



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH AND
SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

Positive Practices Resource Team (PPRT)

It is estimated that up to 70% of the individuals who have an intellectual disability also have a diagnosis of mental illness. Developing the best solutions to assist these individuals when they are exhibiting escalating, at-risk mental health challenges is the role of the Positive Practices Resource Team (PPRT). PPRT's goal is two-fold: To provide consultation and to build capacity within Pennsylvania's provider network. Our driving force is to better assist individuals to live their everyday lives while walking the road toward recovery.

What Are We Doing?

A referral to PPRT is reviewed jointly by the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) and the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS). Upon acceptance, PPRT collaboration begins with state and county staff, providers, the consumer and his/her family to develop an individualized work plan. Team recommendations are made to promote the individual's optimum health and safety.



PPRT assistance often diverts admission to a state hospital or state center.

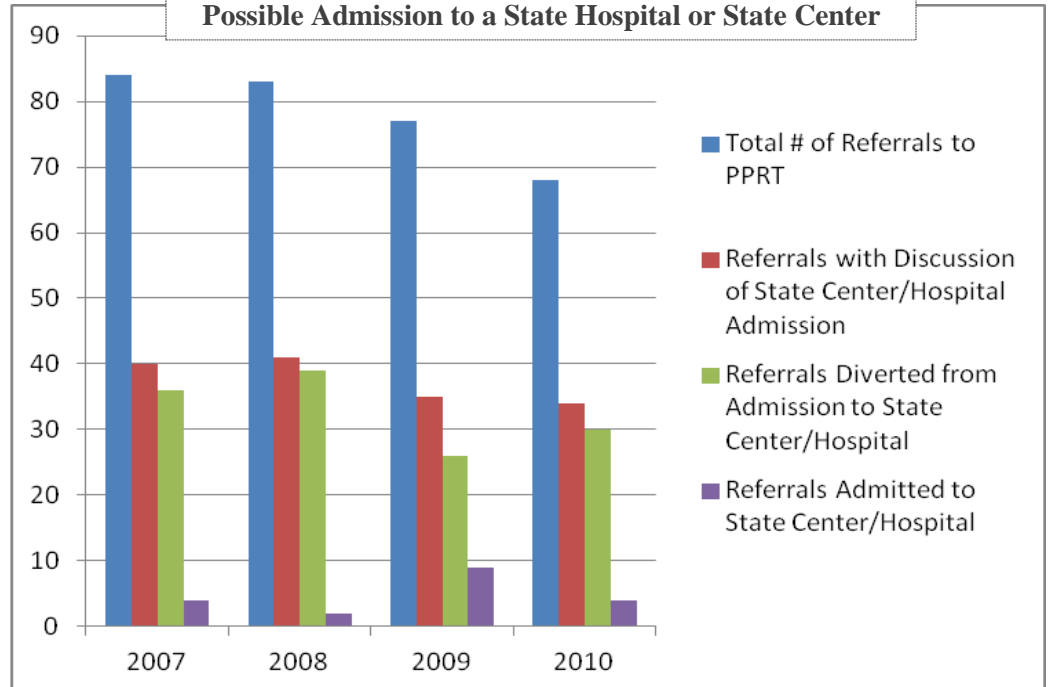
Talking Points:

☑ In 2008, PPRT assistance began within state hospitals and centers to prepare referred individuals for discharge, and to assist staff with developing care plans.

☑ OMHSAS and ODP are collaboratively developing a Peer Specialist Program for individuals with a dual diagnosis of intellectual disabilities and mental health challenges.

☑ There are currently approximately 35 PPRTs working on active cases throughout the State.

PPRT Referrals Which Resulted in Discussions of Possible Admission to a State Hospital or State Center



What Do the Findings Mean? PPRT referrals often result in discussions about potential placement in a state hospital or state center. In the four years of data collection from 2007 through 2010, there were 312 PPRT referrals. Slightly less than half of those referrals (150) resulted in discussions about state hospital/center admission being the most appropriate mode of treatment. Through the comprehensive and unified approach of the PPRT, only 19 of the 150 cases discussed (13%) resulted in inpatient admission to a state hospital or state center.

What Makes It Work? The strength of the PPRT is due largely to the equal partnership between OMHSAS and ODP. The dual-diagnosed individual is served by professionals from both Program Offices, and no decisions are made without joint agreement to the recommendations. The PPRT is very diligent about its functions, meeting weekly to discuss each current and pending referral.