

Regional Clinical Review Process

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Regional Clinical Review Process?

- Coordinated effort designed to provide a comprehensive, objective, clinical review of designated youth.
- Identifies what the youth's current treatment and permanency needs are and serve as a resource to the youth's individual Multidisciplinary Team (MDT).

2. How does this help my child?

- Uses standardized assessments such as WV Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (WVCANS) to assist in Identifying the strengths and needs of the child so that the MDT can determine the most appropriate treatment.

3. Is DHHR required to utilize the RCR process?

- On February 14, 2008, Commissioner John J. Najmulski issued a memo to DHHR administrators and staff describing and endorsing the Regional Clinical Review Process.
- Policy located in the WVDHHR Foster Care Social Services Manual Section 3.6 or at this link: http://www.wvdhhr.org/bcf/children_adult/foster/documents/fostercarepolicy1-12.pdf

4. Who is eligible to be reviewed through this process?

- Youth at risk of out-of-state placement
- Youth currently out-of-state for whom discharge planning is required
- Youth in out-of-state placements for whom funding is being discontinued (youth's continued stay does not meet medical necessity)
- Per request of youth's MDT at significant treatment junctures (applies to youth in out-of-state placement).
- Youth sent out-of-state without regional clinical review (reviewed by a modified regional clinical review process).
- As Regions reduce the number of youth in out-of-state placements it is the intention that they will begin reviewing those youth in out-of-state placement at six month intervals.

5. Who requests the Regional Clinical Review?

- DHHR staff
- DJS staff
- Courts/Probation Officers/Attorney
- Multidisciplinary Team
- Parent/Guardian
- Mental Health Professional

6. Who conducts the assessment?

- Individual reviewers are Master’s level Psychologists, Social Workers or Counselors with a master’s level license approved through WVDHHR Socially Necessary Services as a provider.

7. How does this process work?

- The Regional Clinical Coordinator (RCC) will receive the initial referral and screen for eligibility.
- The RCC will send the clinical review packet, including Section I of the review tool to the DHHR worker for completion.
- DHHR worker and RCC will work together to provide the ASO referral and completed packet (including Section I, consent to release information and other necessary information) to the Individual Reviewer.
- The RCC receives the youth’s packet, including completed sections I & II.
- The RCC schedules the regional clinical review.
- The RCC makes the appropriate copies, facilitates the meeting, fills in the Child and Adolescent Strengths & Needs (CANS) Assessment score sheet per the Regional Clinical Review Team’s scores, and enters the information on Section III of the Clinical Review Tool.
- The RCC provides the packet to the DHHR Worker, Supervisor and the Regional Program Manager as a resource for the MDT.

8. How many regional clinical teams are there and who makes up these teams?

- There are 4 review teams (one in each DHHR region) that consist of at least six trained WV community participants representing families, DHHR, residential, foster care, behavioral health and community based services.
- At least three individuals from everyone present (including IRs and RCC) at each review must meet the individual reviewer minimum qualifications.

9. Is the RCC a resource, how?

- They can assist you in identifying in-state resources in finding placement or service options.

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