

Board Meeting

BE D·B·H·D·D

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental
Disabilities

August 28, 2025



Agenda

Roll Call

Call to Order

Introduction of Guest Speaker

Action Items

- Board Meeting Minutes – June 12, 2025
- Jail Restoration Center Resolution
- Amended Fiscal Year 2026 & Fiscal Year 2027 (Vote to be taken after presentation)

Commissioner's Report

- Amended Fiscal Year 2026 & Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Update
- Renovations Overview: Hospital Campuses
- Hospital Services
- DBHDD Jail Restoration Center
- Community Integration Homes Overview
- Board Engagement

Chair's Report

Public Comment

Roll Call

Chelsee Nabritt

Board and Special Project Manager

Call to Order

Lasa Joiner

Chair

Introduction of Guest Speaker

Summer Edwards,

Jail Restoration Center Manager, DBHDD

Action Item

- Board Meeting Minutes – June 12, 2025

Action Item

- Jail Restoration Center Resolution

Commissioner's Report

Kevin Tanner
Commissioner

BE DBHDD

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

Chris Hamilton

Chief Financial Officer, DBHDD



DBHDD Budget Update

FY 2026



Budget Highlights – FY26

Alcohol use disorder peer support

- **FY26 Funding: \$1,000,000**
- **Peer recovery coaching for individuals entering the emergency department for AUD in Northeast Georgia Medical Center**

Waiver funding for individuals with IDD

- **FY26 Funding: \$5,827,563**
- **Annualizes waivers funded in FY25 and funds 150 new waivers for FY26**

Annualized funding for the IDD Crisis Services & Diagnostic Center

- **FY26 Funding: \$3,141,942**
- **Includes the both the outpatient clinic and the crisis services center**

Budget Highlights – FY26

Funds to operationalize a Forensic Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF)

- FY26 Funding: \$1,185,089

Annualized funding for the DBHDD Jail Restoration Center

- FY26 Funding: \$1,055,621

Funds for an additional Project New Hope facility at WCGRH

- FY26 Funding: \$1,618,742

Funds for a Forensic Unit at the Allen Building at CSH

- FY26 Funding: \$1,953,245

Budget Highlights – FY26

Funding for a BHCC in North Fulton County

- FY26 Funding: \$9,481,532
- Will help address the needs identified in the statewide crisis bed study

Funds for additional housing vouchers for the Georgia Housing Voucher program

- FY26 Funding: \$1,701,600
- Funds ~120 housing voucher slots

Annualized funding for the IDD and BH Rate Studies

- FY26 Funding for IDD: \$26,714,565
- FY26 Funding for BH: \$12,528,923

Conclusion & Summary

- DBHDD is well positioned as we enter FY26
- The funding we have received from the Governor's Office and the General Assembly goes a long way towards addressing the many critical needs faced by the Agency
- We look forward to putting these newly appropriated resources to work serving the citizens of Georgia

Appropriation by Program – FY26

Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities FY 2026 Appropriation

Program	State Funds	Federal & Other	Total
Administration	\$ 30,989,579	\$ 9,300,746	\$ 40,290,325
Adult Addictive	\$ 57,353,550	\$ 44,921,215	\$ 102,274,765
Adult Developmental Disab.	\$ 555,798,655	\$ 519,584,949	\$ 1,075,383,604
Adult Developmental Disab. (Respite Services)	\$ 2,100,000	\$ -	\$ 2,100,000
Adult Forensics	\$ 154,822,624	\$ 191,500	\$ 155,014,124
Adult Mental Health	\$ 662,732,874	\$ 60,029,287	\$ 722,762,161
C&A Addictive	\$ 3,330,959	\$ 7,928,149	\$ 11,259,108
C&A Developmental Disab.	\$ 17,390,174	\$ 3,285,496	\$ 20,675,670
C&A Forensic	\$ 7,308,144	\$ -	\$ 7,308,144
C&A Mental Health	\$ 58,027,803	\$ 11,252,531	\$ 69,280,334
Direct Care/Support Svcs	\$ 157,576,528	\$ 3,873,041	\$ 161,449,569
Substance Abuse Prevention	\$ 359,230	\$ 19,396,415	\$ 19,755,645
Attached Agencies	\$ 4,353,994	\$ 2,019,042	\$ 6,373,036
Total Department	\$ 1,712,144,114	\$ 681,782,371	\$ 2,393,926,485

Appropriation by Service Area – FY26

	State	Federal & Other	Total
DBHDD Total	\$ 1,712,144,114	\$ 681,782,371	\$ 2,393,926,485
Community	\$ 1,278,388,444	\$ 642,094,447	\$ 1,920,482,891
Hospital	\$ 398,412,097	\$ 28,368,136	\$ 426,780,235
Administration	\$ 28,822,579	\$ 9,300,746	\$ 38,123,325
Transportation	\$ 2,167,000	\$ -	\$ 2,167,000
Attached Agencies	\$ 4,353,994	\$ 2,019,042	\$ 6,373,036

Budget Instructions and Budget Development

AFY 2026 & FY2027



DBHDD – Budget Instructions & Submission

- Looking ahead to the Amended FY 2026 and Fiscal Year 2027 budgets, Georgia will continue to prioritize conservative fiscal management.
- This will ensure the state can meet its ongoing financial commitments and plan for sustainable future growth.
- Therefore, all state agencies are to plan to maintain current FY 2026 spending levels for both the AFY26 and FY27 budgets.
- DBHDD's proposed submission will comply with these instructions. We are therefore submitting a flat budget request that seeks no additional funding.

Action Item

- Amended Fiscal Year 2026 & Fiscal Year 2027
(Please Vote)

BE DBHDD

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

Greg Hoyt

Office of Hospital Operations Director, DBHDD



From Foundations to Future: Transforming DBHDD's Hospitals

- **Our History & Progress**

Understanding the age and legacy of Georgia's hospital system and the unprecedented support invested in its renewal.

- **Projects by Hospital**

Highlighting current and planned improvements across all campuses to modernize facilities and strengthen services.

- **Fleet Operations**

Ensuring safe, efficient, and reliable transportation to support patient care and operational needs statewide.

From Foundations to Future: Transforming DBHDD's Hospitals

**“We shape our buildings;
thereafter they shape us.” —
Winston Churchill**

From Legacy to Renewal: Transforming DBHDD's Hospitals

- Majority of Georgia's Psychiatric Hospital System was built between **1968 and 1972**, meaning most buildings are now **50+ years old**. Some facilities, like **ECRH-Gracewood** (opened 1921, 104 years ago) and **Central State Hospital** (opened 1842, 183 years ago), are much older.
- In the last two budget cycles, **Governor Kemp's administration and the Georgia General Assembly** have provided **unprecedented support** for facility renovations and improvements.
- **Commissioner Tanner's leadership** has laid the foundation for this confidence in DBHDD, reflected in these historic investments in our hospital system.

Historic Support

- **2023 Survey:** Comprehensive assessment of all 6 campuses → identified **\$89M** in needed improvements.
- **Extraordinary Funding:** FY2024 budget included **\$60M** to address survey findings.
- **Ongoing Investment:** DBHDD's base budget for Institutional Repairs & Maintenance doubled from **\$5M** → **\$10M annually** (recurring).
- **Continued Commitment:** FY2025 budget included **\$10M** for additional survey-related needs.

General RLR Survey Systemic Findings

- **Critical Infrastructure Needs (53%)**

HVAC, roofs, sanitary drains, electrical, plumbing, fire alarms, and security systems.

- **Safety & Cosmetic Needs (47%)**

Flooring, ceilings, paint, lighting, and signage upgrades.

- **Systemwide Priorities**

- Modern, energy-efficient lighting
- Flooring replacements for safety/durability
- Interior refreshes (walls, ceilings, trim)
- Compliance with building codes, accessibility, and safety standards
- Consistent fire alarm and signage updates across campuses

Hospital Projects: Georgia Regional Hospital-Atlanta



Projects by Hospital - GRHA

Project	Budget	Scope	Timeline
GRHA RLR Project	\$11,061,020	Renovations across 8 buildings	Completion: May 2027
GRH Atlanta Kitchen Renovation	\$10,205,000	Modernize kitchen with new and durable equipment, system upgrades, and reconstruct loading dock for safety & efficiency.	Sep 2025 – Dec 2026





Projects by Hospital - GRHA

Hospital Projects: East Central Regional Hospital (Augusta)



Projects by Hospital – ECRH (Augusta/Gracewood)

Project	Budget	Scope	Timeline
ECRH RLR Project – Augusta Campus	\$10,110,172	Renovations across 14 buildings	TBD – under review, equipment lead times
ECRH RLR Project – Gracewood Campus	\$3,619,511	Renovations across 4 buildings (at this time)	TBD – under review, equipment lead times
ECRH Treatment Mall Renovation	\$8,000,000	Gymnasium renovation/conversion to support active treatment activities for recovery & wellness	Dec 2025 – May 2027

ECRH: Critical Infrastructure Needs



Projects by Hospital - ECRH



Projects by Hospital - ECRH



Projects by Hospital - ECRH

DESIGN CONCEPTS - GYM



Wall Elements

- Create a biophilic atmosphere
- Mask full height columns behind faux tree elements
- Integrate Augusta theme into the mural on the back wall



EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL HOSPITAL
TREATMENT MALL

17

5/28/2025

2.1
km
Montgomery

Projects by Hospital - ECRH

DESIGN CONCEPTS - GYM



Wall Elements

- Add protective wall elements up to 12'-0" AFF
- Add color sound panels above protective wall material
- Disperse color sound panels throughout the ceiling



Projects by Hospital - ECRH

DESIGN CONCEPTS - LIBRARY



Ceiling Elements

- Create “sunburst” design with ceiling elements
- Develop bulkhead clouds/forms
- Exposed roof structure in select areas



EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL HOSPITAL
TREATMENT MALL

13

5/28/2025

2 KM
simple designs

Projects by Hospital - ECRH

DESIGN CONCEPTS - LOBBY



Ceiling Elements

- Using wood elements on ceiling bulkhead.
- Creating a bulkhead over welcome/nurse desk
- Linear recessed lighting
- Designate seating vs circulation with flooring



DESIGN CONCEPTS - LIBRARY

Ceiling Elements

- Using wood elements on ceiling bulkhead
- Creating a bulkhead over welcome/nurse desk
- Linear recessed lighting

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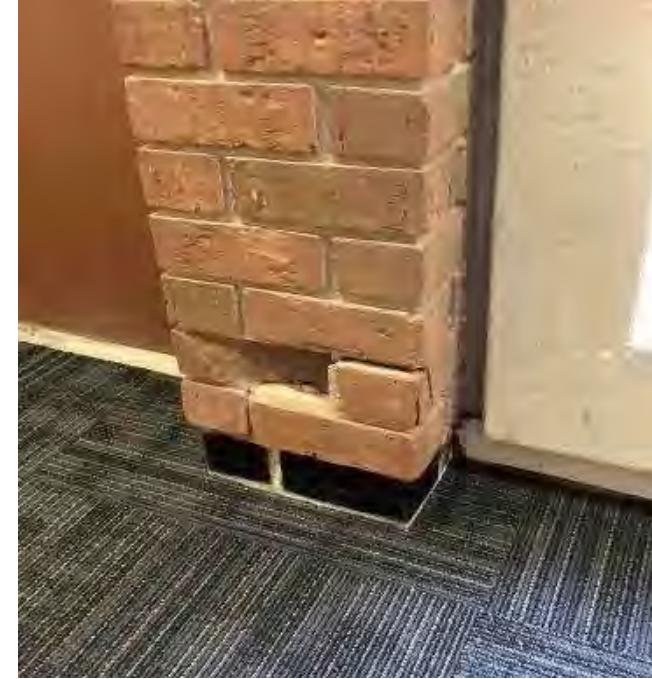
CENTRAL REGIONAL HOSPITAL
MENT MALL

Hospital Projects: Georgia Regional Hospital-Savannah



Projects by Hospital – GRHS (Savannah)

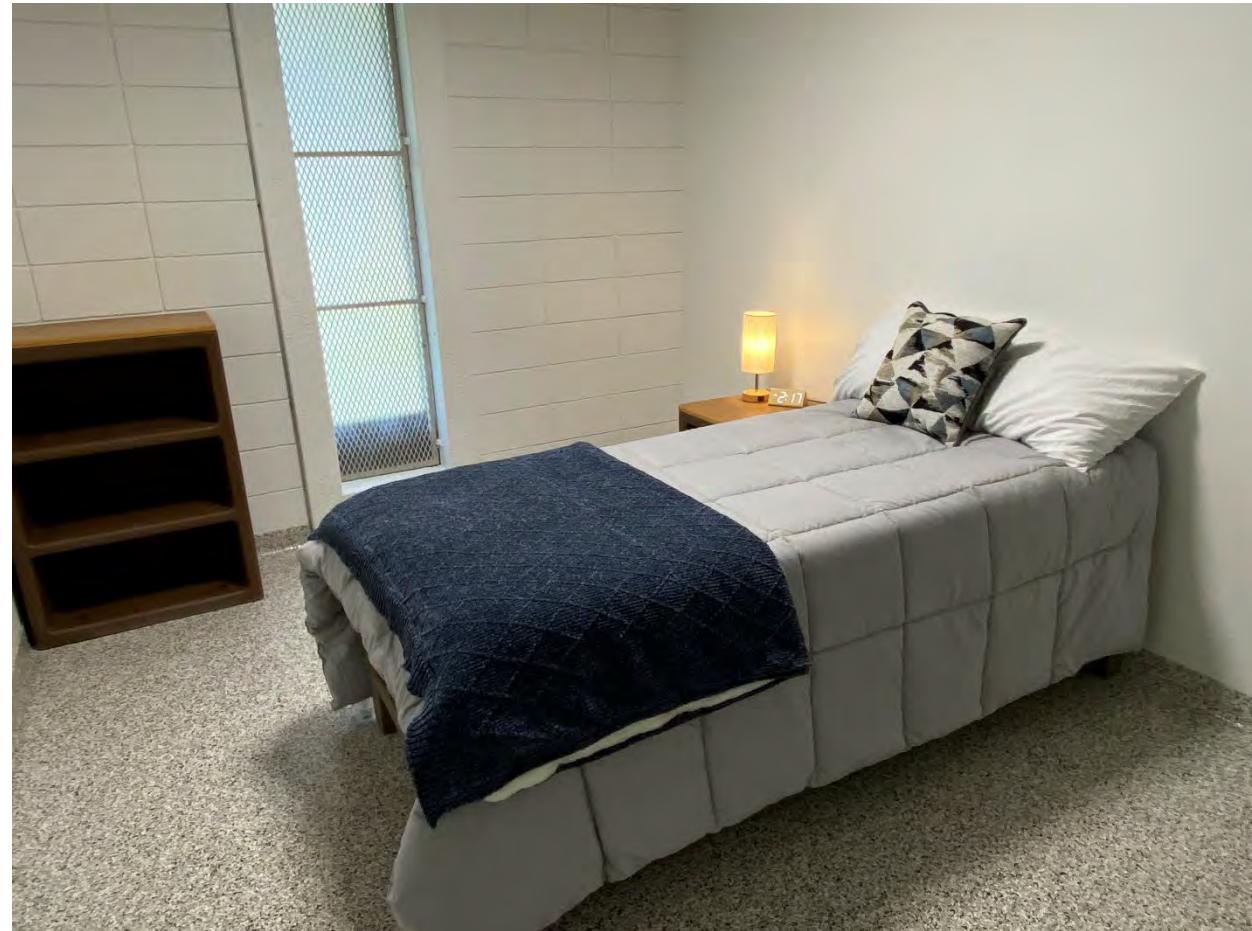
Project	Budget	Scope	Timeline
GRHS RLR Project	\$11,988,265	Renovations across 15 buildings	Dec 2025 – Oct 2026



Projects by Hospital - GRHS



Projects by Hospital - GRHS



Hospital Projects: Central State Hospital (Milledgeville)



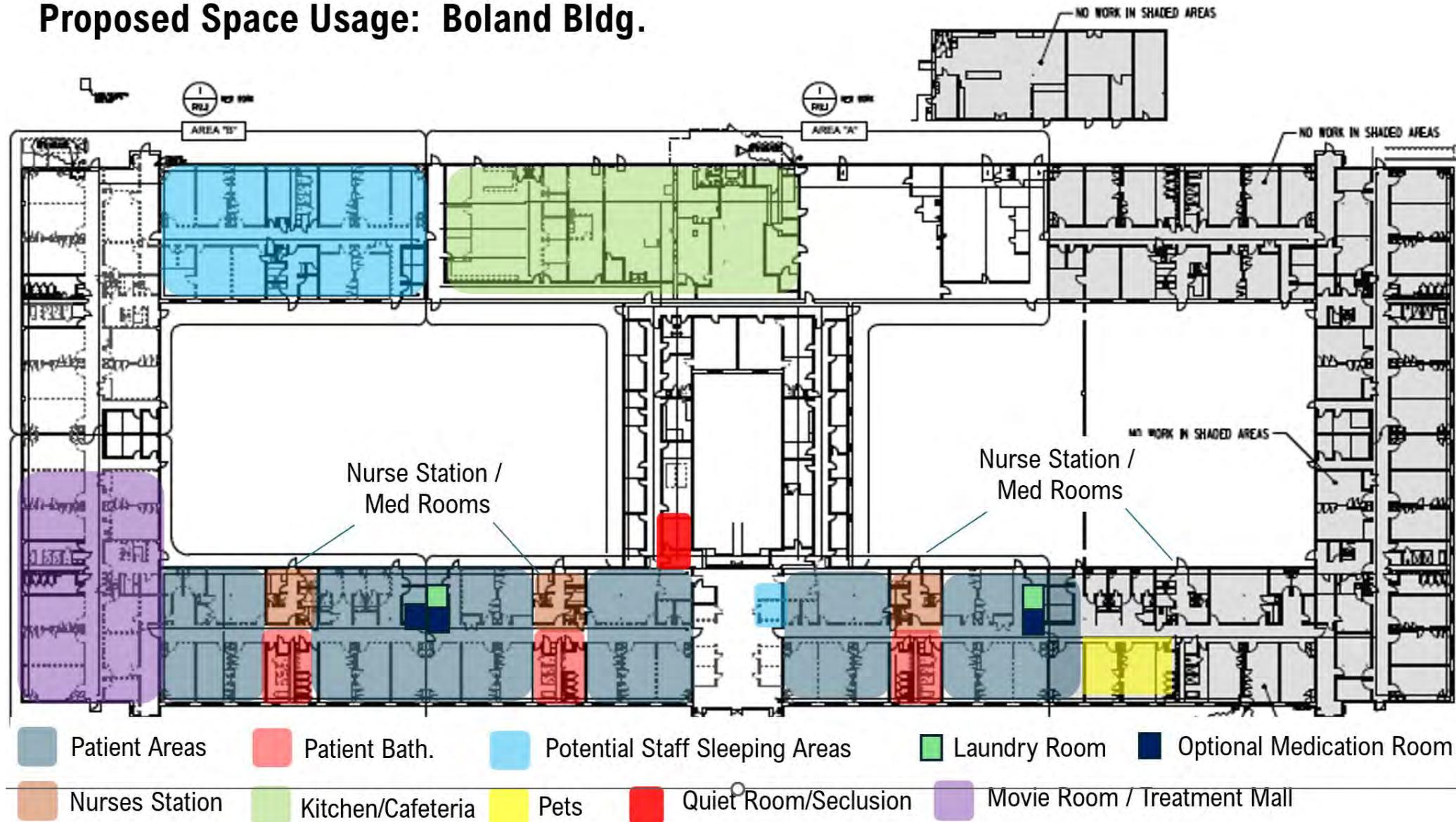
Projects by Hospital - CSH

Project	Budget	Scope	Timeline
CSH RLR Project	\$9,664,875	Renovations across 4 buildings	Apr 2025 – Dec 2026
CSH Boland Building Project	\$750,000	Refurbish portions of Boland Building to support emergency evacuation of other hospitals	Apr 2025 – Aug 2025

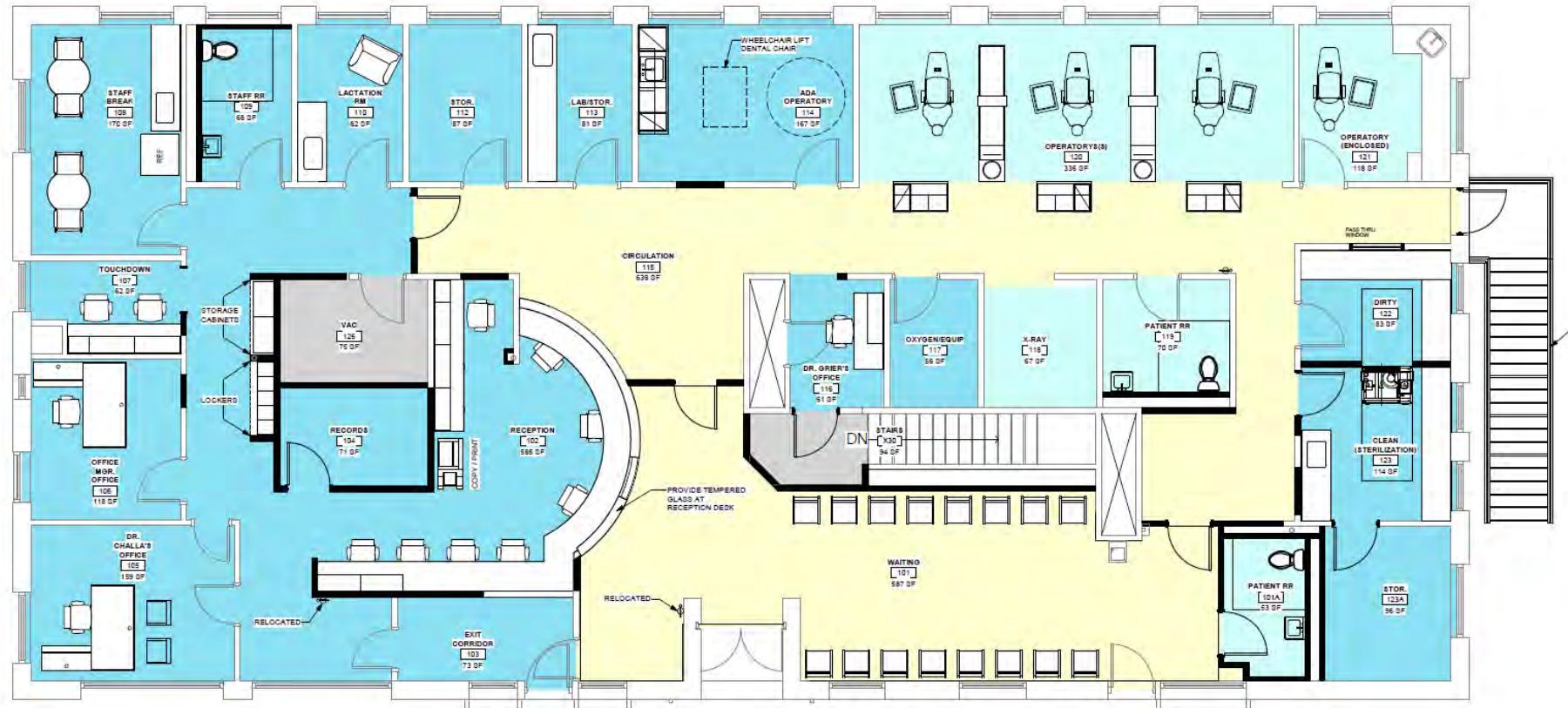


Projects by Hospital - CSH

Proposed Space Usage: Boland Bldg.



Projects by Hospital - CSH



Projects by Hospital - CSH



Projects by Hospital - CSH



DBHDD Jail Restoration Center (Dodge County)



Hospital Projects: West Central Georgia Regional Hospital



Projects by Hospital - WCGRH

Project	Budget	Scope	Timeline
WCGRH RLR Project	\$9,664,875	Renovations – Project Scope TBD	TBD



WCGRH: Ongoing Special Projects

Operation New Hope Columbus (Build 7 Renovation)

- Renovations underway since June to prepare for Operation New Hope.
- **Projected completion:** Jan 2026 (3rd week).
- **Capacity:** 30 beds.
- Staffing and program development also in progress.

Steam Conversion Project

- Multi-year project converting heating infrastructure from forced steam to natural gas.
- Includes installation of a **campus-wide generator**.
- **Projected completion:** Jan 2030.

Office of Fleet Operations – Strategic Investments

- **Total Investment FY24–FY26: \$7.1M**
- **Vehicles Purchased FY24–FY25: 69**
- **Strategic Goal refresh 20% of the DBHDD Fleet annually**

Breakdown of Investments:

- **FY24 Bond Funded: \$2M → 40 vehicles**
- **FY25 State Funded: \$360K → 8 vehicles**
- **FY25 Bond Funded: \$1.25M → 21 vehicles**
- **FY26 State Funded: \$3.5M → Vehicles TBD**

FY 2025 Update: Purchased diverse fleet to strengthen hospital and regional operations, including box trucks, wheelchair-accessible vans, passenger vans, and SUVs.



From Foundations to Future: Transforming DBHDD's Hospitals

“We shape our buildings; thereafter they shape us.” — Winston Churchill

Across history, wisdom points to a timeless truth: When we invest in better environments — at work or at home — people flourish, productivity rises, and well-being strengthens.

Imagine how that truth is compounded in a psychiatric treatment setting.

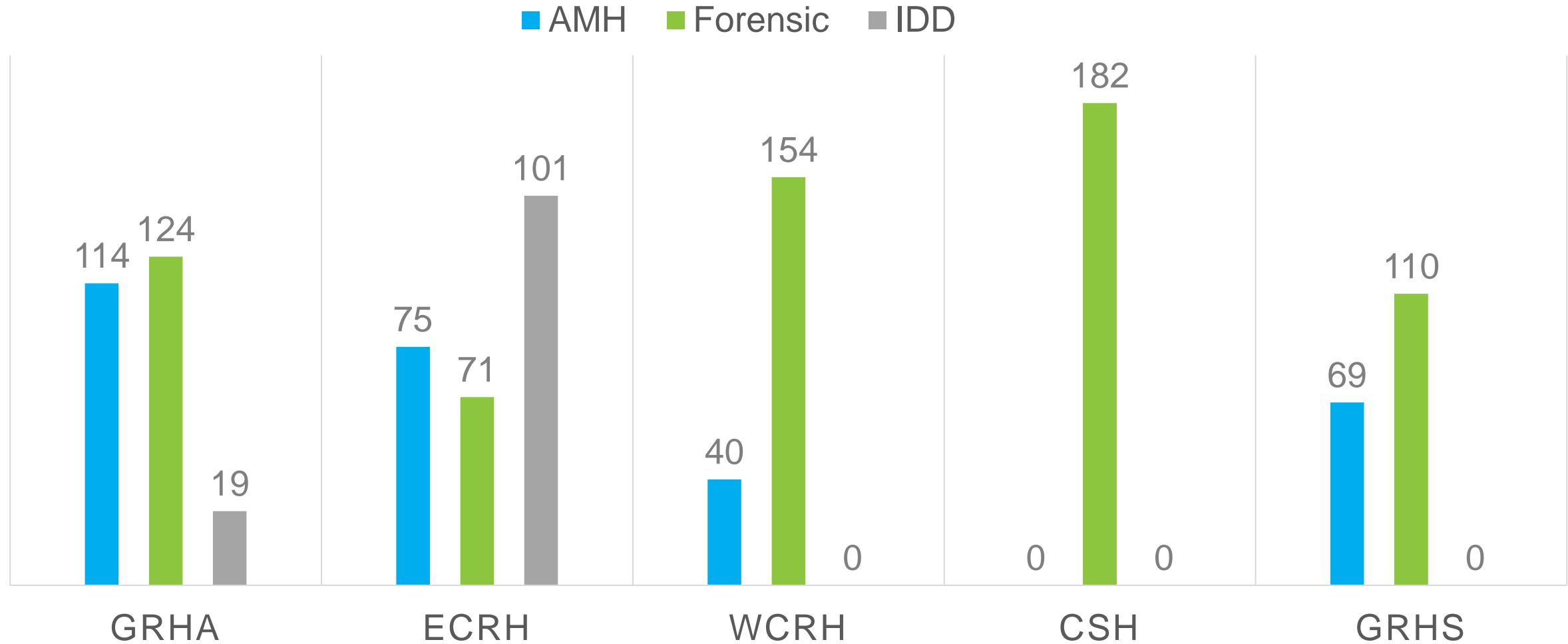
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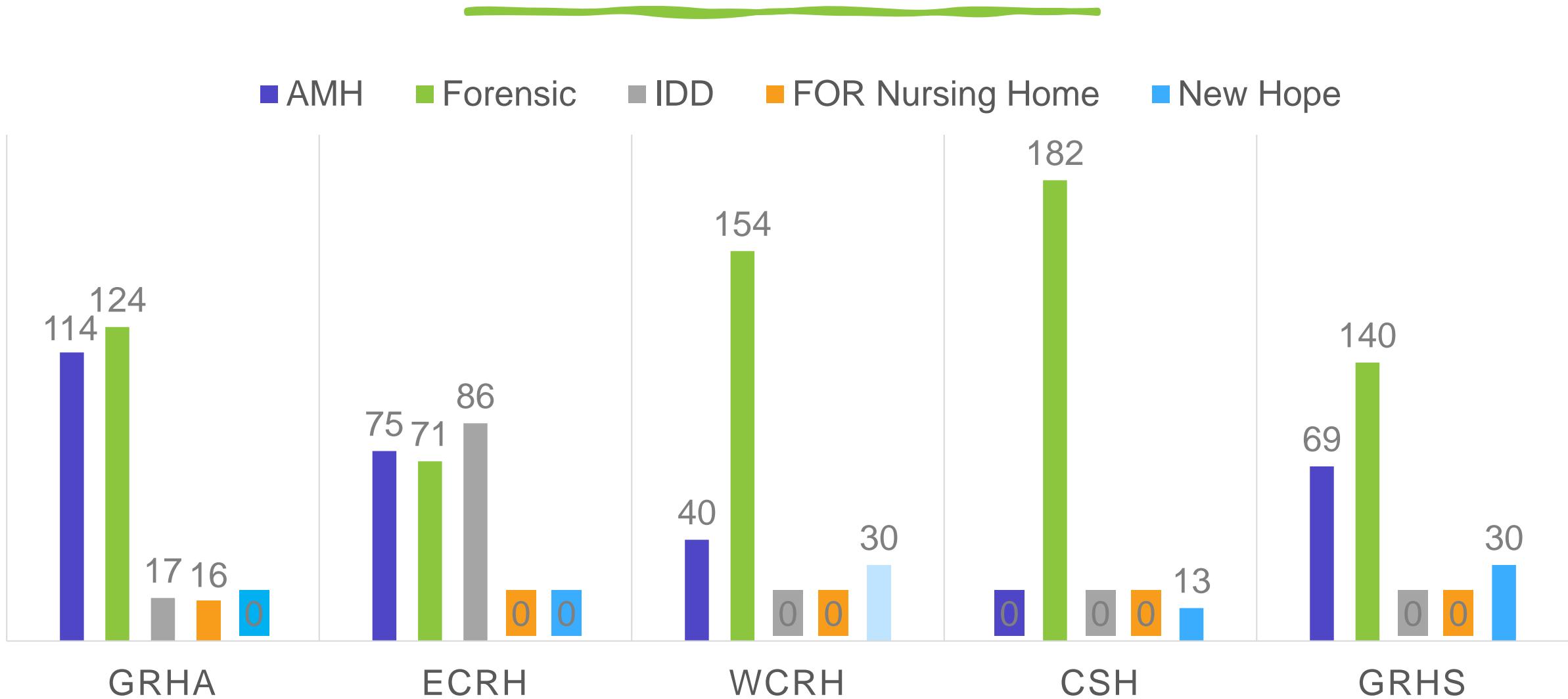
Emile Risby, MS, JM
Medical Director, DBHDD



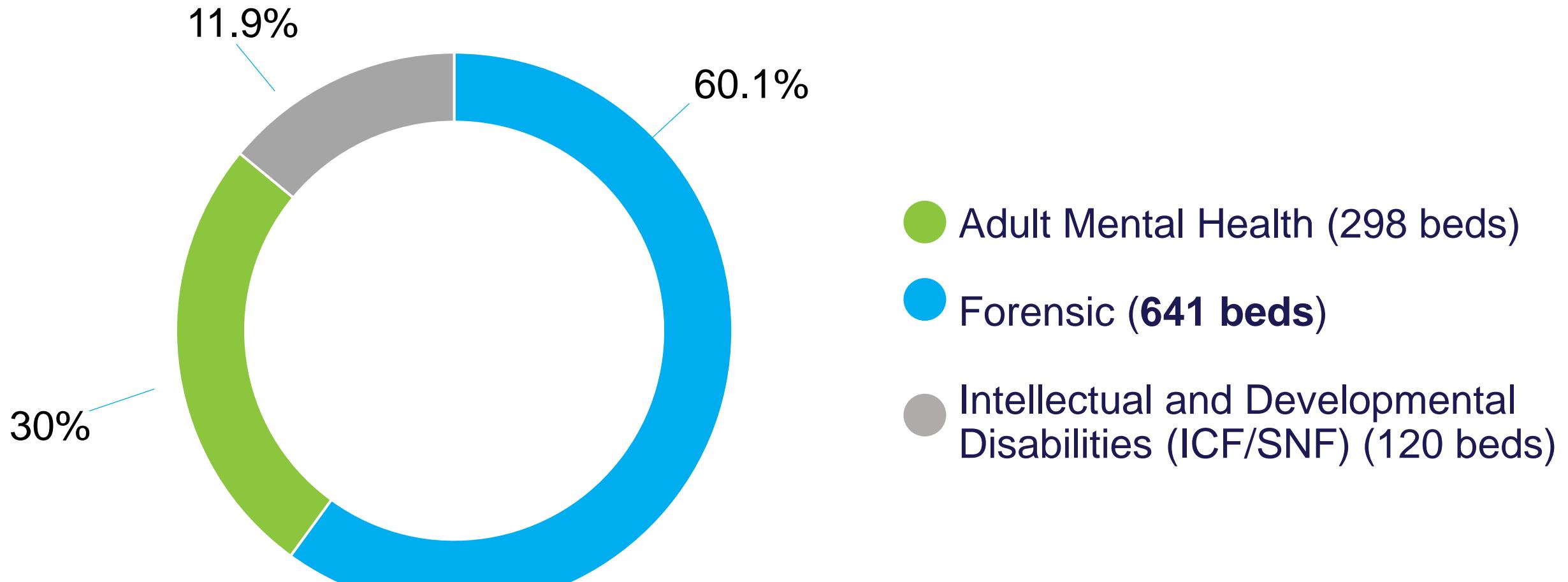
Number of Beds by Hospital 2022



Number of Beds by Hospital 2025



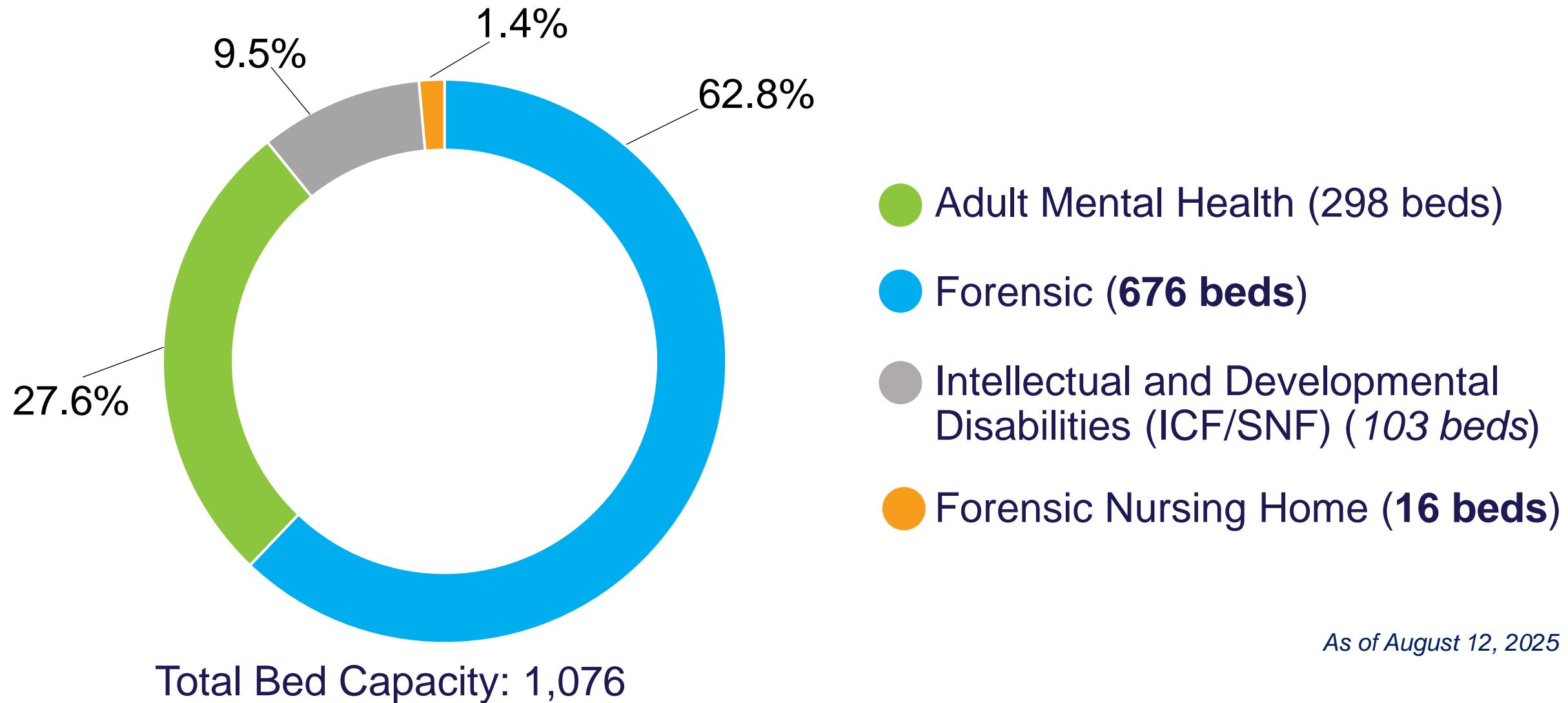
DBHDD Hospitals 2022



Total Bed Capacity: ~1,059

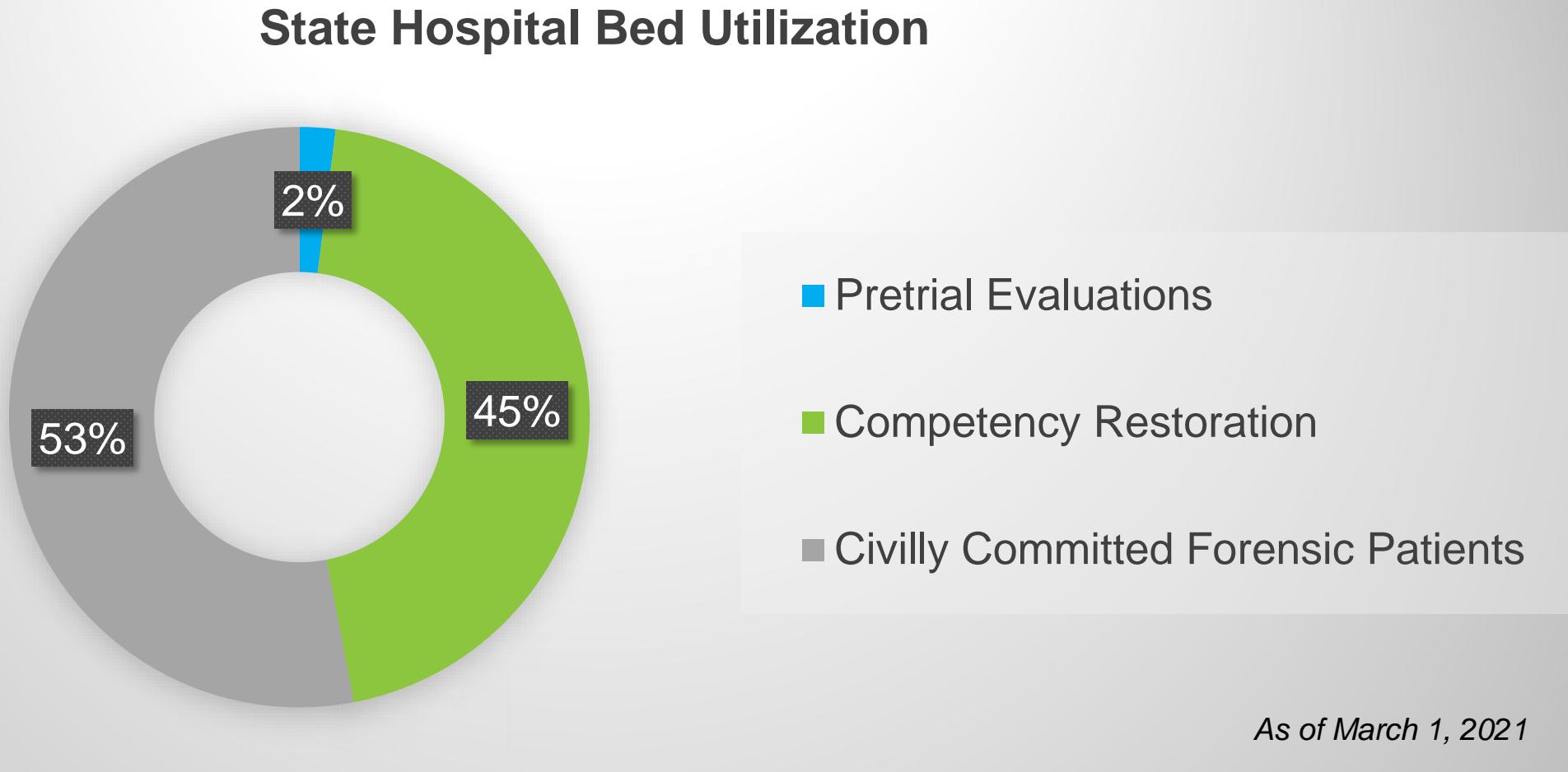
As of June 12, 2022

DBHDD Hospitals 2025



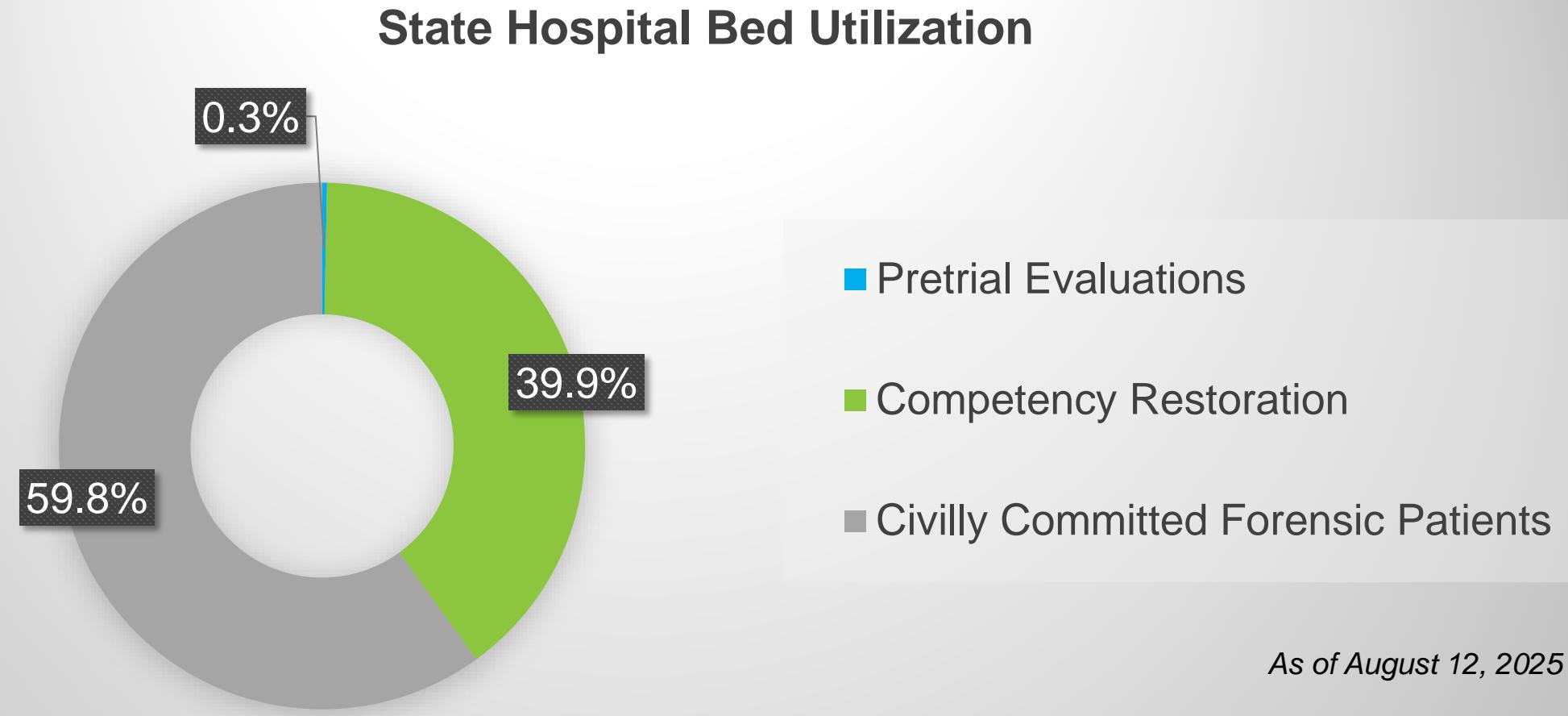
State Hospital Forensic Bed Use 2021

641 dedicated forensic beds across the 5 state hospitals

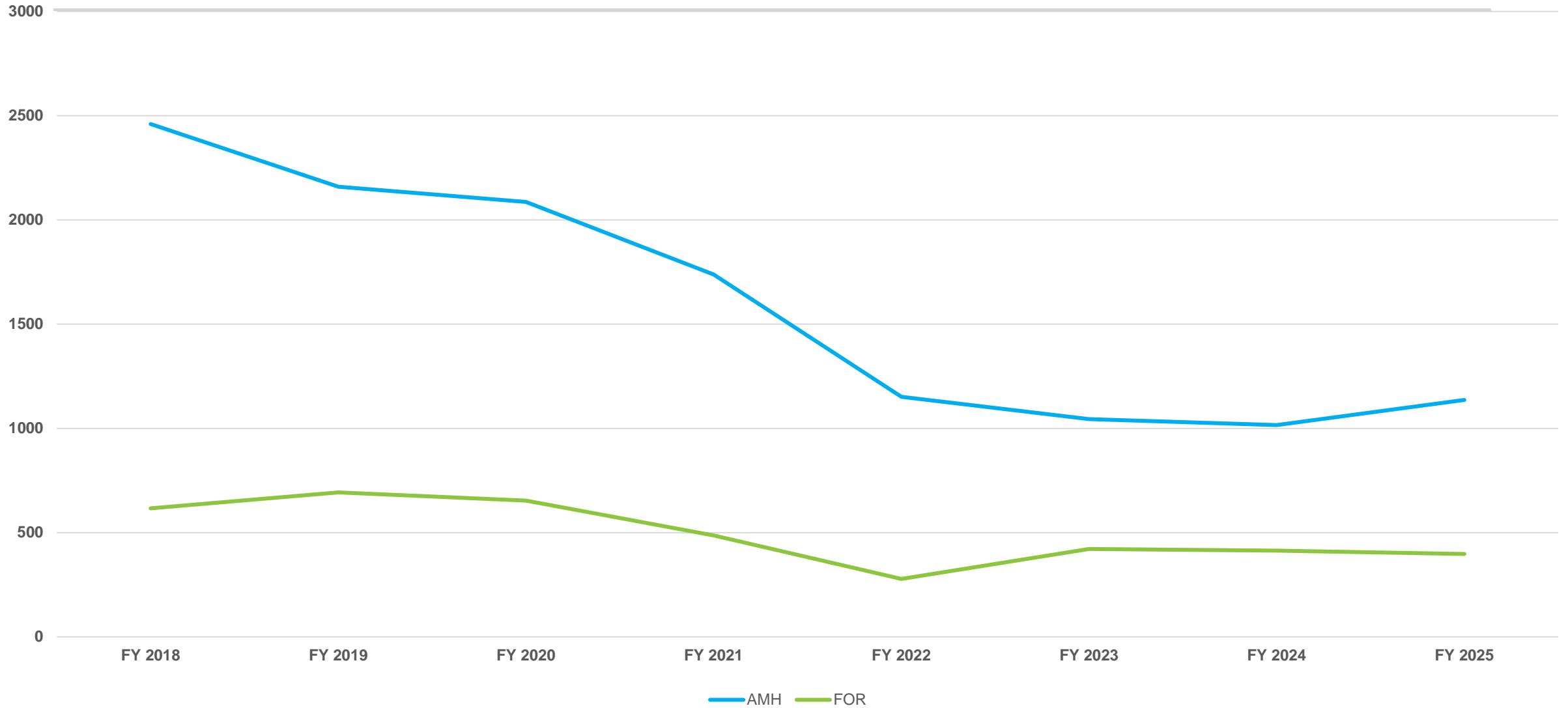


State Hospital Forensic Bed Use 2025

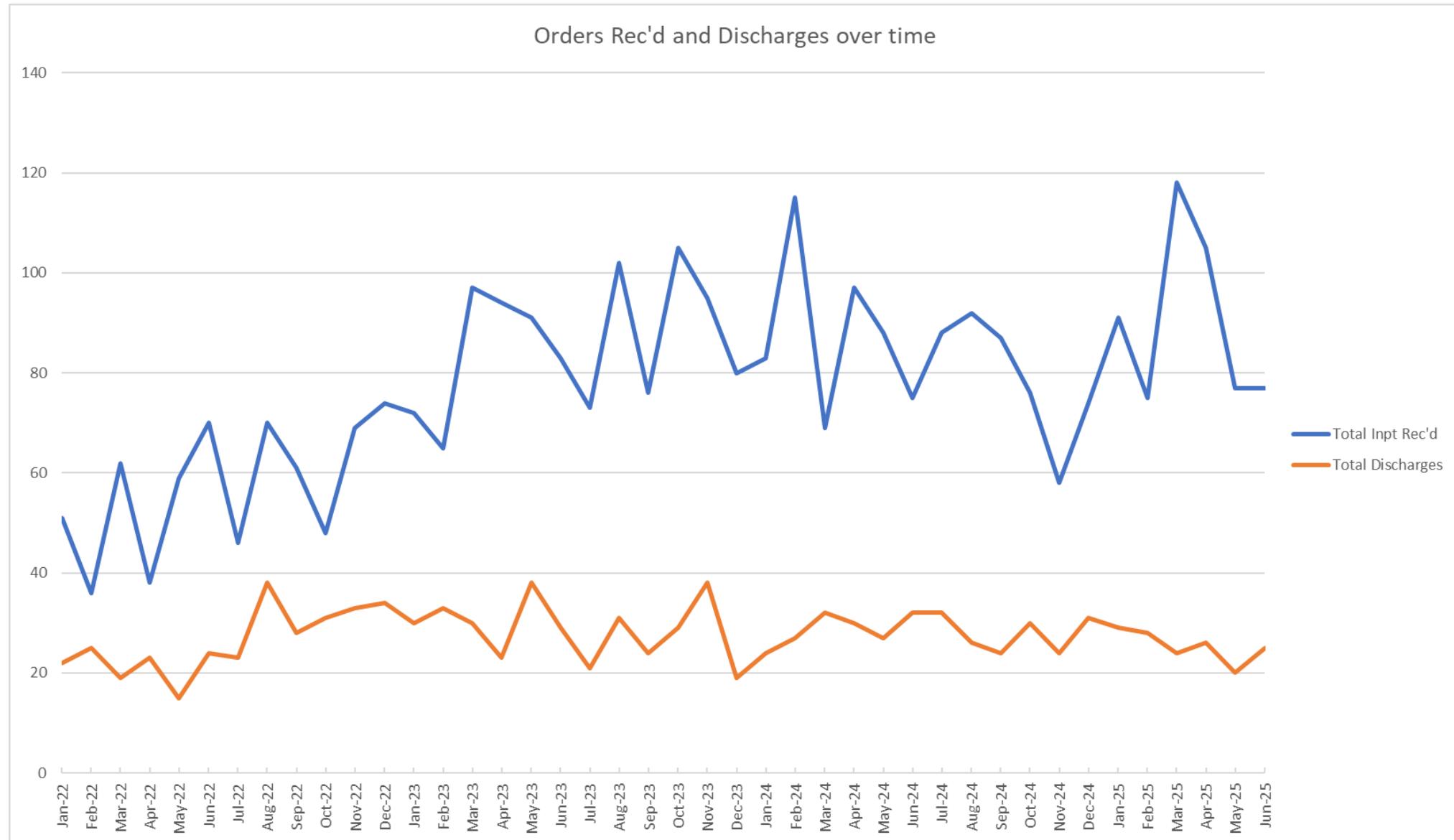
676 dedicated forensic beds across the 5 state hospitals



DBHDD HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS



Ordered to Hospital vs. Discharged



BE DBHDD

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

Summer Edwards

Jail Restoration Center Manager, DBHDD

August 28th, 2025



Mission Statement

The DBHDD Jail Restoration Center is committed to providing comprehensive, compassionate, and evidence-based competency restorative services to inmates who have been opined Incompetent to Stand Trial.



Admission Process

- Inmate referrals are added to the Forensic Referral Portal.
- All referrals result in a review of inmates' information prior to an admission decision being made.
- Declined inmates are referred to other programs or hospitals.
- Approved inmates are scheduled for admission.
- Standard operating procedures for admissions have been created.



Jail Restoration Center Staff

- Behavioral Specialist
- Psychologist
- Psychiatrist
- Social Worker
- Activity Therapist
- Nursing
- Security



Jail Restoration Center Details

- The JRC is a thirty-bed jail that houses only male inmates.
- The first inmate was admitted on January 6, 2025.
- All thirty beds were full by July 3, 2025.
- On average it has taken 63.2 days to restore inmates to competency.
- On average the length of stay is 90.02 days.
- Therapeutic Incentive Program (TIP) was implemented on July 23, 2025.

TIP Cards

TIP Point Card			
Name:			
Cell Block	B		
Date	8/20/25		
Total Points Earned		Level	
Weekday Schedule	Possible Points	Points Earned	Staff Initial's
Cycle 1- AM Medication	5		
Cycle 2- PM Medication	5		
Cycle 3- 1 st Group	10		
Cycle 4- 2 nd Group	10		
Cycle 5- 3 rd Group	10		
Cycle 6- 4 th Group	10		
Cycle 7- 5 th Group	10		
Cycle 8- Cell Cleanliness	10		
Cycle 9- Self Initiation Participation	10		
Cycle10- AM Hygiene	10		
Cycle 11- PM Hygiene	10		
NO (No Opportunity) Full Points			
FP (Full Participation) Full Points			
MP (Moderate Participation) Half Points			
NP (No Participation) No Points			

TIP Point Card			
Name:			
Date	8/8/25		
Cell Block	G		
Total Points Earned		Level	
Weekday Schedule	Possible Points	Points Earned	Staff Initial's
Cycle 1- AM Medication	0		
Cycle 2- PM Medication	B		
Cycle 3- Individual Session	20		
Cycle 8- Cell Cleanliness	20		
Cycle 9- Self Initiation Participation	20		
Cycle 10- AM Hygiene	20		
Cycle 11- PM Hygiene	20		
NO (No Opportunity) Full Points			
FP (Full Participation) Full Points			
MP (Moderate Participation) Half Points			
NP (No Participation) No Points			

Treatment Team

The Jail Restoration Center Treatment Team meets five days a week to discuss all inmates progress, behaviors, compliance with medication, and any other pertinent information regarding the inmates we serve.

Inmates meet with the team on Monday following their admission into the Jail Restoration Center and every thirty days after that.

Jail Restoration Center Programming Schedule

Inmates Schedule-JRC

Schedule	Activities
6:00am - 8:00am	Medication Pass
7:00am - 8:00am	Wake up Call/Hygiene Call
8:00am - 8:30am	Breakfast
8:30am-9:50am	Yard time
10:00am -12:00am	Active Treatment (Programming)
12:05pm - 1:00pm	Lunch
12:45pm - 1:00pm	Sick Call
1:05pm - 5:00pm	Active Treatment (Programming)
3:00pm - 4:00pm	First Wave Yard Time (Group A)
4:00pm - 5:00pm	Second Wave Yard Time (Group B)
5:00pm - 6:00pm	Dinner
6:00pm - 7:00pm	Medication Pass/Phone Calls
8:00pm-9:00pm	B Side use of Multipurpose Room
9:00pm-10:00pm	G Side use of Multipurpose Room
7:15pm - 8:30pm	Showers/Phone Calls/TV Time (15 mins per inmate)
8:30pm - 10:00pm	Downtime/TV Time
10:00pm	Lockdown/Lights Out
Weekends 11:00pm	
Weekend Use of Multipurpose Room	Mondays:
G Side 2:00pm-4:00pm	B Side 1:00pm-3:00pm
B Side 4:00pm-6:00pm	G Side 3:00pm-5:00pm

Other Services

- The JRC prides itself on working with the whole inmate and this includes teaching the inmates about self care, outside resources, taking care of their living quarters, and the importance of maintaining mental health services.
 - Barber Services every two weeks
 - One-to-one individualized Court Competency Sessions weekly
 - Meetings with Social Worker as needed
 - Virtual Visitations
 - Library (forthcoming)

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Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

Christian Hildreth, Psy.D.

Assistant State Forensic Director-Community & Hospital Services



Agenda

- What is a Community Integration Home (CIH)?
 - History
 - Locations
 - Challenges
 - Initiatives

Community Integration Homes

- Residential services for individuals with a forensic legal status
 - Incompetent to Stand Trial or Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity
 - Referrals from state hospitals or other community placements (to prevent hospitalization)
 - Residents are under the supervision of a committing State or Superior Court
- Group home with staff available 24/7
- Assists in developing skills for more independent living
- Room, board, and watchful oversight, cost based on income
- Designed for 12 to18-month length of stay

Community Integration Homes

- Provide an intermediate level of care for individuals with serious charges or long-term institutionalization, helping them safely transition into community living.
- Increase comfort and confidence for the courts by providing enhanced oversight and support.
- Significantly improve an individual's likelihood of securing a willing residential provider by demonstrating their ability to live in the community without reoffending.

CIHs By the Numbers

Currently 7 Locations around the State

- Douglasville
- Stone Mountain (Morningside)
- Macon (St. Paul)
- Columbus
- Savannah
- Augusta
- Thomasville

Total of 61 beds (49 male and 12 female)

Number of individuals served

- FY22 = 76
- FY23 = 55
- FY24 = 53
- FY25 = 62

Average length of stay = 1.9 years



Number of Individuals Served

- Number of individuals served
 - FY22 = 76
 - FY23 = 55
 - FY24 = 53
 - FY25 = 62
- Average length of stay = 1.9 years

CIH

Admission Criteria

- Forensic legal status
- Over age 18
- Meets outpatient civil commitment criteria
- Diagnosed with SPMI or co-occurring MI/SA (can also have co-occurring IDD diagnosis)
- Have a payer source for medication

Exclusionary Criteria



Neurocognitive disorder that interferes with ADLs or community outings

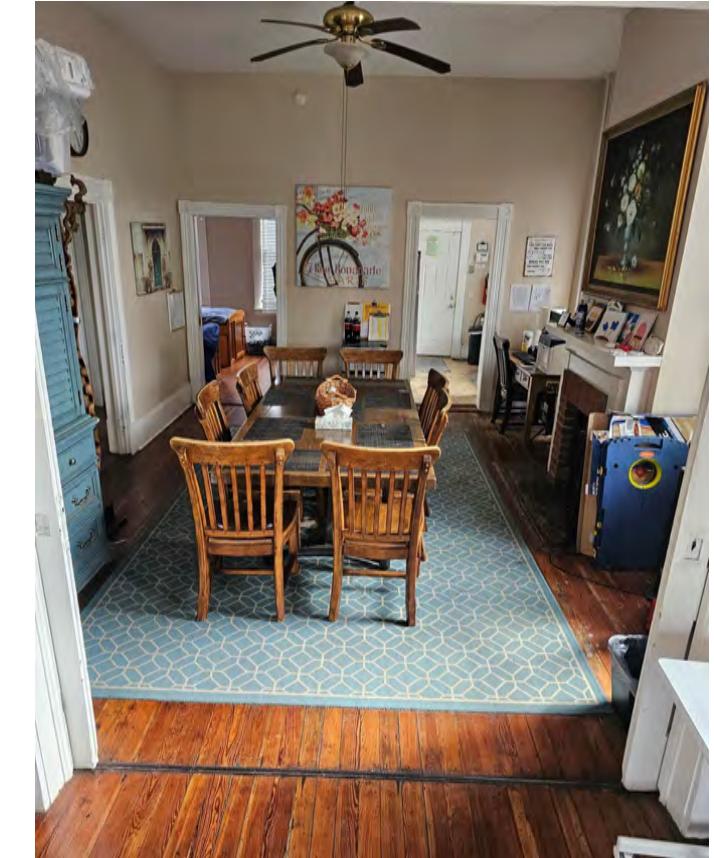
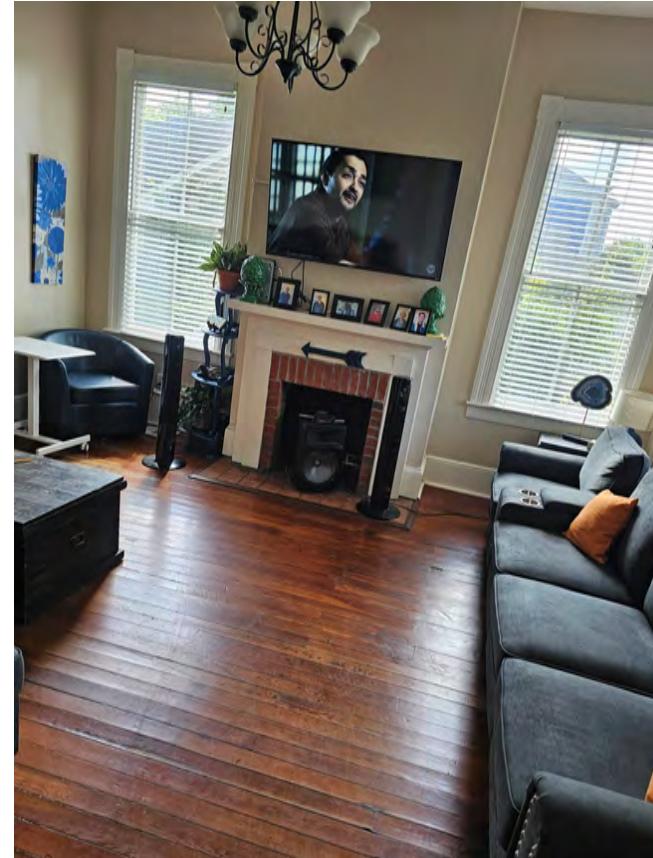


IDD diagnosis such that waiver services are more appropriate



Medical condition requiring nursing services

Must be able to self-administer medication with supervision



A Look Inside Community Integration Homes

Challenges

Courts aren't willing to authorize further stepdown

- Forensic Apartments created

Registered Sex Offenders

Balancing community integration with neighborhood acceptance

Landlord maintaining properties

Funding for personal care homes

- Not all residents attain next level of independent living

Data dashboard & real-time census tracking

Updated referral/trial process

- Increase chances of successful discharge
- Reduce length of time from referral to discharge
- Timely feedback to hospital and individual

Project New Hope

- Prepare patients for CIH placement
- Reduce length of stay at CIH or go directly to forensic apartment

Forensic Functional Assessment

- Smooth handoff from hospital to continue skill building

Initiatives

BE DBHDD

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

Kevin Tanner
Commissioner, DBHDD





Board Engagement

Georgia Regional Hospital – Atlanta Tour



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Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities



Chair's Report

Lasa Joiner

Chair

Public Comment





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Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

