



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS AND PROBATION

## ***Service Interpretive Guidelines***

### **Therapeutic Group Home Mental Health, Substance Use, Juveniles Who Sexually Harm**

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#### **SERVICE DEFINITION:**

Therapeutic group home (ThGH) is a facility based therapeutic residential service providing 24-hour awake supervision, clinical treatment and related services for youth diagnosed with a mental health, substance use disorder and/or who demonstrate sexually inappropriate behaviors who are at risk to re-offend. The youth also will demonstrate persistent behavioral problems (limited coping skills, verbally and/or physically aggressive behavior) that can only be managed with a moderate level of structure; the youth will have functional impairments in daily living skills. The youth has a history of previous problems that cannot be met in a non-therapeutic environment. Specializations can include psychotherapy for clients with co-occurring disorders, eating disorders, trauma, individuals who sexually harm and other areas.

#### **TARGET POPULATION:**

This service would typically assist in addressing youth with high needs in responsivity factors such as mental health, substance use, and/or sexually inappropriate behaviors and in need of 24/7 awake therapeutic services/supports and interventions.

A ThGH must be recommended by a licensed clinician who is able to diagnose/treat major mental illness within their scope of practice. Officer will ensure the licensed clinician who recommends the ThGH completes the application for the ThGH treatment services.

#### **PROBATION/PROBLEM SOLVING COURT OFFICER (OFFICER) RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Officer will prepare the youth and family to transition into the placement, by providing transportation, and making sure the youth has all necessary belongings to include, but not limited to clothing and medications if applicable.
- Officer will need to know there are ThGHs who specialized in mental health, substance use and/or juveniles who sexually harm (JSH).
- Officer will communicate with the provider and provide collateral information to assist with the development of the individualized written treatment plan. Goals must be individualized, measurable and developed with the youth and interdisciplinary team.

- Officer will verify with the ThGH treatment staff if progress is being made. If progress is not indicated, the ThGH staff shall provide a rationale as to what changes will be made to initiate a plan to increase progress.
- Officer shall communicate weekly for updates on treatment plan and goals.
- Officer will assist in maintaining family engagement and facilitate family team meetings to encourage communication and progress.
- Officer shall ensure the youth has access to their community. The ThGH goal is to restore the youth to an improved level of functioning ultimately resulting in the youth living and functioning in a non-therapeutic environment with the return to a home environment.
- Officer will communicate with the court, family, and facility staff to ensure youth are approved to participate in off-site activities. Situations where youth may not be approved may include: court order, extensive runaway behavior, risk to the community, etc.
- Therapeutic leave days are an essential part of the treatment for client/families involved in ThGH. The interdisciplinary team must approve notice of therapeutic leave days 48 hours in advance.
- Officer shall have a face-to-face visit with the youth when they are on therapeutic leave days to ensure youth is following goals they are to complete when they are on therapeutic leave days.
- Officer notifies all interested parties of any placement change.
- Officer will attend any meetings initiated by the Therapeutic Group Home staff; this will assist in maintaining family engagement.
- Officer will complete engagements outlining admission, treatment and discharge.
- Officer will work with the provider to determine plans after discharge. The written discharge plan will include:
  - Follow up appointments scheduled in conjunction with family
  - Community supports and resources for the youth/family
  - Consultation with community agencies on behalf of or in conjunction with the youth/family
  - Written safety plan from the hospital
- Upload all documents to the information management system.