

DOH Transforming Psychiatric Hospitals Under Gov. Murphy
FACT SHEET

Top accomplishments:

- In April, hired Deputy Commissioner for Integrated Health Deborah Hartel, who spent more than 20 years at St. Joseph's Regional Health and 17 at the former St. Mary's in Passiac. She has an extensive background in hospital operations, management and quality improvement in behavioral health facilities. She is overseeing the psychiatric hospital turnaround plan along with Valerie Mielke, the Assistant Commissioner of the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services.
- The state's vision for the hospitals is for them to operate as one health system with regional facilities, sharing best practices uniform standards and operating procedures.
- Under the leadership of CEO David Kensler, Ann Klein Forensic Center (AKFC) retained its Joint Commission accreditation by ending administrative lock-ins, hiring 90 staff and making anti-ligature improvements to prevent patients from harming themselves. Total Seclusion and Restraint (S&R) hours have steadily declined since January 2018.
- Filled key leadership positions at Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital (GPPH): Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Deputy Chief Executive Officer (DCEO), Director of Quality Management and Medical Director. The new leadership has enabled an increase in supervision, monitoring, accountability, support and coaching for the clinical disciplines in the hospital.
- New GPPH CEO Tomika Carter named today.
- Just since January, across all hospitals, there has been a 30-percent decrease in assaults resulting in major and moderate injury to patients and staff in 1st quarter 2018 compared to 1st quarter 2017 - and a census decrease of nearly 60 patients from 1,510 in January 2018 to 1,453 last month.
- There are 486 patients at Greystone, which as a capacity of 552. Ancora, which has a capacity of 600, has 412 patients; and Trenton has 352 patients with a capacity of 400.
- DOH is replicating in other hospitals best practices at Ancora Psychiatric Hospital (APH)
- Ancora was cited by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) as a national leader in the integration of trauma-informed care, which recognizes that past traumatic experiences can affect a person's mental well-being,
- Increased patient participation in treatment, vocational support, and peer support services
- DOH is developing minimum active, evidence-based treatment standards and psychiatrist-patient interaction times and decreasing the number of unnecessary meetings that don't include patients

Other improvements at Ann Klein Forensic Center (AKFC):

- Established a team to provide training and coaching to staff on de-escalation techniques and therapeutic interventions when there is a need to physically intervene in a crisis intervention.

- Administrative rounds are conducted to ensure treatment team members and nurses are visible on the unit and clinically monitoring patients and providing clinical direction to medical security staff.
- Seclusion and Restraint (S&R) hours in April 2018 numbers are 40% lower than December 2017, and each month shows a 10-15% decrease. This is attributed to increase monitoring and clinical oversight.
- Of note, July saw a 95% reduction in restraint from the previous month and 84% from the same period last year. Seclusion dropped 35% from last month and 54% from July 2017

Progress at Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital (GPPH):

- Census reduction: from 548 in August 2017 to 486 in August 2018 .
- This represents a substantial decrease under Murphy administration and a **15% decrease** since the census reached a peak last summer
- Medical Director assumed responsibility of the Violence Prevention Committee. Each unit has incorporated violence prevention (reduction of assaults)
- Established a program oversight committee to ensure the quality and quantity of programming, meeting the clinical needs of patients and standards of practice.

Ancora Psychiatric Hospital improvements since January

- Implemented the Nursing Simulation Laboratory that gives staff hands-on clinical experience to practice skills needed to manage complex, high-acuity patients, drills for emergency preparedness, and interdisciplinary team work.
- Created metrics that track patient progress
- Implemented the Emotion-Regulation Skills System for patients with developmental disabilities
- Implemented training on trauma-informed care, winning accolades from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Trenton Psychiatric Hospital improvements

- Restraint rate is well below state and national averages. TPH does not use seclusion.
- Piloting Substance Abuse Services programs to improve the continuum of care for substance use services from the community to TPH and upon discharge from TPH to the community provider
- Implemented new innovative program where 77 patients met with labor specialists, providers of supportive employment services