

ADMISSIONS PACKET



VA Southern Oregon
Rehabilitation Center
and Clinics
8495 Crater Lake Hwy.
White City, OR 97524

Introduction

All patients admitted to the VA Southern Oregon Rehabilitation Center & Clinics (VA SORCC) share common biopsychosocial features that prevent them from enjoying successful independent community living. Our mission is to provide veterans a safe, structured, and goal oriented sober living environment to learn and enhance life management skills thereby maximizing the potential for successful transition to their highest level of independent functioning upon discharge.

Who is appropriate for Admission to the VA Southern Oregon Rehabilitation Center?

- 1. Veterans with a history of repeated residential or outpatient substance abuse treatment failures or patients leaving a 30-day conventional residential treatment program for Substance abuse, PTSD, CMI, etc., and who could benefit from an intensive, longer term residential level of rehabilitation. In many of these patients a “geographic cure” may be necessary to a safe and sobriety supportive environment.**
- 2. Any homeless veteran in need of biopsychosocial rehabilitation; substance abuse treatment; and/or vocational and work related programming focusing on community re-entry at an appropriate level of care, i.e., independent living, assisted living, etc.**
- 3. Chronically mentally ill patients, perhaps with a history of numerous, brief acute psychiatric admissions and/or marginal responders within MHICM, in need of basic life skills training, biopsychosocial rehabilitation, and support focused on community re-entry.**

The VA Southern Oregon Rehabilitation Center & Clinics offers clinical services focused on **Biopsychosocial Rehabilitation and Community Re-entry**.

Specific clinical services include:

Substance Abuse Treatment, including a three-week basic recovery program (residential) if needed, relapse prevention and follow-up supportive services. A unique “seekers” program prepares veterans for basic recovery when needed.

Community re-entry services including a twelve week Experiential Learning Program (ELP) that moves patients through four stages of treatment:

1. Motivational assessment: recognition of problem behavior, and treatment cohort formation (individual assessments, build motivation for change and strengthen motivation for change)
2. Executive functioning: recognize, understand and employ new techniques of self-management (planning, foresight, overcoming obstacles, norm development, behavioral rehearsal)
3. Competence building: recognize, understand and manage emotions and behavior (emotional management, attitude and belief change, practice of new behaviors, enhancement of learning, engagement with others)
4. Application: skill utilization and applied learning in community re-entry (generalization, coping, planning, behavioral management)

Employment and Voc rehab Services. The employment services track of the Community Re-entry Program consists of a preliminary evaluation; work adjustment/hardening training (all veterans at the are expected to participate in the IT program as part of their stay); employment placement and follow-up phases. Vocational Rehabilitation Specialists (VRS) and the Incentive Therapy (IT) Coordinator deliver vocational services and support to individuals and groups. Average expected length of stay at the Dom is 180 days, much of which is taken up with other clinical services, e.g. substance abuse treatment, mental health and other self-development programs and services. Each veteran is expected to develop personalized employment goals and an individualized employment plan.

Transitional Services. Transitional services, i.e., specific life management skills, community resources, housing and/or community care, legal help, and benefits, are an intricate part of the continuum of care and are related to psychosocial needs and discharge planning goals. Patients, working with Case Managers, Social Work Service and special programs such as Substance Abuse Treatment Program, Experiential Learning Program, Day Treatment, and Voc Rehab, will be provided specific skills, information, guidance, and goals to assure healthy and meaningful transition to the community or to a higher level of care. Each veteran is expected to save up to 75% of any income to contribute toward their transition to the community.

Case management Services. Case managers are at the heart of the White City program. The Case Manager coordinates care across the continuum for a select group of patients. He/she provides professional guidance, coordination and planning of multiple health care services, acts on behalf of the patient to assure that necessary services are received and that progress is being made, and provides ongoing evaluation of case management services.

Within the context of a time limited biosychosocial rehabilitation model of care (upwards to six months), the Case Manager provides initial and ongoing assessment of patients to identify needs, issues, resources and care goals; identifies resources and critical factors for achieving desired outcomes for discharge, post-residential care, and health maintenance or improvement. He or she sets short and long term care-related goals in collaboration with patient, providers and significant others.

Admission Criteria

The VA SORCC is freestanding and not attached to a VA Medical Center. It is neither a nursing home nor an assisted living facility, and it does not have an acute psychiatric inpatient unit. Therefore, veterans referred to White City are most appropriate for admission when the following criteria are met:

- a. The medical record and/or referring agent indicates that the veteran is free of any medical/psychiatric condition(s) that would preclude his or her ability to **function independently and safely** and receive treatment on an **outpatient** basis in an open environment providing all of his/her own care.
- b. The Veteran is free of any **urgent medical/psychiatric condition** that potentially could require secondary or tertiary levels of "specialty care"
- c. The veteran has the ability to manage his/her medications, keep them secure, and to comply with medication recommendations and instructions.
- d. Any pending legal issues must be fully resolved, including P.O. permission for relocation, prior to admission consideration. Veteran can be admitted given that he/she and probation officer agree to be fully responsible for all court reports, etc. and that there are no pending or outstanding court appearances.
- e. The Veteran can move about unassisted up to 2-3 miles per day; wheel Chair or scooter is appropriate.
- f. History of **recent** self-harm or violence toward others has been assessed and veteran has been determined to be at **low/ minimal risk** for the reoccurrence of such behavior. The Veteran is not activity homicidal or suicidal.
- g. The veteran is at **low/minimal risk** for severe symptoms **of withdrawal**. The VA SORCC does not provide "Detox" services.
- h. The Veteran has potential for reasonable, achievable goals within six months to a year which include, but are not limited to, financial, community reentry (including assisted living or other level of care), housing, and employment or entitlements.

Primary contact persons are Kevin Williams @ **(541) 826-2111 Ext 3551** and Toni Vondra @ **(541) 826-2111 Ext 3289**.

Application Procedures

1. Along with a copy of the veteran's **VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY (VAF 10-10)**, applications should include the following documents **DATED WITHIN THE LAST THIRTY DAYS**:
 - a. **Application For Medical Benefits (Modified)** (Attached). or **VAF 10-10**.
 - b. **Statement that Patient meets White City's Admissions criteria as outlined in admissions packet.**
 - c. Completed "**Brief biopsychosocial**". See attached document.
 - d. **History and Physical**, or Discharge Summary that addresses current medical problems and treatment provided, as well as patient's mobility, ADL status if available and current and **Falls Risk Assessment**; otherwise defer to **Biopsychosocial** above.
 - e. **Mantoux test** for TB screening with complete **PPD skin test** results documented in the medical summary.
 - f. **VA SORCC Patient Admission Agreement** (Attached). Veteran must read, understand and sign prior to admission to the facility.
 - g. **Release of information** (Attached) must also be completed before application can be processed.
2. **Alcohol or drug use in transit will make a veteran ineligible for admission** to the VA SORCC. Patients who are actively abusing alcohol or drugs should be detoxed prior to arrival.
3. The application process is expedited when all required information is completed. If the veteran meets our admission criteria (attached) you can expect a response **within 72 hours of receipt of the packet.**
4. Thank you for your cooperation. The Admissions Social Worker can be reached at **(541) 826-2111, Extension 3551 or Extension 3289. Our FAX Number is (541) 830-3516.**
5. The VA SORCC at White City provides specialized treatment to female veterans as well.

Brief Biopsychosocial:

1. Provide a ***brief*** statement of presenting problems and history of such including substance abuse history if appropriate, as well as the services/treatments/programs and **GOALS** that the veteran is seeking (**preferably in the veteran's own words**).

2. Describe medical conditions which may impact treatment: e.g., Hep C; Diabetes; COPD; HIV; other chronic conditions, etc.

3. **Brief** Psych History/Mental Status: Provide an assessment that includes:

- history of psychiatric diagnoses and hospitalizations
- suicide history and recent ideation . Any history of self-injury i.e. Para suicidal behavior
- current psychiatric stability
- history of medication and other treatment non-compliance

4. Does this veteran plan to re-enter the workforce, or has he or she applied (or plans to apply) for disability compensation?

5. Are there any past legal issues that should be considered in treatment planning? (Briefly explain)

6. What barriers may contribute to or interfere with successful treatment (strengths and weaknesses)?

7. **Discharge Planning:** Does veteran plan to return to point of referral after discharge? If so, who will be his contact (Case Manager or Point of Contact) at that end?

8. **Please identify Issues To be Addressed In Treatment Plan:**

Basic Substance Abuse Treatment or Follow Up support services

Biopsychosocial Rehab (specific Goals; life skills, etc.)

Voc Rehab; work hardening etc.

Employment services

Housing

Financial

Other

**APPLICATION FOR MEDICAL BENEFITS
(MODIFIED)**

(If no VAF 10-10 is available)

Name: _____ **SSN:** _____

Date of Birth: _____ **Sex:** _____

Permanent Address: _____

State: _____

County: _____ (Must be filled in)

Marital Status: _____

Spouse's SSN: _____ **Spouse's Date of Birth:** _____

Date of Marriage: _____

Employed: Yes ___ No ___

Branch of Service: _____ **service #:** _____

Entry Date: _____ **Discharge Date:** _____

Discharge Type: _____

NSC: ___ **Amount \$:** _____

Social Security: ___ **Type:** _____ **Amount \$:** _____

SC: ___ **Amount \$:** _____ **% For:** _____

Total Monthly Income \$: _____ **Health Insurance:** Yes ___ No ___

Prior VA Treatment: Yes ___ No ___

Where Treated: _____

Patient Agreement

ADMISSION TO THE VA SORCC: Your admission to the VA SORCC will provide you with the therapeutic care and support services designed to enable you to improve your quality of life and achieve functional independence and health, with a primary objective of restoring you to community life. It is expected that in order to accomplish your goals you will require, on average, four to six months of treatment. The following information is important in your success in the VA SORCC.

PATIENT RESPONSIBILITY: I acknowledge that *I am being admitted to the VA SORCC for treatment and rehabilitation as outlined by this and subsequent treatment plans.* I am aware that with the help of VA SORCC staff, I share responsibility for achieving the listed rehabilitation and treatment goals. I agree to follow all VA SORCC rules, as outlined in the VA SORCC Patient Handbook. I understand that **no passes** will be issued within the first 45 days of treatment at the VA SORCC. I also understand that smoking is allowed only in designated areas **outside** of the facility. Smoking **indoors** or in an undesignated area may result in a **Federal Citation** and may also be **grounds for discharge**. Willfully not evacuating a building or area during a fire drill may also be grounds for discharge. I understand that I am **NOT** entitled to receive General Relief (GR), Food Stamps and/or SSI while a patient in the VA SORCC, and that I am subject to immediate discharge if I receive these monies while in the VA SORCC. I am aware that as a part of my treatment plan I will be asked to **save a percentage** of any monies I receive (**up to 75% depending on specific goals and objectives set by me and my Case Manager**) while a resident at the VA SORCC to go toward housing and discharge planning. I am also aware that upon my discharge I am responsible for the immediate removal of all personal property.

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION: *I agree to attend all appointments/groups and participate fully in all of the activities prescribed by my treatment plan.* I understand that failure to participate in the program outlined in my treatment plan will be seen as refusing, obstructing, or impeding reasonable treatment and will result in discharge. To ensure a safe and home like environment *the VA SORCC maintains a zero tolerance for hostile, assaultive, intimidating, or offensive and "inappropriate behavior"*. Overt sexual displays and/or sexual harassment will not be tolerated. The focus of your admission here is on your rehabilitation. Although we expect that your relationships will improve over time as a result of your treatment here, intimate relationships involving patients in any manner are not permitted anywhere on the campus.

Inappropriate behavior also includes any form of discrimination (racial, sexual, etc.), profanity, and/or use of language others may find offensive. Any such inappropriate behavior toward staff or other patients may result in discharge from the VA SORCC. I understand I will be subject to random urine tests. If, due to my behavior, I am suspected of substance abuse, I may be required to provide a urine sample (which must be completed within **two (2)** hours from the request), and/or a breathalyzer test in order to confirm my continued abstinence. All urine tests will be observed. (**Note: Do not eat poppy seeds**, which have been proven to cause positive urine test for opiates, **and will not be used as a defense for positive UAs**). **Also, if I smoke or use tobacco products, I agree to participate in nicotine cessation classes and I agree to make a good-faith attempt at giving up tobacco use.**

SUBSTANCE ABUSE STATEMENT: If I violate any of the following three rules I may be discharged: (1) Use of alcohol and/or illegal drugs. (2) Possession of alcohol and/or illegal drugs on VA grounds. (3) A positive urine screening or breathalyzer test, or failure to provide a urine sample within the **2-hour** time period. However, if I am under the influence of alcohol and/or other non-prescribed drugs and **ACT-OUT** in a hostile, threatening, or assaultive manner (**a perceived danger to others**), I will be placed under arrest immediately and escorted to the local police facility for disposition. I understand that I will be immediately discharged and will not have the **Appeal Rights** as outlined below. Furthermore, I understand that I do have the right to **appeal** my discharge as an **outpatient** through the Chief of Staff office.

PATIENT APPEAL RIGHTS: I understand that I have the right to appeal my discharge to the VA SORCC Discharge Appeals Board (DAB) and, if I don't agree with its decision, I can appeal DAB's decision to a representative of the Chief of Staff/Director.

I FULLY UNDERSTAND AND AGREE WITH THE TERMS OF THE ABOVE AGREEMENT:

PATIENT'S SIGNATURE - DATE

STAFF REPRESENTATIVE - DATE

Please show this document to your Case Manager at your first scheduled appointment.