

78CSR3

TITLE 78
LEGISLATIVE RULES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

SERIES 3
MINIMUM LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE AND
TREATMENT FACILITIES FOR CHILDREN AND TRANSITIONING ADULTS AND
VULNERABLE AND TRANSITIONING YOUTH GROUP HOMES AND PROGRAMS
IN WEST VIRGINIA

Comments Summary and Response

Comment Summary: I am not sure I understand why the residential mental health treatment service programs would have the same ratios of staff to residents as our hospital inpatient programs.

For the Exclusion Criteria a youth/child that would meet psychiatric inpatient or has such treatment needs that their needs cannot be met in those programs would not be admitted. So if not admitted there, are those the youth that would be placed in PRTF? If so and that would mean their treatment needs are 'higher' 'more intense' than other residential programs then why would our staffing ratios be exactly the same?

We at River Park had proposed last year a request to move the ratios to a 1:6 across the board (24/7) to accommodate the treatment and safety needs of the youth in PRTF but that would also accommodate the extreme hiring/staffing challenges we are all facing during these times.

I would like to propose on behalf of the PRTFs for River Park that a 1:6 across the board be considered so that we are still staffed according to higher treatment need (thus the reason to be in a hospital setting) and that would provide some relief to us specific to hiring/retaining staff.

Response: The agency appreciates this comment. Due to the high level of need of children placed in Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTFs), lowering the ratio to 1:6 is not appropriate.

Chapman, Cammie L <cammie.l.chapman@wv.gov>

PRTF reg change in Ratio

1 message

Via, Angela <Angela.Via@uhsinc.com>

Tue, Jul 12, 2022 at 10:38 AM

To: "Chapman, Cammie L" <cammie.l.chapman@wv.gov>

24.3.1. The average employee-to-patient ratio for a psychiatric residential treatment facility shall be 1-to-3 ~~4~~ during day and evening hours (one employee whose primary responsibility is providing direct care for every three ~~four~~ children during the day and evening). During nighttime sleeping hours, the ratio shall be 1-to-6 ~~8~~. During all hours there shall be capability to increase employee-to-patient ratio in response to acuity, extending to the provision of 1-to-1 care when necessary. Employees assigned to work a defined unit and providing care to the children on that unit including nursing, teachers, and activity's ~~activity~~ therapists may be included in the employee-to-client ratio. Employees assigned to supervisory duties or whose duties cause them to be away from the unit (nursing supervisor) may not be included in the count.

Hello Cammie,

I had this info forwarded to me by WVCCA Executive Director Katrina Harmon.

I asked during a meeting a few weeks ago regarding the draft for Residential Mental Health Treatment Services specifically about the ratios and asked if this also applied to PRTF and was told no it would not.

But a few weeks later it now appears that it does.

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Please feel free to email or call with any thoughts or other questions you have!

We would love to have another conversation with you on this matter.

Angie