



Respite Care Program Information for Contract Referrals

- Respite care refers to recuperative services for those homeless persons who may not meet medical criteria for hospitalization, but who are too sick or medically vulnerable to reside in an emergency shelter and cannot be returned to the streets. Clients are **ONLY** admitted when discharged from one of our affiliated clinics, or an area hospital; walk-ins are not accepted.
- CCH Respite Services serve as a resource to area hospital and our internal clinic facilities by acting as a **step-down facility** for patients that are ready to be discharged from acute care but still need some minor medical attention. Patients with chronic diagnoses or patients requiring daily medical monitoring are not appropriate for the limited services which Respite Care can offer.
- Although facility employees are available for administrative duties 24/7. Respite staff (including medical services) is only available Monday through Friday 8am to 4pm and rotate to both facilities. Patients requiring daily medical monitoring are not appropriate respite referrals.
- Patients are free to come and go within the prescribed facility rules, wandering patients who cannot be alone will not be appropriate for Respite Care. Patients with medical emergencies outside of business hours will be referred by facility administrative staff to 911.
- Patient must be able to independently perform all Activities of Daily Living and transfers. Incontinent patients cannot be considered for referral as there is no daily medical assistance available.
- Each of our facilities has specific admission requirements that are determined by the administrative staff at those facilities. Because of this, all questions pertaining to criminal history, offences and parole/probation **MUST** be answered in writing on the referral form before the referral can be considered. Patients will be clearly educated regarding facility expectations upon intake.
- At this time, we cannot facilitate spouses or family members of Respite candidates.
- Patients with infectious diseases will be considered on a case by case basis for appropriate habitation. No patient will be denied based on infectious disease status alone.

- Patient must be recovering from acute diagnoses and must meet admission requirements as set forth by Colorado Coalition for the Homeless.
- IV antibiotic treatment must be completed in the hospital facility or other medical facility before patients can be referred to Respite with Colorado Coalition for the homeless.
- Daily wound care is not offered with the Respite Program. Patients requiring wound care must be able to demonstrate an ability to perform wound care themselves and must be educated regarding proper disposal of biohazard waste, given wound care supplies as well as a biohazard disposal bags. An appropriate Wound Care Referral Form must accompany the Respite Referral. Please note: nurses are only available for assist Monday through Friday at Samaritan House facility. Samaritan House Respite Beds are very limited.
- All Respite Referral forms must be faxed to 303-296-1306 for evaluation.
- Patients must be taking discharge medications for at least 24 hours or three doses, whichever is later, before discharged to Respite Services with those medications. No first dosing.
- **Discharge plans**, including **follow up care schedule**, **Discharge Medication Lists** and **Current History and Physical** must be attached to Respite Referral form **prior** to faxing the form. This form must be signed by the Medical provider responsible for medical services as it will be considered an Order for nursing services. Forms signed by case managers or social workers cannot be considered an Order for nursing services. Incomplete referrals cannot be considered.
- Biohazard waste containers are provided through Respite Services at appropriate CCH facilities.
- The Respite Referral recording will be updated as beds become available. Please do not leave patient referral information on the recording as only written referrals can be considered valid orders.
- The primary goal of this program is to facilitate ill patients to gain entrance into emergency housing programs and to facilitate a housing first approach for the medically fragile.
- Respite patients receive comprehensive services to assist persons in finding permanent housing; and provide services that assist each person to achieve their highest level of self-sufficiency.
- Services include: Case management, Limited Medical care including referral for appropriate outside medical services, Assistance with enrollment in benefits and health coverage, Referral for alcohol/other drugs and residential treatment services and Meals.