

HOT TOPICS IN MENTAL HEALTH & LAW: CIVIL COMMITMENT

“An Academic-State-Community Partnership to
Create a **CBT Continuum of Care** for
Involuntary Committees in Washington State”

Presented by Sarah Kopelovich, PhD, ABPP

March 4, 2025

ABOUT THE CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH, POLICY & THE LAW

The Center for Mental Health, Policy, and the Law (CMHPL) is housed within the University of Washington (UW) Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences in the UW School of Medicine.

The CMHPL's mission is to address the most urgent issues arising at the interface of mental health and the law, in order to help justice-involved people with mental illness lead full and productive lives.

Learn more on our website: <https://cmhpl.psychiatry.uw.edu/>

HOT TOPICS IN MENTAL HEALTH & LAW: CIVIL COMMITMENT

November 12, 12:00–1:00 p.m. PT

"Civil Commitment 101: Overview of History and Current Practices"
Shadoe Jones, JD

December 13, 12:00–1:00 p.m. PT

"Civil Commitment Through the Ethics Lens: How We Got Here"
Philip Candilis, MD

January 7, 12:00–1:00 p.m. PT

"Designated Crisis Responders and the Involuntary Treatment Act in Washington State"
Dawn Macready-Santos, LICSW and Laura Pippin, MSP

February 4, 12:00–1:00 p.m. PT

"Lived Experiences with Civil Commitment"
Carolynn Ponzoha, Karen Schilde, Laura Van Tosh

Learn more and register: bit.ly/cmhpl

March 4, 12:00–1:00 p.m. PT

"An Academic-State-Community Partnership to Create a CBT Continuum of Care for Involuntary Committees in Washington State"
Sarah Kopelovich, PhD, ABPP

April 1, 12:00–1:00 p.m. PT

"Navigating Juvenile Involuntary Commitment in Washington State"
Shawgi Silver, MD

May 13, 12:00–1:00 p.m. PT

"Policy Perspectives on Washington's Continuum of Care for Severe Mental Illness"
Manka Dhingra, JD

June 10, 12:00–1:00 p.m. PT

Final panel and Q&A
Manka Dhingra, Shadoe Jones, Sarah Kopelovich, Dawn Macready-Santos, Laura Pippin, Shawgi Silver, Laura Van Tosh

RECORDINGS & CONTINUING EDUCATION

- > The recording and presentation slides will be made available on our website within 1 week. We will email attendees with the link.
- > Continuing education is only available for attendees who attend the live Zoom session, not for those who watch the recording.
- > Certificates of attendance will be available for attendees who indicated interest. You will receive an email from cmhpl@uw.edu with additional details.
- > Continuing Medical Education is available:
 - UW faculty and staff ONLY: You received an email from cmhpl@uw.edu with instructions and will need to sign-in via text by 2:00 p.m. PT.
 - For non-UW learners, we will track attendance via Zoom. You do not need to log in or update your name on Zoom, as attendance is tracked with your unique Zoom link.



DISCLOSURES

Today's speaker, Sarah Kopelovich, has no financial relationships with an ineligible company relevant to this presentation to disclose.

None of the planners have relevant financial relationship(s) to disclose with ineligible companies whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients.


QUESTIONS

To submit a question, please click the Q&A icon on Zoom.



Reminder: The series will conclude with a panel discussion and Q&A on June 10, 2025.

FINAL LOGISTICS

- > The opinions expressed herein are the views of the speakers, and do not reflect an official position of the CMHPL or the UW. No official support or endorsement of the opinions described in this presentation from the CMHPL or the UW is intended or should be inferred.
- > Automated captions are available. In the meeting controls toolbar, click the Show Captions icon. 
- > Please complete the evaluation poll at the end of this session.

SARAH KOPELOVICH, PHD, ABPP

Sarah Kopelovich, PhD, ABPP, is a forensically-trained clinical psychologist in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Washington. She is an associate professor; a core faculty member at the Center for Mental Health, Policy, and the Law; and holds the first Professorship of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Psychosis (CBTp).

Dr. Kopelovich is a principal and co-investigator on federal-, state-, and county-funded initiatives to implement evidence-based mental health practices, including cognitive behavioral therapy for psychosis, coordinated specialty care, and digital mental health interventions.

She is a founding member and current president of the North America CBT for Psychosis Network, the mission of which is to advance the dissemination of high-quality CBTp across North America.



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AN ACADEMIC-STATE- COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

to create a **Continuum of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy** for
Involuntary Committees in Washington State

Sarah Kopelovich, PhD, ABPP

Associate Professor and Professorship in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Psychosis

Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences

University of Washington School of Medicine



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of participating in this presentation, learners will be able to:

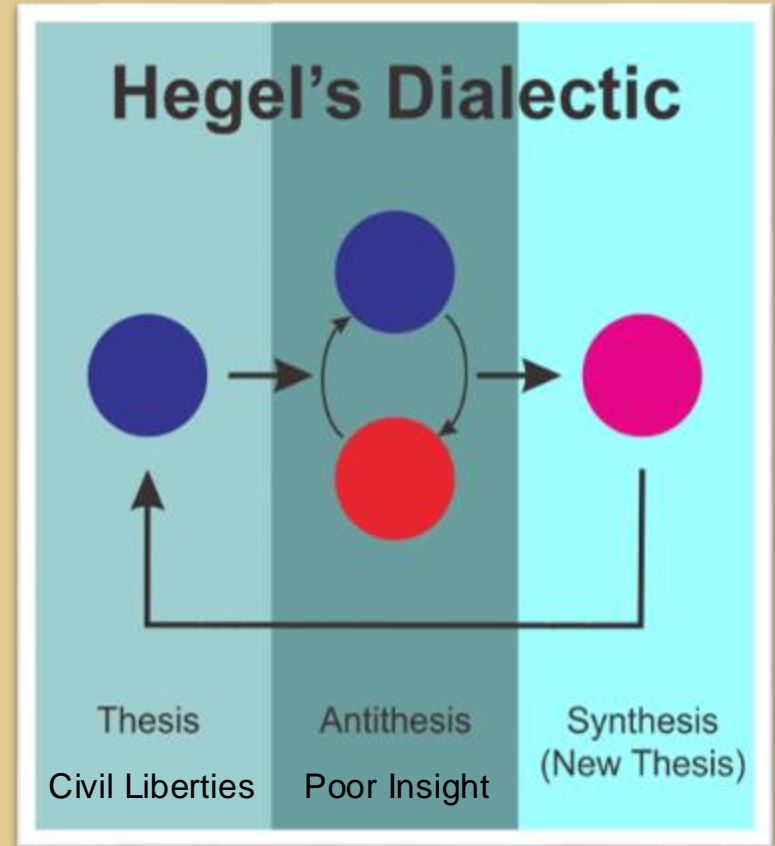
1. Cite at least one research finding related to Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) for serious mental illness;
2. Articulate the benefits of incorporating CBT for serious mental illness into the standard of involuntary treatment;
3. Describe the efforts underway in Washington to enhance CBT care continuity across inpatient, outpatient, and specialty care settings.



LEVEL SETTING: MY LENS



LEVEL SETTING: FRAMING THE ISSUE



LEVEL SETTING: FRAMING THE ISSUE



CARE (DIS)COORDINATION ACROSS THE PSYCHIATRIC CARE CONTIUM

Most Restrictive

Lesser Restrictive

Least Restrictive

Secure
Facilities

Psychiatric Residential
Rehabilitation

Intensive Residential
Treatment

Short-term
Hospitalization

Partial
Hospitalization

Intensive
Outpatient

Assertive Community
Treatment

Outpatient
Treatment

Integrative Primary
Care

Peer Support
Services and Alliances

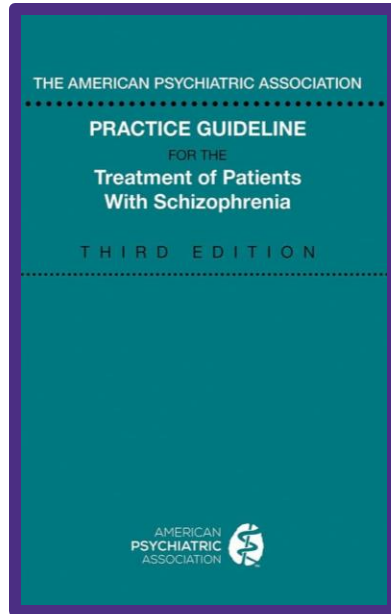
Self-Guided
(Internet/App/Bibliotherapy)



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NATIONAL SCHIZOPHRENIA TREATMENT GUIDELINES (APA, 2020)



Psychosocial Treatment

- Psychosocial programs and therapies, both in individual and group format, help the patient manage symptoms and develop recovery skills, such as setting and achieving goals. The choice of specific strategies will depend on a patient's unique needs and on what is available in the community.
- Medications are a complement to psychosocial treatment and an equally important part of the overall care process.

Recommended Psychosocial Treatments and Programs:

- **Coordinated Specialty Care:** incorporates medication, talk therapy, and other treatment into one program. Receiving these treatments together can be more helpful than receiving each treatment separately.
- **Cognitive behavioral therapy for psychosis:** helps the patient learn to monitor thoughts, feelings, perceptions, and behaviors and the ways they contribute to symptoms.
- **Psychoeducation:** provides education about the disease and its treatment as well as how to manage it.
- **Supported employment services:** provides job training, job support, and mental health treatment to assist in finding and keeping employment.
- **Assertive community treatment:** uses a team-based approach to give individualized care outside of a formal clinical setting, including home, workplace, or other locations in the community.

Suggested Programs and Therapies:

- Help and support for family members and those involved in care
- Training programs to help with attention, multi-tasking, memory, and other areas of thought that are important to daily life, also called cognitive remediation
- Social skills training programs
- Supportive psychotherapy



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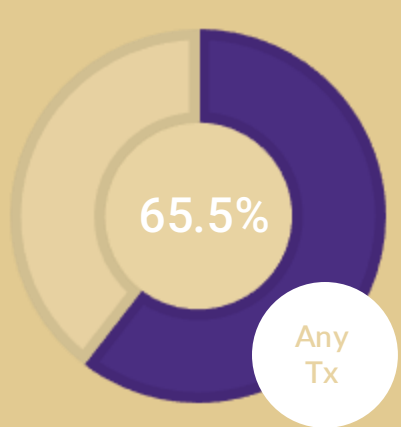
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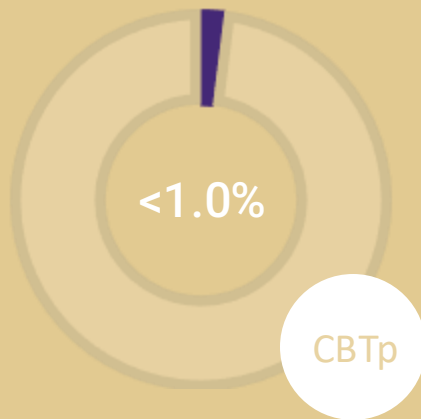
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STATE OF THE FIELD IN THE UNITED STATES: ACCESS TO TREATMENT FOR SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS



Estimated access to any treatment for SMI
NIMH (2018)



Estimated access to CBTp
Kopelovich et al. (2021)

**3x
forensic
or CJ
settings***

*Updated prevalence estimate underway
Steadman et al. (2009)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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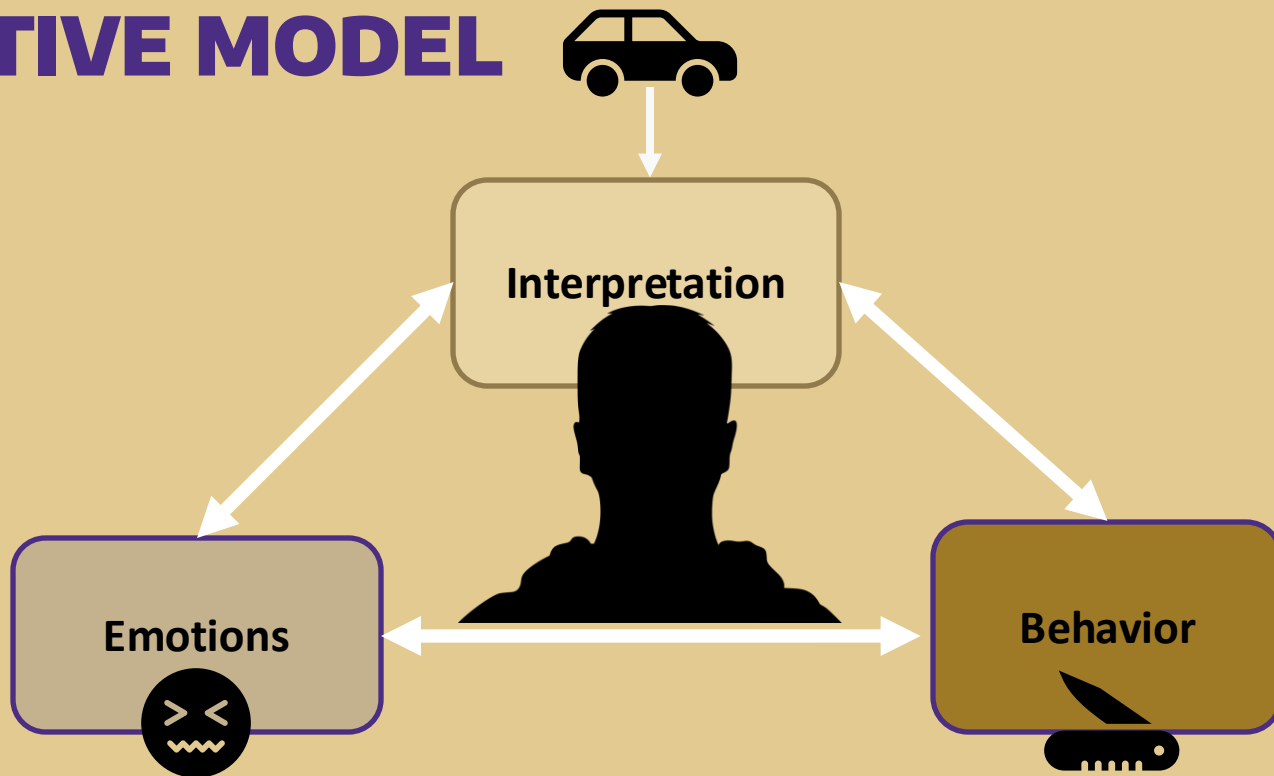
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WHAT IS CBT FOR PSYCHOSIS?



COGNITIVE MODEL

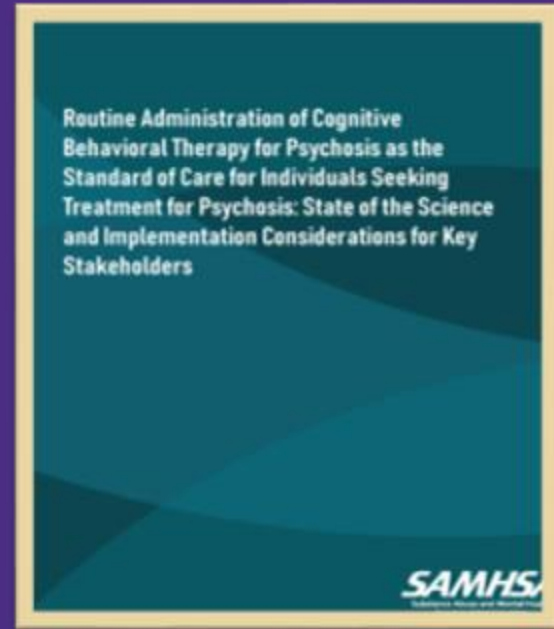


EVIDENCE BASE

- **CBTp is the most well-researched psychological intervention for psychosis**
 - **30+ years of empirical evidence for psychosis alone**
- **CBTp associated with significant improvements in:**
 - **Delusional conviction/preoccupation**
 - **Hallucinations**
 - **Illness awareness**
 - **Medication non-adherence**
 - **Negative symptoms**

CBT FOR PSYCHOSIS IS NOW THE PRESCRIBED STANDARD OF CARE

“ Consistent with SAMHSA’s ‘no wrong door’ policy, CBTp should be implemented within our mental health systems, and CBTp-informed care at a minimum should be implemented in primary care, correctional, forensic, and educational settings. (p. 6)



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INCENTIVES AT THE SYSTEMS LEVEL

1. Aligns with the mission & values of the system of care
2. Good economic value
3. Critical to a recovery-oriented system of care
4. Compatible with measurement-based care
5. Valued by service users and families
6. Enhances core competencies among practitioners



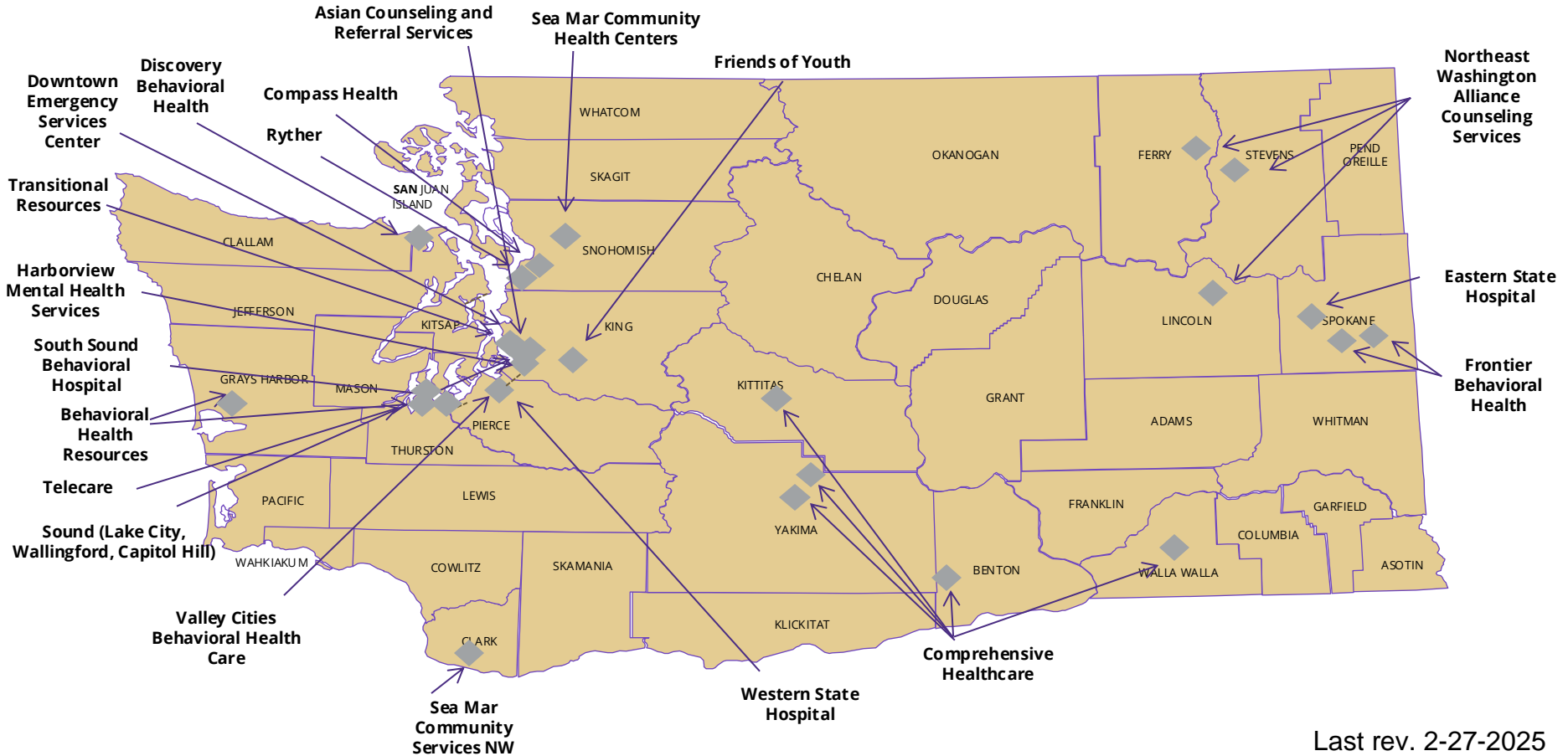
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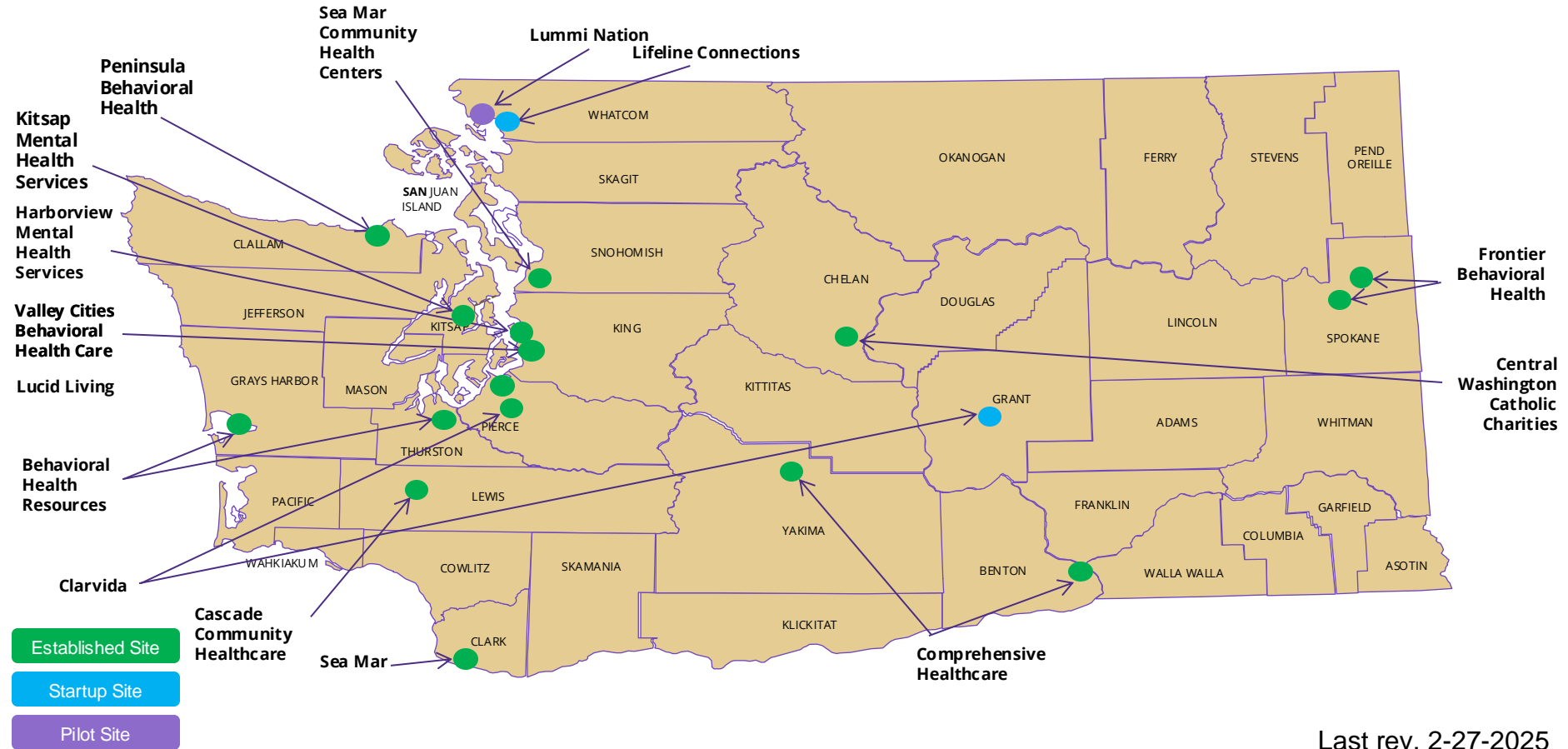
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CBTp-Trained Agencies in Washington State



CBTp-Trained New Journeys Teams in Washington



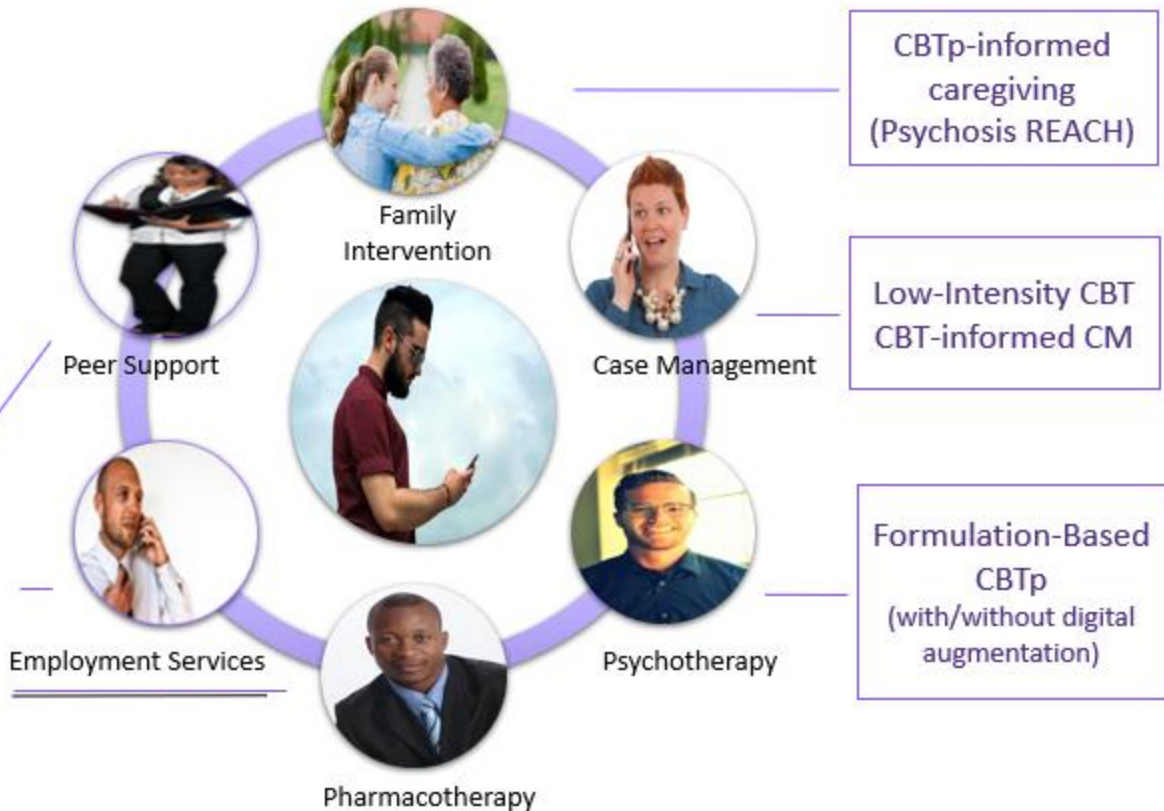
Who gets trained?

High-Yield Cognitive Behavioral techniques



What CBT interventions we are training them in?

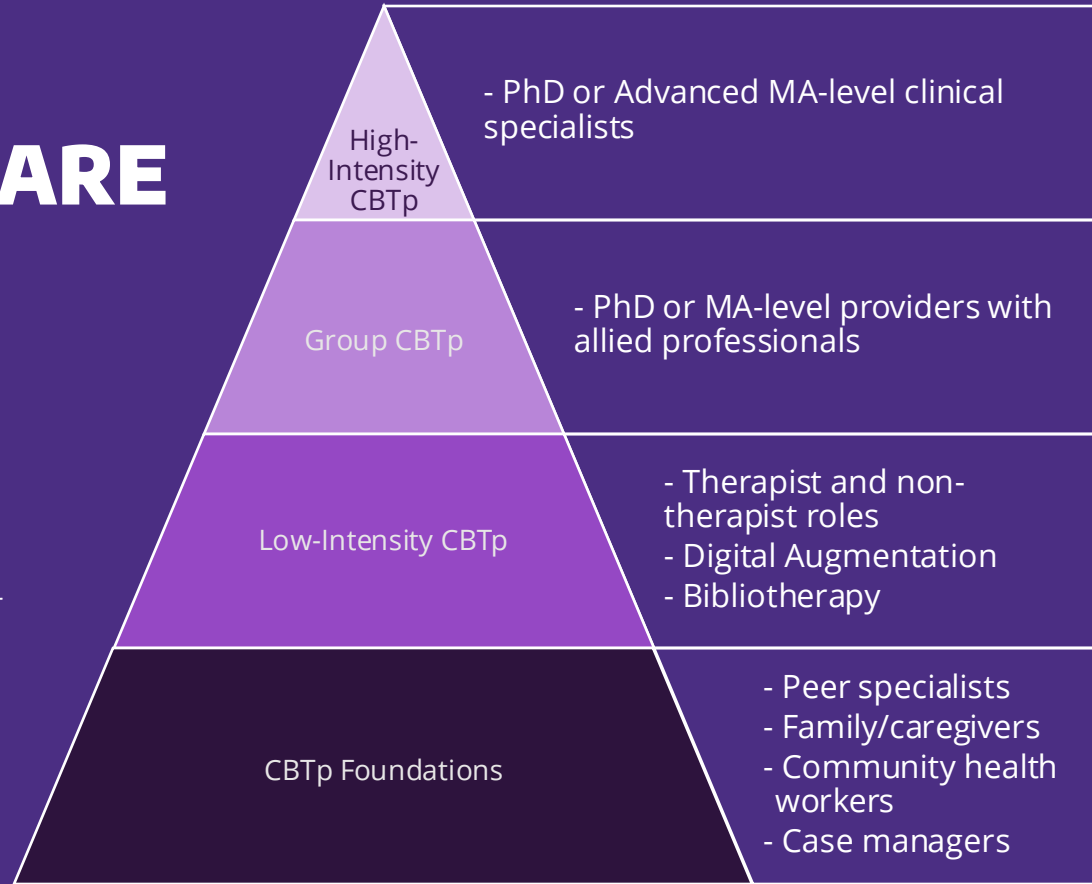
High-Yield Cognitive Behavioral techniques



CBTp STEPPED CARE

Kopelovich et al. (2019). Stepped Care as an implementation and service delivery model for cognitive behavioral therapy for psychosis. *Community Mental Health Journal*, 55(5), 755-767. doi: 10.1007/s10597-018-00365-6.

Kopelovich et al. (2022). Sequential mixed method evaluation of the acceptability, feasibility, and appropriateness of cognitive behavioral therapy for psychosis stepped care. *BMC Health Serv Res* 22, 1322. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-022-08725-5>



CBTp STEPPED CARE IMPLEMENTATION OUTCOMES

Reach

- 3-fold increase in providers trained
- +3-fold increase in clients treated

Fidelity

- 80% were able to attain CBTp competence 12 months.

Sustainment

- 4 of 4 CBTp-trained agencies have sustained all three levels of care.
- 81% of those trained are delivering CBTp.

Acceptability:

- 93% acceptable
- no differences between groups

Feasibility:

- 85% feasible to implement
- no differences between groups

Appropriateness:

- 91% appropriate for settings
- no differences between groups

The CBT Care Pathway is intended to enhance QUALITY of care for civil committees and the CONTINUITY of care.

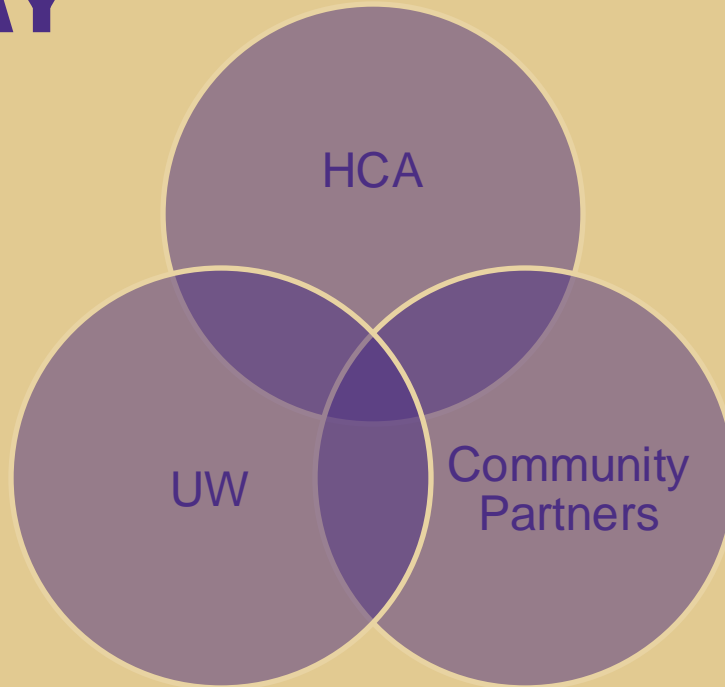
Vigod et al. (2013). Transitional interventions to reduce psychiatric readmissions in adults: A systematic review. *British Journal of Psychiatry*, 202, 187-194.

CBT CARE PATHWAY GOALS

- 1. Enhance access to CBT for psychosis for WA civil committees.**
- 2. Support the successful transition from inpatient to outpatient care.**
- 3. Enhance continuity of care for individual patients that transition from one setting to another.**
- 4. Reduce 30-day rehospitalizations.**



CO-PRODUCTION OF THE CBT CARE PATHWAY



CARE PATHWAY COMPONENTS:

Hospitalization Phase

- Measurement-Based Care (MBC)
- CBT for psychosis
- Motivational enhancement
- Family engagement
- Needs assessment
- Care coordination with outpatient
- Phased leaves

Transition Phase

- Timely communication with outpatient provider
- CBT Service Engagement Assessment
- “Transition Manager”
- Follow-up appt/warm hand off
- Meeting with outpatient provider

Post-Discharge (Lower Level of Care)

- Timely follow-up
- Match to CBTp-trained Case Manager (engagement) and/or Therapist (intensive treatment)
- Continue CBT & Family engagement
- Peer support
- Step down



CBT CARE PATHWAY PARTNERS

2023

Site 1: Inpatient
Pierce County

Site 2: Outpatient
Pierce County

2024

Site 3: Inpatient
Pierce County

Site 3: Outpatient
Pierce County

2025

Site 4: Inpatient
King County

Site 5:
Inpatient/Resident
ial /Outpatient
Kitsap County



IMPLEMENTATION OUTCOMES (IN PROCESS)

Outpatient
Site 2

Inpatient
Site 1

Outpatient
Site 3

Inpatient
Site 3

Care Pathway
adherent

Now offering Group
and Individual CBTp

Not Care Pathway
adherent

Now offering Group
CBTp 5x week on
2 units

DROPPED

Not Care Pathway
adherent

Milieu CBTp
No Group or
Individual CBTp

IMPLEMENTATION OUTCOMES (IN PROCESS)

Inpatient
Site 4

Outpatient
Site 5

Inpatient
Site 5

Care Pathway
scheduled for FY26

Now offering Group
and Individual CBTp

Care Pathway
scheduled for FY26

Now offering Group
and Individual CBTp

Care Pathway
scheduled for FY26

Now offering Group
and Individual CBTp



CAPSTONE REFLECTION



GRATITUDE TO SPONSORS & COLLEAGUES

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Health Care Authority



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UW SPIRIT
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**Mel LaBelle,
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**Stephen Smith,
PhD**

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**Sydney
McKinstry, BA**

Program
Coordinator

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Websites

cmhpl.psychiatry.uw.edu

www.wa-CEEP.org

www.psychosisREACH.org

www.uwSPIRITcenter.org

www.naCBTp.org

Video

[CBT for psychosis: When We Invest in the Workforce, We Invest in the Health of Our State](#)

Podcast Episode

[The Science and Experience of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Psychosis](#)

Trainings

[Upcoming CBT for psychosis trainings](#)

NAVIGATING JUVENILE INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE

April 1, 2025, 12:00–1:00 p.m. PT

Shawgi Silver, MD, MPHS

This presentation will explore the legal criteria, ethical dilemmas, and clinical considerations involved in committing minors for psychiatric care. Through case studies and real-world examples, attendees will analyze the challenges of balancing minor autonomy, parental authority, and state intervention.



Learn more and get Zoom link: bit.ly/cmhpl

FEEDBACK

Post-event surveys are critical, and your feedback helps us to improve and develop future events.

