



OLR RESEARCH REPORT

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PROGRAMS OF ASSERTIVE COMMUNITY TREATMENT

By: Susan Price, Senior Attorney

You asked if Oklahoma's Program of Assertive Community Treatment (PACT) could be replicated in Connecticut.

Like Oklahoma, Connecticut has implemented PACTs in several regions of the state. A 2005 statute establishes Connecticut's program and directs the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) to administer it (CGS § [17b-263a](#)). The services receive Medicaid reimbursement under a federal Home and Community Based Services waiver, "Money Follows the Person."

According to Doreen DelBianco, DMHAS' legislative liaison, ACT services are available in three communities: Manchester, New Britain, and Middletown. They can serve up to 223 clients. DMHAS is planning to open a fourth site in Norwich.

ACT is a recovery-focused, high intensity, community-based service in which multi-disciplinary treatment teams provide a comprehensive array of rehabilitative services in conjunction with medical care. Most of the care is provided in non-community settings by a mobile multidisciplinary team. Services include rehabilitative community care, treatment and crisis intervention, and flexible supports. ACT clinical staff are available around the clock.

The Connecticut program targets adults with serious mental illness or both mental illness and substance abuse disorders being discharged from hospitals, nursing homes, jails, and prisons. They may also be homeless or have difficulty engaging in treatment.

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