



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES
A Healthcare Service Agency

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DMHAS to Establish Additional Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Programs

I am pleased to announce that DMHAS will be establishing additional assertive community treatment (ACT) programs in several regions of the state. DMHAS has identified locations inside the state-operated system which require the enhanced treatment option that ACT programs offer, however, areas in which services are provided by private non-profit providers may also require ACT level services and, as such, the department will soon begin soliciting proposals from these entities using the state's Request for Proposal (RFP) process.

The ACT program enhances access to a higher level of care for people within a specific target population. The specific populations include adults with serious mental illness being discharged from hospitals, nursing homes, jails, and prisons, and for those with serious mental illness and co-occurring substance use disorders. Priority is given to individuals leaving state psychiatric inpatient programs and the nursing home environment and needing intensive community support. The program will comply with ACT fidelity requirements and with other important initiatives designed to improve outcomes for the individuals served.

ACT utilizes a person-centered, recovery-based approach that provides services for people diagnosed with a severe and persistent mental illness, through: (1) assertive outreach; (2) mental health and peer support services; (3) vocational assistance; (4) education concerning family issues; and (5) information to develop wellness skills. Services are provided by mobile, multi-disciplinary teams in community settings.

DMHAS is excited about the expansion of these services and continues to be committed to promoting and achieving a quality-focused, culturally responsive, and recovery-oriented system of care.