



## **Residential Treatment Facility-Adults Medical Necessity Criteria**

**Program Description:** The Residential Treatment Facility for Adults (RTF-A), age 18 and over, is a recovery focused, highly structured, therapeutic, residential behavioral health treatment facility designed to serve persons with serious mental illness who are at imminent risk of a community psychiatric hospitalization with referral to a state mental hospital or as a step-down for people transitioning from a community psychiatric hospitalization but continue to need a highly structured environment, including 24-hour supervision and treatment to successfully transition back into the community. Admission may occur voluntarily under Section 201 of the Mental Health Procedures Act or involuntarily pursuant to Sections 304 or 305. The goal of the RTF-A is to achieve psychiatric stabilization and to provide a recovery environment for reintegration into the community.

### **Admission Criteria (Must meet criteria A, B, C, D)**

- A. The Adult, age 18 and over, has a primary DSM-IV-TR diagnosis that causes significant functional and psychosocial impairment that can be expected to improve through treatment, recovery and rehabilitation services.
- B. As a result of the person's current clinical presentation and concern about the person's ability to live safely in the community, there is significant risk of the continued need for a more restrictive level of care, such as community hospital inpatient services or transfer to a State Mental Hospital.
- C. The Treatment Team, inclusive of the psychiatrist, has made the recommendation that the person can be safely diverted to this less restrictive level of care without risk of harm to self or others.
- D. The person has been assessed by the Treatment Team to be able to reasonably cooperate with program guidelines, accept the level of supervision that is provided and actively participate in treatment. The refusal of individuals referred to RTF-A on an Involuntary Commitment to actively participate in treatment but otherwise willing to reasonably cooperate with program guidelines and accept the RTF-A level of supervision must be addressed as a treatment goal.

### **Continued Stay Criteria (Must meet criteria A, B)**

- A. The person continues to show significant functional impairment as a result of a mental illness and continues to meet admission criteria.
- B. There is evidence that current available community resources and social supports do not effectively meet the needs of the person relative to safety for self and others, active participation in treatment, supervision, recovery and rehabilitation.

**Discharge Criteria (Must Meet Criteria A, B, C or D)**

- A. The symptoms, functional impairments and coexisting conditions that necessitated admission and continued stay have diminished in severity and the person can continue to recover in a less restrictive level of care.
- B. The person does not pose a risk of harm to self or others.
- C. A viable discharge plan, including a crisis plan, that is based on recovery principles has been developed and shared with family supports and appropriate community resources. The plan must include safe, stable, affordable living arrangements, and transition to follow-up services and community supports.

OR

- D. The treatment team, inclusive of the treating psychiatrist, believes that the person's current clinical and/or functional status presents a danger of harm to self or others, thereby meets the legal criteria for an involuntary commitment to inpatient services.