

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

Statewide Accounting of Contracted SVP Housing and Treatment Providers

RCW 71.09.097

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Executive Summary

RCW 71.09.097 directs that the Department shall maintain a statewide accounting of the contracted community housing and treatment providers in each county and provide a biannual report to the legislature and governor by December 1st on the availability and adequacy of less restrictive alternative placements and the department's compliance with fair share principles.

Matrix of Contracted Treatment Providers by County

Counties Served by Provider	Number of Contracted Providers	Number of residents on LRAs
King	11	36
Kitsap & Pierce	5	20
Walla Walla & Spokane	2	9

Matrix of Contracted Housing Providers by County

Counties Served by Provider	Provider	Number of residents on LRAs
Kitsap	West Sound Support	4
Pierce	Avalon	5
Pierce	Grace & Hope	5
Snohomish	Over the Rainbow	1

Availability and Adequacy of Less Restrictive Alternative Placements

The availability of current contracted housing includes 2 additional beds at West Sound Support, 7 beds at Grace & Hope, and 1 bed at Avalon.

The SCC is also working to contract with additional housing providers in counties where housing options for conditional release are not currently available, to ensure each county has an adequate number of housing options equivalent to the number of residents committed from that county as an SVP.

A greater availability of state-operated and contracted housing options would provide better cost controls and oversight of placements in the community. SCC works with non-contracted housing providers when the courts approve discharge plans with placement in a non-contracted housing option. In the absence of a requirement to contract with SCC, there is a limited ability for the SCC to control costs of these non-contracted

housing placements and no incentive for housing and treatment providers to enter into contracts with SCC.

While many of the general requirements of housing and treatment providers are outlined in the court order, contracts provide clear guidelines for service deliverables such as functional assessments and positive behavior support plans, as well as the tracking of behavioral data by the housing staff to monitor treatment progress. This allows for regular updating of the treatment plans and allow for data driven interventions by chaperone staff thus ensuring community safety.

Contracts also provide a means for conflict resolution and better delineate roles and permissible activities such as participation in Resident Community Transition Team (RCTT) meetings, and prohibition against certain activities that may constitute a conflict of interest.

Secure Community Transition Facilities (SCTFs) provide a step-down type housing option for residents who are transitioning from total confinement to an LRA. The existence of these facilities in Pierce and King County provide adequate and readily available housing in those counties. The design of an SCTF in Snohomish County, as directed by the legislature will allow for more housing options in that county which is the next largest driver of commitments under RCW 71.09 in the state.

A mix of SCTFs, contracted housing options, and a greater number of contracted treatment providers are needed to build a more robust system of step down and community transition options to meet the needs of residents who are on LRAs. While the SCC is working to build out more SCTF beds and contracted options, a requirement for providers and housing placements to contract with SCC would increase the availability of options available to SCC while discharge planning and allow for better cost controls. In terms of adequacy, the requirement to contract would provide increased oversight of housing and treatment and work to ensure the individual needs of residents are met. Meeting the treatment and housing needs provides a stable basis for residents to have a successful community transition and ensure community safety.

Compliance with Fair Share Principles

The SCC currently has a total of 65 residents residing in community based LRA's in a total of six counties (King, Kitsap, Pierce, Snohomish, Spokane, and Walla Walla). The current number of LRA residents does not exceed the number of individuals committed from that county as an SVP:

- **King County**- 66 total committed as SVP, 15 current LRA residents
- **Kitsap County**- 13 total committed as SVP, 3 current LRA residents
- **Pierce County**- 34 total committed as SVP, 30 current LRA residents
- **Snohomish County**- 22 total committed as SVP, 5 current LRA residents
- **Spokane County**- 13 total committed as SVP, 6 current LRA residents
- **Walla Walla County**- 3 total committed as SVP, 3 current LRA residents