

Substance Use & Dual Recovery

Oneida County Department of Mental Health Director of Alcohol/Substance Abuse & Dual Recovery is responsible for the direction and management of the activities of the Oneida County Department of Mental Health systems for the treatment and prevention of drug and alcohol abuse, including voluntary, County and State programs.

Responsibility includes assuring that the operation of the OCDMH services are conducted in accordance with established departmental policy and procedures and in conformance with Federal and New York State rules and regulations. Supervision is exercised over a number of program management, clinical personnel.

Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities

Developmental disabilities are a diverse group of conditions that are life-long and are often a result of neurological and/or physical impairments. People with developmental disabilities have a variety of strengths as well as challenges and often need some assistance in learning, developing language, mobility, social, independent living and/or functional adaptive skills. People can be diagnosed with a developmental disability anytime during childhood up to 22 years of age.

Oneida County Department of Mental Health is here to assist individuals with developmental disabilities and their families in accessing the services available to them. The Department is responsible for coordinating, implementing and monitoring the delivery of the services of the Developmental Disabilities Services program which is operated by contract agencies.

Assisted Outpatient Treatment

New York State has enacted legislation that provides for court-ordered Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) for certain individuals with severe mental illness who, in view of their treatment history, are unlikely to survive safely in the community without supervision. The following questions and answers will help explain this new legislation, commonly referred to as "Kendra's Law." Visit the Office of Mental Health's webpage for more information on AOT, or contact your local AOT Coordinator.

Criminal Procedure Law §730 (CPL 730)

Criminal Procedure Law §730- sets forth the procedure to determine whether a criminal defendant is incapacitated and therefore not able to proceed to trial. Oneida County Department of Mental Health coordinates and oversees this process and examinations which are facilitated by contracted providers. Please visit the Office of Mental Health webpage (https://omh.ny.gov/omhweb/forensic/populations_served.htm) or contact your local CPL 730 Coordinator for more information.

Medication Grant Program

The Medication Grant Program was developed as part of the overall Kendra's Law Package of mental health reforms.

This county run program is for individuals who require medications to treat mental illness and are discharged from hospitals or released from jails or prisons. For more information, please contact Oneida County's Medication Grant Coordinator.

Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
County Executive

Ashlee L. Thompson
Commissioner



Department of Mental Health

Administrative planning, oversight, support, and monitoring of services for individuals with mental illness, substance use disorders, and intellectual/developmental disabilities.

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DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

Oneida County Department of Mental Health provides administrative leadership to the planning, monitoring and reviewing of services for individuals with mental illness, substance use disorder, and intellectual and developmental disabilities. The department is dedicated to being a leader in these areas and strives to implement initiatives that deliver quality programs that enhance the lives of those in our community.

Oneida County Department of Mental Health does not provide any direct treatment or clinical services, but rather contracts with local community agencies that aim to provide the best accessible care and services possible.

Mission Statement:

“Oneida County Department of Mental Health strives to enhance the lives of those experiencing challenges in the areas of mental, emotional and behavioral; substance use; and/or intellectual/developmental disabilities. In pursuit of our mission, we provide administrative leadership aimed at providing an accessible and barrier free community.”

Adult Single Point of Access and Accountability (ASPOAA)

Oneida County Department of Mental Health operates a Single Point of Access & Accountability (SPOAA) for Adults, Children & Youth. The Adult Single Point of Access & Accountability (ASPOAA) is the process for referring adults to care management and/or residential services, and for monitoring the referral process within Oneida County. Oneida County offers a variety of residential options – ranging from independent supportive apartments to community residences with 24/7 staff supervision. A standardized referral application has been developed, which encompasses relevant clinical and social history assisting in determining the appropriate level of care an individual needs. The goal is to create a system that promotes recovery-oriented services, which are widely available, flexible, personally tailored and responsive to individual needs. To be eligible for these services, the individual must meet certain criteria, including having a primary diagnosis of a serious mental illness. Specific program eligibility is included in the referral application. The Adult SPOAA Coordinator will review each referral and determine the individual’s appropriate level of care.

The Oneida County Adult SPOAA Committee is composed of a multitude of agencies within the community, meeting bi-weekly to discuss high-risk individuals, individuals on an Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT), and reviewing availability/challenges involving service delivery.

The Adult SPOAA and Child & Youth SPOA referrals can be found on the Oneida County web page.
www.ocgov.net/mentalhealth

Child & Youth Single Point of Access (CSPOA)

Oneida County Department of Mental Health’s Children & Youth SPOA is charged with planning, monitoring and overseeing the children’s local system of care. The Department continues its efforts to promote collaboration and support to children and youth, families, county departments, provider agencies, schools and other service systems. Oneida County Department of Mental Health’s Children & Youth SPOA commits to improving access to care, identifying high-needs youth, and managing intensive services while delivering a family-driven, least-restrictive approach. The SPOA regularly communicates with state systems regarding changes to the behavioral health framework for children and youth. Youth in Oneida County in need of mental health services that extend beyond what community based providers can assist with can be referred to the Children & Youth SPOA.

Services offered through Children & Youth SPOAA include: Health Home Care Management, Intensive Home Based Services, and Intensive Case Management. One of SPOA’s goals is to keep children at home with their families whenever possible. Children’s Residential Services can be explored with the family during extraordinary circumstances. The Children’s SPOA referral and instructions may be accessed through the link below. For more information or assistance with a referral, please contact one of the staff from the Department of Mental Health’s Children & Youth SPOA.