


CHAPTER Service Delivery	CHAPTER 02	SECTION 004	SUBJECT 145
SECTION Clinical and Support Services		DESCRIPTION Mental Health Court Services	
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APPLICATION:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CMH Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Board Members	<input type="checkbox"/> Provider Network	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Employment Services Providers
<input type="checkbox"/> Employment Services Provider Agencies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Independent Contractors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Students	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interns
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Volunteers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Persons Served		

POLICY:

Lapeer County Community Mental Health (LCCMH), in collaboration with the Lapeer County 71A District Court and 40th Circuit Court, provides Mental Health Court (MHC) Services to persons with a serious mental illness, co-occurring substance use disorder, and/or intellectual/developmental disability as an alternative to incarceration.

STANDARDS:

- A. MHC is an alternative to jail or psychiatric hospitalization for those charged with a misdemeanor or felony offense.
- B. The focus of MHC is on treatment, personal responsibility and close monitoring for persons charged with a crime.
- C. Admission to the program is voluntary. Participants must abide by sentencing guidelines.
- D. Lapeer County MHC participants receive mental health treatment at LCCMH following the recommendations of the treatment team and the MHC Manual.

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E. Participation in court treatment will not be denied solely on the basis of inability to pay fees, fines or restitution.

PROCEDURES:

A. Referrals

1. Anyone can make a referral to Lapeer County MHC. Each case is reviewed on an individual basis. The defendant must meet legal and clinical objective eligibility criteria.
2. The MHC Referral Form (Form #348) is required (Exhibit 1). Assistance with completing this form can be provided by calling the LCCMH Law Enforcement Liaison at 810-667-0500.
3. Completed MHC Referral Forms are sent to the MHC Coordinator at Lapeer County 71A District Court.
4. If additional information is needed on the referral, the decision will be postponed until all necessary information is received.
5. Defendants can be referred to the MHC Program multiple times, even after previous denial.

B. Eligibility

1. The person referred to MHC must be a resident of Lapeer County.
2. The person referred must be 18 years of age or older.
3. The person referred must participate voluntarily and provide written/informed consent and sign the participation agreement.
4. The person referred must meet the LCCMH Access requirements.
 - a. The LCCMH Peer Support or Law Enforcement Liaison may assist with the Access process.
 - b. The person must have a diagnosis of severe and persistent mental illness, co-occurring disorder and/or intellectual/developmental disability as defined in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders Fifth Edition (DSM-5) MCL333.1100d[2][3].

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- c. If the primary diagnosis is a substance use disorder, the person being referred may be considered for Lapeer County Drug Court.
5. The Mental Health Coordinator/LCCMH Law Enforcement Liaison completes LCCMH Form F347, the MHC Evaluation to confirm the qualifying diagnosis and the person's willingness and ability to meet the program requirements. This assessment is scanned into the individual's LCCMH electronic health record.
6. The Prosecuting Attorney reviews the current case and history of legal involvement and must agree to the defendant's admission to the Lapeer County MHC and in accordance with Victim's Rights Act.

C. MHC Services

1. The MHC treatment team meets weekly prior to the MHC docket review hearings.
2. Meetings are facilitated by the MHC Judge.
3. The LCCMH Peer Support and/or LCCMH Law Enforcement Liaison provides support and ensures participants appear at weekly court hearings and attend CMH appointments to promote engagement in mental health treatment.
4. LCCMH Peer Support Services help reduce barriers to treatment (i.e. transportation) and link participants to resources as deemed appropriate and medically necessary.
5. LCCMH provides support and training to Law Enforcement agencies regarding mental health issues and services offered through LCCMH. A list of common mental health terminology will be shared with the members of the MHC Treatment Team (Law Enforcement, Prosecuting Attorney, Defense Attorney, etc.).
6. The MHC Treatment Team has an agreement in place for sharing confidential information explaining the limits of disclosure.

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D. Discharge from Program

1. Graduation: Participants will graduate from the program upon completion of the terms outlined in the individual agreement and the treatment team reaches consensus.
2. Unsuccessful Termination: The participant may be terminated from the Lapeer County MHC program at the recommendation of the Lapeer County MHC Team. If a participant is terminated from the program, they may be re-sentenced on their original charge.
3. If the participant no longer volunteers to participate in the program, they will be returned to formal court docket.

DEFINITIONS:

Law Enforcement Liaison: LCCMH designated staff with the responsibility of bridging the gap between and managing interactions between the mental health, substance use and the criminal justice systems.

REFERENCES:

Lapeer County Mental Health Court Manual
Mental Health Court Referral Form 348
Mental Health Court Evaluation Form 347

SR:mgr