



JAIL TRANSITION PROGRAM

Jail Transition Services funding is provided by the Washington Legislature to provide mental health services for mentally ill offenders while confined in a county or city jail. These services are intended to facilitate access to programs that offer mental health services upon mentally ill offenders' release from confinement. This includes efforts to expedite applications for new or re-instated Medicaid benefits.

Primary responsibility for direct mental health services and medications for individuals while they are in jail is the responsibility of the county or local jail. Services provided with this funding are intended to facilitate safe transition into community services. To that end, Jail Transition funding shall supplement, and not supplant, local or other funding or in-kind resources being used for these purposes.

Services provided through this program include:

- Identify individuals within the jail community and provide transition services to those individuals with mental illness to expedite, facilitate, and coordinate their return to the community.
- Conduct mental health needs assessments for these individuals and provide transition services prior, and when necessary upon their release from jail.
- Assistance with completing the DSHS benefits application process or reinstatement of suspended benefits;
- Community based case management services, including life skills training, assistance with meeting basic needs and court requirements, and referral for chemical dependency treatment as needed;
- Short term mental health outpatient treatment;
- Mental health needs assessment; Prescriptive services and medication management;
- Management of flex funds;
- Assessment and referral for on going outpatient mental health services through the public mental health system as clinically indicated.