

Template for State-Specific Resources and Policy Information

This template is intended to assist primary care providers and staff within the practice setting to identify state-specific behavioral health resources and policies that may direct where and how patients with higher level treatment needs access care. It would be ideal if someone in the practice had information on local and state crisis numbers, involuntary psychiatric hospitalization laws, and how to access psychiatric crisis beds throughout the state. Much of this information varies by state, so understanding where to obtain this information and what questions to ask will help providers be better informed and prepared to appropriately deal with behavioral health emergencies.

1. Local crisis line numbers. _____

Ideas on where to find local and state crisis numbers:

- ▶ National Suicide Hotline: Lifeline 800-273-TALK (8255). This number will connect you to a local certified crisis line.
- ▶ State Public Health or Human Services Department.
- ▶ State Mental Health/Behavioral Health Authority.
- ▶ Local/Regional/County Mental Health Authorities.
- ▶ State Chapters of Advocacy/Support Organizations such as:
 - ▶ Mental Health America (formerly Mental Health Association).

2. Questions to answer regarding procedures for admission to an inpatient psychiatric facility or unit.

- ▶ Involuntary Commitment
 - ▶ State laws pertaining to involuntary mental health commitment.
 - ▶ Who can authorize an involuntary commitment?
 - ▶ What information about the patient will need to be provided?
 - ▶ What is expected of the PCP by the courts?
 - ▶ How many hours of involuntary observation and treatment are legally mandated by the state?
- ▶ Voluntary Admission
 - ▶ Who is eligible for voluntary admission?
 - ▶ What information about the patient will need to be provided?
 - ▶ What is expected of the PCP?

- ▶ What are state policies and resources, if any, regarding transporting a patient with a psychiatric emergency? If resources exist, how can they be accessed?
- ▶ How is inpatient psychiatric treatment extended beyond the period of involuntary commitment? What are the terms and conditions of the extension process (e.g., how long, by what type of professional)?
- ▶ State Medicaid reimbursement for mental health treatment and hospitalization.

Suggestions on where to find this information:

- ▶ State Public Health or Human Services Department.
- ▶ State Mental Health/Behavioral Health Authority.
- ▶ State Medicaid Agency.
- ▶ State Hospital Authority/Association.
- ▶ State Office of Consumer & Family Affairs.
- ▶ State Behavioral Health/Medicaid Ombudsman Office.
- ▶ Local/Regional Mental Health Authorities.

3. Primary contacts and information for local or state psychiatric hospital/facility/crisis beds for psychiatric emergencies.

- ▶ State Psychiatric Hospital/s: Location, Contact, Transportation, Admission Procedures.
- ▶ Acute Crisis Units: Location, Contact, Transportation, Admission Procedures.
- ▶ Psychiatric beds in private or public hospital settings: Location, Contact, Transportation, Admission Procedures.

Suggestions on where to find this information:

- ▶ State Public Health or Human Services Department.
- ▶ State Mental Health/Behavioral Health Authority.
- ▶ State Hospital Authority/Admissions Office.
- ▶ Hospital Association.
- ▶ Local/Regional/County Mental Health Authorities.