News

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	60	36
Whiting Forensic Hospital	10	17
Capitol Regional Mental Health Center	0	1
Connecticut Mental Health Center	0	4
River Valley Services	0	2
Southeast Mental Health Authority	0	2
Southwest Connecticut Mental Health System	0	5
Western Connecticut Mental Health Network	0	3
Total:	**70**	**70**

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, 12 patients at Connecticut Valley Hospital and 9 patients at Whiting Forensic Hospital have recovered from the virus. Additionally, 34 staff members have provided medical documentation showing they have recovered from COVID-19, allowing them to return safely to work.

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 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;
- Using quarantine and isolation protocols for patients and staff that have been reviewed and approved by the Department of Public Health;
- Restricting visitors from DMHAS facilities;
- 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;
- Briefly suspending admissions in DMHAS inpatient services where community providers have capacity to absorb patents;
- Temporarily reducing bed capacities in certain units across the system in order to maintain proper social distancing requirements;
- Re-allocating critical staff in order to expand capacity to isolate COVID patients
- Continuing planning to accommodate COVID-19 surge;
- Continuing use of acute care general hospital settings to provide care for patients with serious medical conditions;
- Testing of all patients at Connecticut Valley Hospital for COVID-19; and,
- Obtaining additional consultation from the Department of Public Health regarding strategies for better management of cohorts of patients.

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