing the pandemic.

DMHAS continues to take significant steps to protect clients and staff from COVID-19 throughout the DMHAS inpatient units. These include:

- Utilizing spaces in all state-operated facilities 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;
- Using quarantine and isolation protocols for patients and staff that have been reviewed and approved by the Department of Public Health;
- Quarantining newly admitted patients;
- Requiring that staff who travel from high infection areas self-quarantine for 14 days;
- Re-initiating in person visitation while adhering to COVID-19 prevention protocols;
- Conducting health screenings of all individuals who enter DMHAS facilities, including staff and clients;
- 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;
- Temporarily reducing bed capacities in certain units across the system in order to maintain proper social distancing requirements;
- Voluntary testing of patients at CVH and WFH for COVID-19;
- Conducting testing of DMHAS staff in five facilities. To date, 1,875 staff have been tested at CVH, WFH, River Valley Services, Southwest Connecticut Mental Health System and Capitol Region Mental Health Center; and
- Obtaining ongoing consultation with the Department of Public Health regarding strategies for managing COVID-19 in inpatient settings.

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