

Improving Children's Intensive Mental Health Services

TR vs. Quigley, formerly *T.R. v. Dreyfus* Settlement

Department of Social and Health Services [DSHS]

Health Care Authority [HCA]

Improvement Goal:

To develop a system that will work for delivering intensive home and community based mental health services to Medicaid eligible children and youth qualifying as *T.R. v. Quigley* Class members.

Background:

In November 2009, a Medicaid lawsuit was filed (*TR vs. Dreyfus*) regarding intensive children's mental health services for children and youth. The lawsuit was based on federal laws that say EPSDT (Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment) requires states to provide any medically necessary services and treatment to children who need them, even if the services have not been provided in the past. After several years of negotiations, a full settlement agreement has been reached with the plaintiffs.

Who is in the Class?

The class includes youth (under the age of 21) that:

- Are in need of intensive mental health treatment;
- Qualify or would qualify for Medicaid in Washington State; and
- Are in out-of-home-placement or treatment, or who are at risk of needing such placement or treatment without access to these intensive mental health services.

What the State Has Agreed to Do to Improve the System:

- Improve Identification, Screening, Referral and Assessment
- Develop Wraparound with Intensive Services (WISe) for Statewide Implementation
- Increase Evidence and Research Based Practices statewide
- Improve Transitions and Continuity of Care
- Provide Cross System Workforce Development and Training
- Improve Due Process for Class Members
- Improve Governance Structure and Collaboration
- Improve Quality Management, Transparency and Accountability

Important things to Know about the Settlement:

1. The state and plaintiffs worked together to develop a settlement that is in the best interest of children with profound mental health issues. The agreed upon services keep children at the center of care, with a goal of caring for children in their community.
2. Highest needs children will be the first to benefit from the roll-out of these research-based, wraparound services.
3. To control costs, the state and plaintiffs worked together to design five-year phase-in plans that will help develop the critical parts of the system.

What You Can Do:

- Go to [DBHR](http://www.dbhr.wa.gov) &/or [Disability Rights Washington](http://www.disabilityrightswa.org) (DRW) Website for more information <http://www.dshs.wa.gov/dbhr/childrensmentalhealth.shtml> <http://www.disabilityrightswa.org>
- Share your input or feedback on the settlement agreement with DRW @ (800) 562-2702
- Get involved: Join our listserv at: [Children's Behavioral Health WA List](#)

T.R. et al. v. Kevin Quigley and Dorothy Teeter Settlement Agreement

Development of a sustainable service delivery system for intensive home and community based mental health services to Medicaid eligible children and youth in Washington State.

