

# **ADULT FORENSIC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (AFBH)**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of Adult Forensic Behavioral Health (AFBH) is to provide all necessary mental health services to inmates in the custody of the Alameda County Sheriff's Office. Services are voluntary and are delivered in a respectful and expedient manner. Services include, but are not limited to, assessment, crisis intervention, ongoing treatment, and monitoring of inmates with serious mental illnesses with the goals of stabilizing mental conditions and preventing adverse outcomes such as the worsening of mental conditions and/or suicide. AFBH staff work in collaboration with the jail medical provider, Correctional Forensic Medical Group and the sheriff's staff to deliver services that meet all regulatory and accreditation standards for inmate mental health care.

## **PROGRAM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Adult Forensic Behavioral Health (AFBH) is a division of Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services. AFBH is responsible for the provision of mental health services to inmates in the custody of the Alameda County Sheriff's Department. The goal is to alleviate psychiatric symptoms and prevent relapse. AFBH staff collaborates and cooperate with the staffs of the Sheriff's Department and Correctional Forensic Medical Group in order to ensure communication and understanding regarding inmates' mental health needs. AFBH is under the general direction of the Director of Adult Forensic Behavioral Health. A Behavioral Health Care Manager manages the daily operations of the program. The AFBH clinical staff consists of Behavioral Health Clinicians, Rehabilitation Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists and Psychiatrists.

## **DISCHARGE PLANNING/ CONTINUITY OF CARE**

*Continuity of care:* Whenever possible, AFBH staff will refer inmates being released from jail for follow-up outpatient treatment. Referrals are made to the Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services ACCESS Program or to the inmate's previous community mental health services provider.

*Discharge medications:* For continuity of care, psychotropic medications are provided on release. AFBH clinicians fax prescriptions to the inmates' local (county-pay) community pharmacies. In some cases, a ten day supply of medications is provided directly to inmates on release.

### **Adult Forensic Behavioral Health (AFBH)**

**Santa Rita Jail**  
5325 Broder Blvd.  
Dublin, CA 94568  
(925)-551-6740 Fax: (925)-551-6727

Last Revised : 3/17/17



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A Division of Alameda County  
Behavioral Health Care Services

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Santa Rita Jail  
5325 Broder Blvd.  
Dublin, CA 94568

**925-551-6740**

Alameda County QIC # 80501

Hours of Operation

7:30 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Daily

## **SERVICES PROVIDED BY AFBH**

### **MENTAL HEALTH SCREENING**

*Initial (Intake):* At the time of booking in the ITR (Intake, Transfer and Release) section of Santa Rita Jail, all inmates identified by California Forensic Medical Group (CFMG) medical screeners as having mental health treatment needs are referred to AFBH for an additional mental health assessment. Individuals may also be referred by the Alameda County Sheriff's Department, Community Providers, Family Members or make a self-referral for services. The AFBH/ITR service is generally staffed seven days a week for sixteen hours each day by mental health clinicians. Individuals are also referred by John George, Psychiatric Emergency Services, the Courts or transfer from other facilities.

### **CRISIS INTERVENTION**

*On-site:* clinicians respond to urgent calls from deputies and nurses regarding seriously distressed inmates, and, where clinically indicated, provide crisis counseling, make recommendations for interventions, initiate interim Safety Cell placements, Intensive Observation Logs, Isolation cells, and/or make arrangements for psychiatric hospitalization for inmates who meet W&I 5150 criteria (danger to self, danger to others, or gravely disabled due to a mental disorder).

*On-call:* When there is no AFBH staff on-site, an AFBH clinician is on-call and can be reached by deputies and nurses by phone to assist with urgent mental health matters.

## **SUICIDE PREVENTION**

AFBH participates with sheriff's personnel and CFMG medical staff in training, oversight, and procedures designed to prevent inmate suicides.

At the time of the initial AFBH mental health screening, the suicide assessment is done on all inmates.

In addition, AFBH conducts a suicide assessment on all inmates called to their attention by deputies and nurses as a result of inmates expressing suicidal thoughts or demonstrating self-injurious behaviors.



## **ONGOING TREATMENT SERVICES, TREATMENT PLANNING, STABILIZATION OF MENTAL DISORDERS AND OTHER SERVICES**

Inmates receiving mental health services are seen by AFBH clinicians who develop individualized treatment plans with the goal of assisting the inmates to achieve mental stability, develop an awareness of their psychological and behavioral problems and acquire coping skills while incarcerated. Every effort is made to ensure that privacy of care is maintained.

*Referral to Re-entry Services:* This may include referrals to BACS FREE, who assist with the transition period from jail and help connect individuals to services, or one of the SSI advocacy programs who assist with obtaining SSI benefits for those who are eligible, or contacting their community existing community providers.

*Medication Support Services:* When appropriate, inmates are evaluated by AFBH psychiatrists and prescribed psychotropic medications in order to alleviate symptoms and allow the inmates to achieve an optimal level of functioning while incarcerated.

*Inpatient Services:* Inmates requiring inpatient hospitalization are 5150'd by AFBH staff or deputies to acute psychiatric inpatient hospitals. When inmates are returned to the jail, they are held in the Outpatient Housing Unit (Infirmary) until AFBH clinicians can assess them, continue their medications and clear them for housing.