
CHAPTER 15

PSYCHIATRIC INPATIENT SERVICES

Proposed Language Changes

Basic Principles

Services for people **with mental disorders** ~~who are mentally ill~~ should be organized in such a way that a continuum of care is available. Because needs of people with mental **disorders** ~~illness~~ vary greatly, they require access to a wide array of services including outpatient treatment, housing resources, day treatment services, residential treatment services and hospitalization. For most individuals in acute distress, admission to a community-based facility is preferable to admission to a regional, state operated facility because community-based treatment provides greater potential for reintegration into the community. The role of state facilities is to complement and supplement the community mental health system. State facilities should be the treatment setting of last resort and should provide services that cannot be economically provided in the community. Development of community programs may be accomplished through establishing appropriate treatment programs and support services in the community to avoid institutionalization of individuals in acute distress, and relocating people from state facilities to community programs to the extent appropriate services are developed in the community.