

**Allegheny County
Department of Human Services
Request for Proposals Q&A**

Long Term Structured Residential Program for Individuals with Serious Mental Illness, with or without
Co-Occurring Substance Use Disorder, who have a History of Sexual Offense(s)

August 12, 2015

8. Is there a property or building already targeted for this location?

No, we do not have a property identified. The Successful Proposer must identify a building or property in the proposal.

7. We have seen the AOP structure viewed as an outpatient structure, however this program is a residential program. How would this work in such an environment?

Treatment is provided on site by staff. The AOP structure allows for CCBH to pay for treatment services at the LTSR for those who are enrolled with Health Choices.

6. Is the December time frame a firm date? From the time frames suggested is it even possible to get the program licensed by December?

We are hoping that this program will be up and running by December, and we believe it is doable. The possibility of an extension would be determined on an as-needed basis.

5. Many municipalities have zoning ordinances that stipulate that 8 unrelated individuals cannot inhabit the same dwelling...how does the RFP address this issue?

This issue would have to be explored on a case-by-case basis, depending upon the ordinances in the proposed municipality. In general, the organization should look into getting a variance and discuss the specifics with DHS.

4. It is our understanding that a traditional group home can only accommodate 5 Megan law individuals at one time....is an LTSR exempt from that provision?

The law actually states that a group home can only accommodate five *sexually violent predators*, a special designation that does not apply to all registered sexual offenders. See question 2 below.

3. Could you explain/define the Megan law tiers more fully and perhaps provide an example of a consumer who is on a different tier?

Pennsylvania assigns sexual offenses to three tiers, each with a required registration length, with Tier III being the most serious. An individual convicted of a Tier II offense, for example, must register as a sexual offender with the state police for 25 years, while an individual convicted of a Tier III offense must register for life. You can find a list of Pennsylvania's sexual offenses and respective tiers here:

<http://www.pameganslaw.state.pa.us/FAQ.aspx#REGISTRATION>

2. After reading the vignettes, I had a question about the consumers that we would anticipate serving- Will they all have a violent predator designation coming from the state hospital setting?

Not all of the individuals we anticipate serving will have a "sexually violent predator" designation, although some of them may. The "sexually violent predator" designation is assigned by a court after the Sexual Offenders Assessment Board determines that the individual has a mental abnormality or personality disorder that makes him likely to engage in predatory sexually violent offenses.

1. Does the applicant have to hold an LTSR license currently to be eligible to submit a response to the RFP?

Proposers must have an active mental health services license from OMHSAS, but do not need to currently have an LTSR license in order to apply. The Successful Proposer may obtain an LTSR license after selection.