

Forensic Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness

The Trueblood v. DSHS lawsuit challenged unconstitutional delays in competency evaluation and restoration services for people detained in city and county jails. The Trueblood Contempt Settlement Agreement establishes a plan for providing services to those involved in the criminal court system and for providing treatment to people when needed so they are less likely to become involved in the criminal court system. The Trueblood Settlement Agreement includes a plan for phasing in programs and services:

- **Phase 1** [2019-2021]: Pierce, Southwest, and Spokane regions including Pierce, Clark, Skamania, Klickitat, Spokane, Ferry, Stevens, Adams, Lincoln, and Pend Oreille counties.
- **Phase 2** [2021-2023]: King region/county
- **Phase 3** [2023-2025]: Thurston, Mason, and Salish regions including Thurston, Mason, Clallam, Kitsap, and Jefferson counties.

Program overview

As part of the Contempt Settlement Agreement, the state funds an intensive case management program to provide services to people more likely to have future legal or competency system involvement.

Forensic PATH uses a voluntary, person-centered approach through multidisciplinary teams which include community and jail outreach workers, housing specialists, housing specialists, mental health professionals, and certified peer counselors who have lived experience in behavioral health recovery.

These teams build relationships with eligible people in the community and connect them to housing, transportation, basic needs, behavioral health, and health care to reduce the likelihood of future legal and competency system involvement and provide long-term stability and wellness.

Program details

To be eligible for Forensic PATH, a person must have received two or more competency evaluations within a 24-month period.

Program services include:

- Outreach and intensive case management services for eligible people who are experiencing serious mental illness, substance use disorders, or homelessness.

- Resources including housing subsidies, transportation assistance, support with accessing behavioral health services, housing referrals, and independent living skills training.

The Health Care Authority contracts with the following Community Behavioral Health Agencies for FPATH:

PIERCE REGION

- Greater Lakes Mental Healthcare

SOUTHWEST REGION

- SeaMar Community Services Northwest

SPOKANE REGION

- Frontier Behavioral Health

KING REGION

- Community House Mental Health Agency
- Telecare

THURSTON-MASON REGION

- Olympic Health and Recovery Services Salish Region
- Kitsap Mental Health Services
- Peninsula Behavioral Health Services

For more information

- For more information, contact Zachery Wilson at zachery.wilson@hca.wa.gov | (360) 643-7903
- For more information about Trueblood, or to be added to the Listserv, email truebloodtaskforce@dshs.wa.gov