



***WESTMORELAND COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND
DEVELOPMENTAL
SERVICES***

THE GOAL: RECOVERY

Recovery is a self-determined and holistic journey that people undertake to heal and grow. Recovery is facilitated by relationships and environments that provide hope, empowerment, choices and opportunities that promote people reaching their full potential as individuals and community members.



WESTMORELAND COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND
DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES
(BH/DS)

VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is one in which adults, children and families have the opportunity and right to choose services and supports which continually promote hope, growth, recovery, quality of life and full participation in society.



OUR MISSION

To partner with individuals, families, human service agencies, community agencies and advocacy organizations to build a high quality network of community based resources that best assist individuals to live independently, be self-directed, promote healthy development, self reliance, foster hope, facilitate and strive for recovery.



ABOUT BH/DS

The BH/DS Program is the local county government entity responsible for service contract development and monitoring of programs within Federal, State, and County regulations. The BH/DS Program contracts with agencies to provide a wide array of services to meet community behavioral health, developmental disability and child early intervention needs.

LEGAL MANDATE

- ▣ The Pennsylvania Public Welfare Code of 1967 and its revisions.
- ▣ The Pennsylvania Mental Health/Mental Retardation Act of 1966 as amended.
- ▣ The Mental Health Procedures Act of 1976 as amended.

How are services paid for?

- Private insurance
- Value Behavioral Health (MCO for those receiving Medicaid)
- Program Funding through Westmoreland County BH/DS

*Figuring Out the
Puzzle*



SERVICE INTAKE AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Westmoreland Casemanagement & Supports, Inc.
(WCSI)

WCSI is the Base Service Unit that provides the *point of entry* into behavioral health, developmental disability, early intervention and case management services; provides clinical and service assessments; and completes referrals to other services/agencies. There are three sites located throughout the county for access:

- **Greensburg..... 724-837-1808**
- **Monessen.....724-684-7221**
- **New Kensington...724-334-1774**

Toll Free 1-800-353-6467

CRISIS SERVICES

- **TELEPHONE CRISIS SERVICE: 1-800-836-6010** a 24/7 hotline service provided to individuals in crisis and callers who seek assistance for persons in crisis. The service provides counseling, consultation and referral. County delegates are reached after hours through the telephone hotline.
- **MOBILE CRISIS SERVICE:** a service provided at a community site where a person in crisis is located. Services include crisis intervention, assessment, counseling, resolution, referral & follow-up. **Access to mobile crisis is obtained through the Telephone Crisis Service.**
- **DIVERSION & STABILIZATION UNIT:** 8 bed, short stay facility in Greensburg for individuals 18 years or older intended to serve as a step-down or diversion from hospitalization. **Referrals can be made by calling the telephone crisis service or (724)-552-0305.**

These crisis services are provided by Pathways Mental Health Programs:

Westmoreland Community Action, Greensburg, PA.

CRISIS SERVICES



- [Diversion & Stabilization Unit-Adults](#) - 7 bed unit which provides emergency services, 10 to 14 day residential and treatment support, hospital diversion or step down service for individuals in crisis. 321 E. 5th Avenue, Tarentum, PA. (724)224-7586.

Operated by:

***Family Services of Western PA
(FSWP)***

CRISIS SERVICES

WALK-IN CRISIS SERVICES

CRISIS RESPONSE CENTER: 724-832-4465

Enter at 43 Depot Street, Greensburg, PA (Across from Westmoreland Hospital)

7:00 am - 11:00 pm

Crisis staff available to assess a person in crisis and assist in connecting that person with appropriate treatment and support services.

This service provided by:

Excelsa Health

CRISIS SERVICES

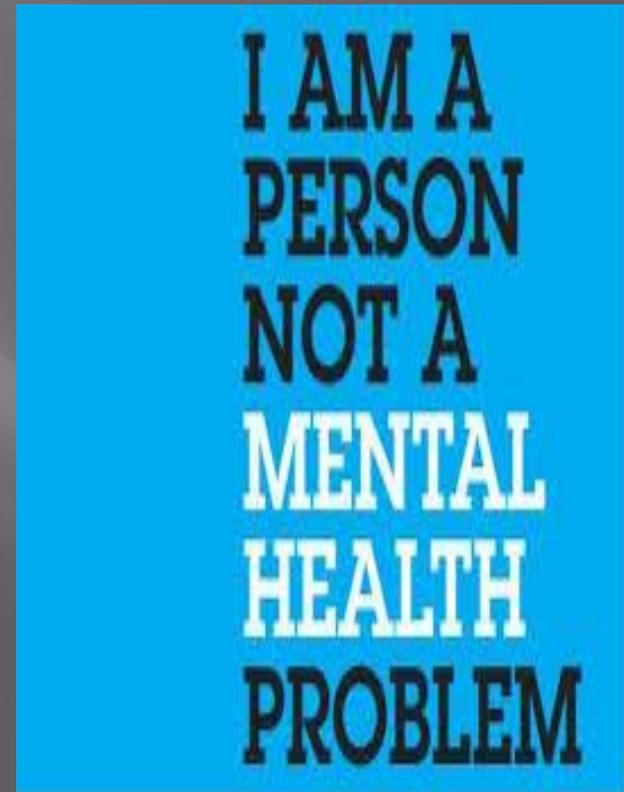
- **DCORT: Disaster, Crisis, Outreach & Referral-** Team-coordinated by BH/DS. Trained crisis outreach responders to provide services to persons impacted by disaster events such as: fires, car accidents, workplace accidents, death/suicide, natural disasters.

During Business Hours:

(724) 830-3617

After Hours/Holidays/Weekends:

1-(800)-836-6010



What is a “302” and how is it utilized with someone in crisis?

- 302 refers to the Section within the MH Procedures Act of 1976 that governs involuntary commitment on an emergency basis for someone experiencing a mental health crisis. The application can be filled out by any responsible party and must present evidence that an individual is either a danger to themselves or others. A person’s behavior must be as a result of a mental illness. Drug or alcohol use alone is not acceptable grounds for issuing a warrant. Information within the last 30 days may be considered and written on the petition.
- A 302 application can be facilitated at any local ER, at the Crisis Response Center, or by WCSI during business hours. The Mobile Crisis Unit can also complete a 302. A delegate from the Westmoreland County BH/DS office must review the petition against criteria set forth in the Act and approve or deny the warrant unless it is completed by a doctor or police officer.

What happens when a 302 is authorized?

- The individual who applied for the 302 on behalf of their loved one or friend takes the warrant to the local or state police in order for the warrant to be served.
- The police are required to serve the warrant and usually dispatch an ambulance to the person's home to assist for medical evaluation and transportation. The person will be taken to the nearest hospital emergency room for examination.
- An authorized warrant by a delegate does not guarantee that a person will be admitted for psychiatric treatment. The doctor at the ER will perform an examination and make a determination to uphold the warrant or to overturn it.

What am I required to do if I fill out the 302 form for someone I work with?

- You will be required to take the petition to the state or local police.
- You may be required to appear at a mental health hearing held at the treatment facility to offer testimony regarding what you observed.
- The Westmoreland County BH/DS office contracts with two attorneys who facilitate these hearings under the guidance of the Mental Health Judge – Judge Anthony Marsili. A public defender is provided to the individual being involuntarily committed at no charge.

State Hospitalization

- Torrance State Hospital is located outside of Blairsville, PA in Westmoreland County.
- TSH accepts patients from Westmoreland County and other neighboring counties in Southwestern PA. There are approximately 205 civil patients at TSH and 65 of those are Westmoreland County Residents.
- TSH is the highest level of inpatient care available to those with an acute serious mental illness.
- Patients receiving treatment at TSH are involuntarily committed under Section 304 or 305 of the Mental Health Procedures Act.

State Hospitalization

- For individuals that are incarcerated and are in need of inpatient mental health treatment services can be provided by the **Regional Forensic Psychiatric Center at TSH**.
- Those admitted to this level of care are incarcerated at a local county jail. The Westmoreland County BH/DS office coordinates this referral process with the county jail and the Forensic Unit.
- There are approximately 100 patients at this facility. Westmoreland County has roughly 5 individuals at this facility and it takes approximately 30 days for an admission.

Can an individual go straight from the community to TSH?

- There are many misconceptions about the role the state hospital plays in the care of those with severe mental illness.
- The state hospital is no longer a facility that keeps individuals for years. Most are able to be stabilized within 6 months and return to the community with supports.
- To be admitted to TSH an individual must have exhausted all available community supports/resources and currently be unable to achieve stabilization of their illness while receiving treatment on a community psychiatric inpatient unit. There are no direct admissions to TSH without having met specific criteria and without the approval of the county office after all diversions are pursued.
- TSH is the level of care that is the last resort for all patients

TREATMENT SERVICES

Psychiatric Inpatient Units Utilized Most Often by Westmoreland County

- Allegheny Valley Hospital-724-226-7235; 1301 Carlisle St, Natrona Heights, PA
- Excelsa Westmoreland-724-832-4452; 532 W. Pittsburgh St, Greensburg, PA
- Excelsa Latrobe-(Adolescents)-724-537-1683; 121 W. Second Ave, Latrobe, PA
- Mon Valley Hospital-724-258-1200; 1163 Country Club Road, Monongahela, PA

Treatment Services

- Assertive Community Treatment - ACT services are targeted to individuals with severe and persistent mental illnesses who have had a history of struggling to access or respond to traditional mental health services. **Family Services of Western Pa (FSWP) provides this service county-wide.**
- Partial Hospitalization/Acute Partial Hospitalization - Programming is available for individuals who require less than 24-hour care, but more intense than services offered in outpatient. **3 adult programs in Greensburg, New Kensington & Charleroi**

Treatment Services

- Outpatient Services - A licensed, facility based program that provides evaluations, testing, medication monitoring, and individual and group counseling by qualified mental health professionals. **9 providers throughout the county including Greensburg, New Kensington, Latrobe, Ligonier, and Monessen.**
- Medication, Monitoring & Education - Services provided by nurses to assist in promoting and maintaining optimal mental health functioning to individuals in nursing homes, personal care homes, as well as their own homes. **Excelsa Health- county wide.**

Rehabilitation Services

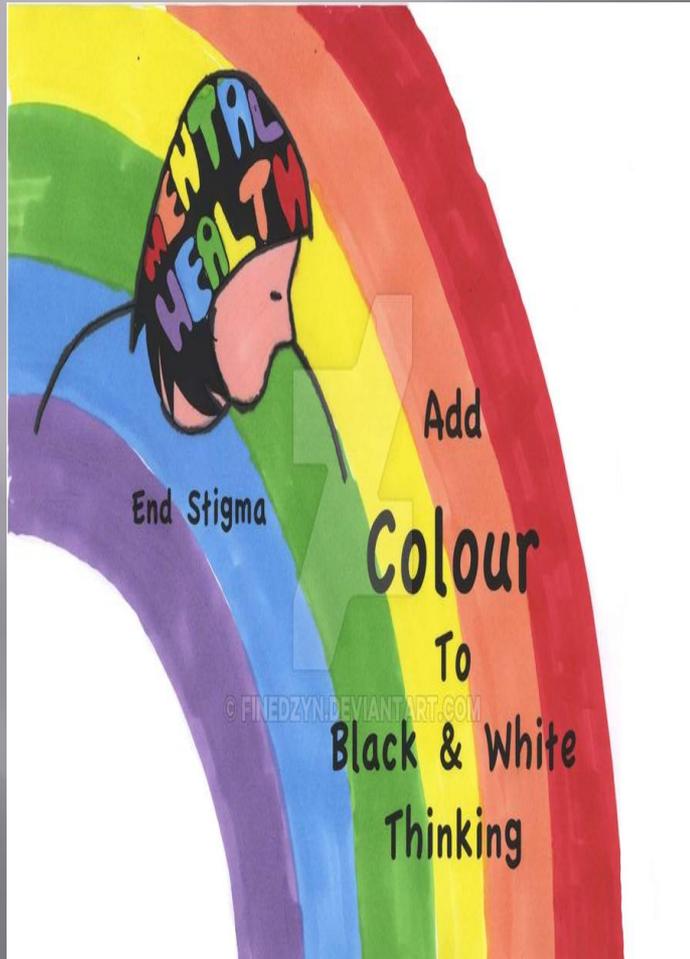
- Case Management – Services include intake into the public mental health system, development of a service plan, processing of referrals, coordination and monitoring of services. **Provided by WCSI, FSWP, and SPHS.**
- Community Employment and Employment Related Services - Specialized job training and placement services provided with the assistance of job coaches in regular, community, business, and industry employment settings. **2 providers.**
- Facility Based Vocational Rehabilitation Services - Pre-vocational training and vocational workshop services for persons preparing for independent or supported employment. **2 providers.**

Rehabilitation Services

- Psychiatric Rehabilitation - Assists persons with functional disabilities resulting from mental illness to develop, enhance, and/or retain: psychiatric stability, social competencies, personal adjustment, and/or independent living competencies so that they experience more success and satisfaction in the environments of their choice and can function as independently as possible. **4 providers county wide, offering facility and community based services.**



Rehabilitation Services



- Peer Specialist- A peer specialist is an individual with a history of or is currently receiving mental health services who attends and successfully completes an intensive training program to become a certified peer specialist. Together with a peer, they develop a goal oriented service plan to assist the individual to acquire & utilize skills to facilitate recovery and improve their desired roles in regard to living, learning, working and social interaction in the community. **3 providers county wide.**

MH/CRIMINAL JUSTICE COLLABORATION

CRIMINAL JUSTICE LIAISON PROGRAM

- Three Criminal Justice Liaisons (CJLs) from WCSI – Westmoreland Casemanagement and Supports, Inc. are assigned to specific magisterial districts in Westmoreland County, as well as the police departments that serve those districts.
- CJLs may be contacted when an individual involved in the criminal justice system is known to have or suspected of having mental health or co-occurring issues (substance abuse & mental illness).
- The goal is to help prevent individuals with mental health needs from entering or moving further into the criminal justice system by intercepting them at the law enforcement and/or magisterial levels.
- The CJLs will conduct an assessment and refer the individual to the appropriate level of treatment.

CONTACT: (724) 837-8290

MH/CRIMINAL JUSTICE COLLABORATION

- Jail Liaison- a case manager from WCSI assigned to provide assessments, referrals and aid in treatment planning prior to an individuals' release.
- Criminal Justice Specialists- case managers from WCSI who follow individuals released from jail or individuals involved in the criminal justice system.
- Day Reporting Center- a collaborative program serving individuals involved with the criminal justice system who are at risk of being revoked and sentenced to county jail due to failure to comply with court requirements.

Must be court ordered; referred by Westmoreland County Adult Probation; operated by Southwestern PA Human Services (SPHS); located in Greensburg. To make a referral: (800) 220-1810.

RESIDENTIAL /HOUSING PROGRAMS

- Long Term Structured Residence (LTSR) - This highly structured residential mental health treatment facility is designed to service individuals 18 years of age or older who do not need hospitalization, but who require mental health treatment and supervision on an ongoing 24-hour per day basis. **One provider; 14 beds.**
- Community Residential Rehabilitation Services - Residential services to assist persons 18 and older with chronic psychiatric disability to learn skills to live as independently as possible. **2 providers; 48 beds.**
- Fairweather Lodge - The Fairweather Lodge is a peer-based housing and employment program, with goals of providing emotional support, a place to live, and employment opportunities for all household members to work together in a paid job. **FSWP opened one lodge in New Kensington serving 4 people.**

HOUSING PROGRAMS

- Permanent Supportive Housing- safe, affordable housing for individuals who are chronically homeless & have a mental health diagnosis. **2 providers; 24 beds for adults; 6 for transition age; 7 apartment units.**
- Safe Harbor- a permanent supportive housing option in Greensburg for up to 12 men & women who have been chronically homeless; specifically individuals with mental illness and/or substance abuse with a history of non-compliance and complex issues.
- Shared Housing- a living arrangement where two or more unrelated people share a home or apartment. Each person has a private room and share the common areas. **One provider; serving 6 people.**

Housing Programs

- Housing Support Services - Services provided to consumers and landlords that allow consumers to access and maintain housing, including budgeting, renter skills, landlord/tenant negotiations, and housing location assistance. **4 providers county wide.**



ENRICHMENT SERVICES

- Achieving through Community Experience (ACES) - A goal oriented program that assists consumers with community integration. **One provider county wide.**
- Community Support Program (CSP) - Collaboration of professionals, consumers, family members, and other interested people that provides a community-based avenue for education, information-sharing, and for the collective input on major successes and concerns regarding community mental health services.
- Drop-In Centers - Both consumer-run and professionally staffed facilities that provide mental health consumers with activities and services to provide emotional support, education, social skill development and promotion of independent living and empowerment. **4 centers located in Greensburg, Latrobe, Charleroi and New Kensington**

ADVOCACY

- Advocacy - Both consumer and parent/family advocacy services are available to provide support, education, encouragement, make referrals and help to negotiate services and aid in conflict resolutions between providers and services.
- Consumer/Family Satisfaction Team - A consumer/family member-run team who conducts interviews with consumers receiving services in the mental health system. The results are used to help programs refine and improve services as needed.
- Ombudsman Program - This program has representatives who can provide information about managed care, help with filing complaints and grievances, ensure understanding of rights, document concerns and help to solve problems and seek remedies for consumers of mental health and/or substance abuse services.

**Mental Health America of Westmoreland County
provides all of these services county wide. 724-834-6351.**

I'M THE EVIDENCE

I'm the evidence
For how belief inspires
How hope transforms and
How giving heals the soul

I'm the evidence
For what can be achieved
How feeling connected can ground and
How there is invaluable worth in an act of faith

I'm the evidence
For how an example can lead
How far encouragement can take you and
How one step begins a journey towards endless possibilities

