

Funding and Service Agreements¹

Halfway House

I Service Definition

Introduction

Halfway Houses provide community rehabilitation service for discharged mental patients after a period of medical treatment to facilitate re-integration into the community.

Purpose and objectives

The overall objective of halfway houses for discharged mental patients is to provide a transitional period of residential care to facilitate residents to achieve an optimal level of functioning for the purpose of community re-integration by

- establishing a reasonably stable pattern of life, alleviating the effects of institutionalization and developing their capacity to cope with daily living; and
- providing a supportive environment conducive to personal development and independence

Nature of service

The services provided by Halfway Houses include:

- a) accommodation
- b) provision of food and meals
- c) developing understanding of and ability to cope with mental illness
- d) development and training of life skills such as :
 - i) self-care skills
 - ii) social and communication skills
 - iii) community living skills
 - iv) work habits
 - v) domestic skills
 - vi) group living skills

¹ This Funding and Service Agreement is a sample document for reference only.

- vii) positive use of leisure time
- e) facilitation of the re-alignment of relationship with family members
- f) preparation for discharge from the halfway house

Target group

- Discharged mental patients who need a period of transitional residential care in the community.
- For Purpose-built Halfway Houses, 25% of the places are earmarked for discharged mental patients with assessed disposition to violence.

Eligibility criteria

- Aged 15 and above
- Referrals are via the Central Referral System for Rehabilitation Services (CRSRehab) operated by Social Welfare Department (SWD)

II Performance Standards

The service operator will meet the following performance standards:

Outputs

<u>Output Standard</u>	<u>Output indicator</u>	<u>Agreed Level</u>
1	Average enrollment rate within one year	95%
2	Percentage of residents successfully discharged within one year	13%

Essential service requirements

- a) Staff on shift duty to provide 24 hours service per day
- b) Provision of sufficient and varied food appropriate to the age and health condition of the residents
- c) Staffing requirement includes registered social worker (for Purpose-built Half-way House, staffing should include registered social worker with recognised degree in

social work)

Quality

Service operators will meet the requirements of the 16 Service Quality Standards (SQSs).

III Obligations of SWD to Service Operators

The SWD will undertake the duties set out in the General Obligations of SWD to service operators.

In addition, the SWD will meet the following service-specific standards of performance. The actual performance of the department in relation to these obligations is expected to affect the ability of the service operation to meet its own required standards of performance.

- to provide an appropriate referral from the CRSRehab within **28 days** of written notification of vacancy, provided that a referral with updated and complete information is in hand. Should a referral not be in hand, SWD will negotiate with the service operator as appropriate.

IV Basis of Subvention

The basis of subvention is set out in the offer and notification letter issued by SWD to the agency.

The service operator is required to comply with the rules and guidelines on the use of the social welfare subventions in accordance with the latest edition of Lump Sum Grant Manual and circular letters in force issued by SWD on subvention policies and procedures.