

 VERMONT DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES Family Services Policy Manual		<h1>171A</h1>
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Approved:	Cynthia K. Walcott, Deputy Commissioner	Effective: 5/24/2011
Supersedes:		

Purpose

To describe the criteria and mechanisms by which youth can be certified for treatment need following initial admission to the Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center. Woodside is a locked program; therefore, continued placement of any youth at Woodside will be carefully evaluated for continued treatment after meeting initial admission criteria.

Policy

The Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center serves youth ages 10 to 18 who are exhibiting self or other harming behavior(s) requiring significant treatment intervention. Without continued intervention in a secure treatment setting, there is reason to believe the youth will experience further serious deterioration of their mental health condition.

Woodside is operated by the Department for Children and Families, Family Services Division. Children placed at Woodside will be reviewed for continued treatment need within 3 business days of admission by the Woodside Clinical Team.

Review of Admissions within Three Business Days

All admissions will be reviewed within 3 business days to determine the youth's treatment need by a clinical team. At the admissions review, the clinical team will review all available documentation, including previous evaluations as well as intake and any prior assessments completed at Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center to determine if the youth is presenting with an immediate treatment need and that the treatment need requires secure care.

Clinical Team Membership

The team must include either:

- A Board-eligible or Board-certified psychiatrist; or
- A clinical psychologist who has a doctoral degree and a physician licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy; or

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- A physician licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy with specialized training and experience in the diagnosis and treatment of mental diseases, and a psychologist who has a master’s degree in clinical psychology or who has been certified by the state or by the state psychological association.

The team must also include one of the following:

- A psychiatric social worker.
- A registered nurse with specialized training or one year’s experience in treating mentally ill individuals.
- An occupational therapist who is licensed, if required by the State, and who has specialized training or one year of experience in treating mentally ill individuals.
- A psychologist who has a master’s degree in clinical psychology or who has been certified by the state or by the state psychological association.

Documentation Review

The review by the clinical team shall include:

1. A description of the presenting problem.
2. Interview(s) with the youth by a member of the clinical team.
3. If possible, interviews with the youth’s Family Services social worker and parents.
4. Clinical and Teaching staff observations.
5. Results and interpretation of screening tools including but not limited to a Youth Self Report (YSR) and a Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument (MAYSI-2).
6. Prior evaluations, discharge summaries and other written reports as available.
7. Identification and documentation of the youth’s immediate and urgent treatment needs including prior and/or provisional *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders: Fourth Edition – Text Revision (DSM-VI-TR)*.

Certification of Need Review Results

The following must be satisfied:

1. Community resources do not meet the treatment needs of the youth; and
2. Proper treatment of the youth’s psychiatric condition requires inpatient treatment in a psychiatric residential treatment facility; and
3. Treatment in a psychiatric residential treatment facility can reasonably be expected to improve the youth’s condition or to prevent further regression so that the services will no longer be required.

Based on the above, one of five results may be determined as follows:

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1. The youth does present with an immediate treatment need at a secure level. The clinical team will consult with the Family Services Client Placement Specialist (or designee) and the Family Services social worker about next steps for treatment.
2. The youth does present with an immediate treatment need but does not require a secure level of care. The clinical team will consult with the Family Services Client Placement Specialist (or designee) and the Family Services social worker about next steps for placement. If an available and appropriate placement cannot be found, the youth may continue to be served at Woodside until a placement can be obtained. Woodside will provide all necessary case management and treatment services during this period and will assist in the transition of that youth to an appropriate level of care.
3. The treatment need cannot be sufficiently determined within 3 business days. The clinical team shall identify what information is required, how it will be obtained and will not exceed more than 3 additional business days before a determination of treatment need is determined.
4. The youth does not present with an immediate treatment need requiring secure care. The clinical team will immediately inform the Family Services Client Placement Specialist (or designee) to discharge the youth to an appropriate placement as soon as possible.
5. The youth does present with a need for secure level intervention, but the treatment need cannot be sufficiently determined because of legal status preventing treatment assessment.