

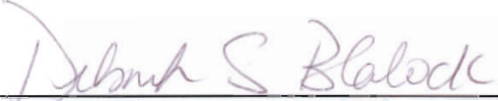
Charleston Dorchester Mental Health Center

Assessment Policy

The Charleston Dorchester Mental Health Center provides initial and ongoing clinical assessments that create the basis for development of the individual treatment plan enabling consumers to achieve measurable goals with desired outcomes.

Procedure:

1. Following intake, the initial biopsychosocial assessment is initiated and completed within three sessions.
2. The assessment procedure identifies consumer strengths, needs, abilities, and preferences and includes informed consumer choices, desired outcomes and expectations.
3. The assessment is comprehensive and includes, at minimum, identifying data, current and past mental and medical health problems, drug and alcohol use, current medications, social history, and mental status.
4. The client is an active participant in the assessment process which determines the basis and direction of the consumer's individual treatment plan, including desired outcomes.
5. When appropriate, the treatment team will include the consumer and others chosen by the consumer to facilitate comprehensive treatment planning.
6. The assessment process is conducted in a therapeutic atmosphere whereby social, emotional, psychological, physical, sexual, cultural, ethnic, and spiritual factors are discussed in a safe and culturally sensitive environment.
7. Information from previous service providers and referral sources may be integrated in the assessment process and utilized in the treatment planning process.
8. Assessment outcomes will be communicated to the consumer during the treatment planning process and to appropriate personnel at treatment plan staffing.
9. Assessment is ongoing and continues for the duration of treatment.



Deborah S. Blalock
Executive Director



Date