

Date: May 19, 2010

To: All Community Mental Health Center Directors {sent via facsimile or e-mail to all addresses}

Re: Delay of Voluntary Admissions to Larned State Hospital, Osawatomie State Hospital and Rainbow Mental Health Facility

This notice is sent pursuant to K.S.A. 59-2949, to advise those who make referrals to Larned State Hospital (LSH), Osawatomie State Hospital (OSH) and Rainbow Mental Health Facility (RMHF) that they have reached their patient capacities. To assure the safety of patients and staff, voluntary patient admissions are being delayed until the census has reached a safe operating level.

As you are aware each facility's respective census has been increasing over time and especially over the past several weeks. Quality of care and patient and staff safety are severely hampered when we operate at an overflow capacity; hence, this decision is reached with due regard to those we serve. While we will continue to admit involuntary patients, we must delay the admissions of patients who may be served through other community-based or hospital resources, i.e., voluntary patients.

Thus, effective today May 19, 2010, it is necessary to delay voluntary admissions to LSH, OSH, and RMHF. Each hospital will put into place a process for expeditious admissions as space becomes available. Each Superintendent or his designee will remain in contact with you throughout this process to address any concerns and answer any questions you may have.

We appreciate your ongoing cooperation with us in meeting the needs of Kansans with acute psychiatric illnesses during this temporary process. Please do not hesitate to contact me, Dr. Robert Connell, Superintendent of LSH, at (620) 285-4360, or Greg Valentine, Superintendent of OSH & RMHF, at (913) 755-7073, with any questions or concerns.



Don Jordan
Secretary