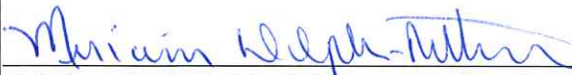




STATE OF CONNECTICUT
Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services
Commissioner's Policy Statement and Implementing Procedures



SUBJECT/POLICY NAME:	Environment of Care Policy
POLICY CHAPTER NUMBER:	Chapter 6 – Clinical and Facilities
APPROVED BY:	 12/12/19 Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon, Ph.D., Commissioner Date
EFFECTIVE DATE:	12/10/2019
LAST REVISED DATE :	12/10/2019
POLICY OWNER:	DMHAS Office of the Commissioner

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) acknowledges all facilities face risks in the environment inclusive of those associated with safety and security, fire, hazardous materials and waste. Each DMHAS operated facility is responsible for identifying risks in order to prevent incidents and appropriately respond.

POLICY:

DMHAS facilities provide a safe, functional and supportive environment where safety is ensured for all individuals receiving services, staff and visitors, by managing risks in the environment associated with provision of care, treatment and services.

Every employee in the facility is responsible for safety; should know how to recognize and minimize risks, as well as what action to take if an incident occurs, and how to report environment of care risks.

PROCEDURE:

All DMHAS operated facilities are required to manage safety and security through a systematic approach involving proactive evaluations of their Environment of Care. Facilities provide a process to identify safety and security risks that can affect the patients, staff and visitors. DMHAS facilities implement a process to address specific environmental risks, by maintaining written hospital plans as well as policies and procedures that provide a framework for

management and risk reduction in the environment of care.

DMHAS facilities identify individuals and Committees to coordinate and manage risk assessment and the maintenance of documents identifying deficiencies, action plans and mitigation to minimize the potential for harm in the physical environment.

New employee orientation and annual education and trainings focused on elements of a safe environment and risk reduction are key elements in successfully managing a safe environment.

All DMHAS operated facility staff must successfully complete annual Environment of Care training on the DMHAS Learning Management System.

FORMS AND ATTACHMENTS:

N/A