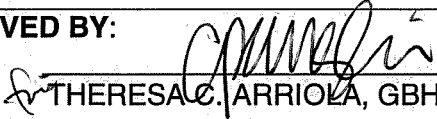


<b>GUAM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM</b>		
<b>TITLE:</b> Access to Care	<b>POLICY NO:</b> CJP-ORG-02	Page 1 of 2
<b>RESPONSIBILITY:</b> Criminal Justice Program		
<b>APPROVED BY:</b>  _____ THERESA C. ARRIOLA, GBHWC DIRECTOR		<b>DATE OF ORIGINAL APPROVAL:</b> 11/30/21
<b>ACKNOWLEDGE BY:</b>  _____ JOE CARBULIDO, DOC DIRECTOR  _____ LILIAN POSADAS, GMHA ADMINISTRATOR		<b>REVIEWED/REVISED DATES:</b>

**PURPOSE:**

To provide an accessibility policy that will improve and promote access to care by identifying and removing barriers in accessing mental health services in Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center Criminal Justice Program (GBHWC-CJP). This policy is in compliance with the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) Standard MH-A-01, J-A-01, PA-01 and the Commission on Accreditation for Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) Accessibility Standard 1L.1 and Screening and Access to Services 2B.2.

**POLICY:**

- A. GBHWC-CJP strives to meet the mental health and substance use needs (i.e., behavioral health needs) of the inmates, arrestees and detainees in a timely manner and improve their access to care. It will ensure that inmates can request and have access to care that meets their behavioral health needs and a range of behavioral health services are available, adequate, and accessible.
  1. GBHWC-CJP Annex shall be established at Guam Dept. of Corrections facilities.
  2. Services will be provided in the outpatient and residential settings within the correctional facilities, Monday – Friday 8:00 – 5:00 pm excluding government of Guam holidays
  3. Services at GBHWC main facility is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for crisis intervention and inpatient services to supplement services at the DOC facility after office hours and during holidays.
  
- B. GBHWC-CJP shall work with the Dept. of Corrections in implementing a continuous process for identifying barriers to behavioral health services and addressing such barriers in the following areas; architecture, environment, attitudes, finances, employment, communication, technology, transportation, community integration when appropriate, and any other barrier identified by the consumers, personnel and other stakeholders.
  1. GBHWC-CJP Administrative Tri-Agency Committee shall include in their standing meeting agenda any access to care issues and barriers that needs to be addressed.
  
- C. Unreasonable barriers to behavioral health services are to be avoided such as the following;
  1. Punishing inmates for seeking care or stigmatizing them for their serious behavioral health issues.

2. Assessing any fees for treatment or excessive copayments that deter inmates from seeking care.
3. Deterring inmates from seeking care for their serious behavioral health needs or delaying sick call appointments.
4. Having an understaffed, underfunded, or poorly organized system, resulting to not able to deliver appropriate and timely care.
5. Permitting unreasonable delays before inmates are seen by prescribing providers or outside consultants to obtain necessary diagnostic work or treatment for their serious behavioral health needs.
6. Interfering with prompt transmittal to behavioral health staff of an inmates' oral or written request for care.

**DEFINITION:**

Access to Care: "in a timely manner, a patient can be seen by a clinician, be given a professional clinical judgement, and receive care that is ordered" (National Commission on Correctional Health Care, 2015).

Mental health services: "are defined broadly to include the sum of all actions taken for the mental wellbeing of the inmate population, including a range of diagnostic, treatment, and follow-up services. Mental health services include the use of a variety of psychosocial, psychoeducational, and pharmacological therapies, including biological, psychological and social, to alleviate symptoms, attain appropriate functioning, prevent relapse, and help patients to develop and pursue their personal recovery plan" (National Commission on Correctional Health Care, 2015)

**REFERENCE(S):**

CARF International. (2020). *Behavioral health standards manual 2020*. Tucson: Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities.

National Commission on Correctional Health Care. (2015). *Standards for mental health services in correctional facilities*. Chicago.

National Commission on Correctional Health Care. (2018). *Standards for Health Services in Prison*. Chicago.

National Commission on Correctional Health Care. (2018). *Standards for Health Services in Jails*. Chicago.

**RELATED POLICY (IES):**

**SUPERSEDES:** Title; Policy No.; Effective Date/signature date; Approving individual's name

**ATTACHMENT(S):**



**GUAM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTER**

790 Gov. Carlos G. Camacho Rd. Tamuning, Guam 96913  
TEL: (671) 647-5330 FAX: (671) 649-6948

**REVIEW AND ENDORSEMENT CERTIFICATION**

The signatories on this document acknowledge that they have reviewed and approved the following:

**Policy Title:** Access to Care

**Policy No:** CJP-ORG-02

**Initiated by:** CJP Team

Date	Signature
11.9.21	

Klein Mallare

Interim Criminal Justice System Behavioral Health Program Manager

Date	Signature
11.22.21	

Athena Duénas, MA, GSA III, ICADC, LPC  
Drug & Alcohol Branch Supervisor

Date	Signature
11/17/21	

Leonora Urbano MSN, RN-BC  
Nursing Administrator

Date	Signature
11/16/2021	

Reina Sanchez, M.A.  
Clinical Division Administrator

Date	Signature
11/22/2021	

Dr. Ariel Ismael  
Medical Director

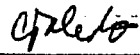
Date	Signature
11/9/21	

Dr. Angela Laygo  
Clinical Psychologist



**GUAM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTER**

790 Gov. Carlos G. Camacho Rd. Tamuning, Guam 96913  
TEL: (671) 647-5330 FAX: (671) 649-6948

Date	Signature
11/4/2021	

Cydsel Victoria Toledo  
Management Analyst IV- Quality Management/Accreditation Compliance

Date	Signature
11/23/21	

Carissa Pangelinan  
Deputy Director