

# Great Rivers Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization

Policy Title: <b>Jail Transition</b>	Policy No. 6025.02
Category: Clinical	Date Adopted: 06/12/2020 Date Revised: 11/4/2021, 5/22/2023 Date Reviewed: 06/09/2021, 5/22/2023
Reference: Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) contracts with Great Rivers Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization	

## **POLICY:**

- 1.1 Great Rivers Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization (Great Rivers BH-ASO) coordinates jail transition services with local law enforcement and jail personnel to expedite applications for Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) benefits and facilitate coordination of care upon return to the community for individuals with mental illness and/or co-occurring disorders who are detained in city, county, and tribal jails in the regional service area (RSA).

## **PROCEDURE:**

- 2.1. Great Rivers BH-ASO delegates jail transition services to contracted providers.
- 2.2. Contracted providers will:
  - 2.2.1. Coordinate with local and tribal law enforcement, courts, and jail personnel to meet the needs of individuals detained in city, county, tribal, and regional jails.
  - 2.2.2. Coordinate jail transition services with Great Rivers BH-ASO and treatment providers.
  - 2.2.3. Implement policies and procedures that detail a referral process for individuals who are detained and have been diagnosed with a mental health disorder or identified as in need of behavioral health services.
  - 2.2.4. Identify persons with mental health disorders who are incarcerated in city, county, and tribal jails or juvenile detention facilities, and provide transition services to expedite their applications for HCA benefits and facilitate coordination of care upon their return to the community.
  - 2.2.5. Assist individuals with mental health disorders in completing and submitting applications for medical assistance to prior to release from jail.


- 2.2.6. Accept intake referrals for individuals who are not enrolled in community behavioral health services but who meet criteria for a priority population as defined in RCW 71.24. The provider must conduct mental health intake assessment for these individuals and when appropriate provide transition services prior to their release from jail.
- 2.2.7. Initiate pre-release services, which shall include:
  - 2.2.7.1. Mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) screening for individuals who display behavior consistent with a need for such screening who request services or who have been referred by jail staff, or officers of the court.
  - 2.2.7.2. Mental health intake assessments for persons identified during the mental health screening as a member of a priority population as defined in Chapter 71.24 RCW.
  - 2.2.7.3. Facilitation of expedited medical and financial eligibility determination with the goal of immediate access to benefits upon release from incarceration.
  - 2.2.7.4. Other prudent pre-release and pre-trial case management and transition planning.
  - 2.2.7.5. Direct mental health or SUD services to individuals in jails with no behavioral health staff working in the jail providing services.
- 2.2.8. Provide post-release outreach to ensure follow-up for behavioral health and other services to stabilize individuals in the community.
- 2.2.9. With prior approval from Great Rivers BH-ASO, the provider may use Jail Coordination services funds to facilitate any of the following activities, if the provider provided jail services through the agreement with Great Rivers BH-ASO:
  - 2.2.9.1. Daily cross-reference between new bookings and the Great Rivers BH-ASO database to identify newly booked, person known to Great Rivers BH-ASO.
  - 2.2.9.2. Identify recently booked individuals that are eligible for Medicaid or had their Medicaid benefits suspended for purposes of establishing Continuity of Care upon release.
  - 2.2.9.3. Development of individual alternative service plans (alternative to the jail) for submission to the courts. Plans will incorporate evidence-based risk assessment screening tools.
  - 2.2.9.4. Inter-local agreements with juvenile detention facilities.
  - 2.2.9.5. Provision of up to a seven (7) day supply of medications prescribed for the treatment of mental health symptoms following the release from jail.

- 2.2.9.6. Training to local law enforcement and jail personnel regarding de-escalation, crisis intervention, and similar training topics
- 2.2.10. Jail transition providers must notify Great Rivers BH-ASO if they are reaching enrollee capacity.
- 2.2.11. Great Rivers BH-ASO will submit the Annual Jail Transitions Services Report by August 31 of each year, for the services provided in the prior state fiscal year. The report must be submitted to the HCA at [HCABHASO@hca.wa.gov](mailto:HCABHASO@hca.wa.gov). The report will include the following:
  - 2.2.11.01 Number of Jail Transition Services provided;
  - 2.2.11.02 Number of individuals served with Jail Transition funding;
  - 2.2.11.03 Narrative describing Jail Transition Services provided;
  - 2.2.11.04 Narrative describing barriers to providing Jail Transition Services; and
  - 2.2.11.05 Narrative describing strategies to overcome identified Jail Transition Services barriers.

**MONITORING**

- 3.1. Great Rivers BH-ASO monitors the implementation of all services by conducting contract compliance audits, at least annually.
- 3.2. At a minimum, the contract compliance audits will review:
  - 3.2.1. Policies and procedures
  - 3.2.2. Clinical records
  - 3.2.3. Information Technology/Information Systems
  - 3.2.4. Fiscal data
  - 3.2.5. Program integrity
  - 3.2.6. Other relevant information and data, including performance measures, as appropriate to the scope of the audit
- 3.3. Great Rivers BH-ASO may require corrective action for deficiencies found during contract compliance audits or other program reviews.

POLICY SIGNATURE

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10/19/2023

Trinidad Medina,  
Chief Executive Director

Date