

Residential Treatment Facility for Adults (RTFA)

Forensic Services

About the Program

New Vitae Wellness and Recovery provides **24/7 residential treatment** for adult males involved with the Philadelphia criminal justice system due to **incompetency to stand trial**.

Services are delivered at three community-based residential facilities in Philadelphia County (capacity: 36).

At this time, referrals are exclusively by the **Philadelphia Behavioral Health and Justice Division (BHJD)**,

<https://dbhids.org/about/organization/behavioral-health-and-justice-division/>



Targeted Length of Stay: 6–18 months (individualized)

Who We Serve

- Adult males (18+) with one or more DSM-5 behavioral health diagnoses* causing functional impairment that substantially impairs or limits the individual's functioning in his or her daily life, family, work or community
**Excludes primary neurodevelopmental, neurocognitive, or substance use disorders*
- Those with current or past involvement with the criminal justice system and is followed by the Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health's Behavioral Health and Justice Division
- Those needing regular treatment and 24-hour supervision

Potential Exclusionary Criteria

Individuals who may not be appropriate for New Vitae RTFA services due to behaviors that pose high risk of safety concerns related to other program participants and/or the community:

- Current, active imminent danger to self or others
- Consistent history of rejecting prescribed treatments, including psychotropic medication
- Currently using/abusing substances with no desire for abstinence, or requiring medically managed detox/residential substance use services
- Displaying frequent and severe aggressive or assaultive behavior
- History of sexual offending or fire setting
- Requiring continuous monitoring or restraint due to frequent high-risk behaviors (confusion, agitation, poor impulse control)
- Infectious diseases not safely managed in a residential setting (e.g., contagious tuberculosis)
- Speaking an uncommon language not supported in-house

Program Goals

- **Stabilize psychiatric symptoms** and support medication adherence
- **Reduce risks** for reoffending or psychiatric decompensation
- **Enhance independent living** and vocational skills
- **Reintegrate into the community** with strong support networks
- **Promote legal compliance** with court-ordered conditions



Core Services

- Psychiatric evaluations within 72 hours of admission
- Medication management
- Individual and group therapies (daily)
- Trauma-informed, recovery-oriented approach
- Life skills coaching and vocational readiness
- 24/7 clinical and nursing support
- Court Collaboration: required for those under supervision
- Case management and aftercare planning

Treatment Approach

- **Recovery-Oriented Cognitive Therapy (CT-R)**
 - **Motivational Interviewing, DBT Skills, and CBT** strategies
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Graduation Criteria

- **Stabilized psychiatrically** to baseline functioning with supports (medication adherence, mental health personnel, etc.) as needed
- **Reduce risks** for reoffending or psychiatric decompensation
- **Independent living skills** in accordance with what is needed to function successfully in the planned discharge destination
- **Eliminated or minimized behaviors** allowing successful functioning in community environments (living, social, working, etc.)
- **Eliminated or minimized risk of re-offending**

Facility Features

- Semi-private bedrooms
- Therapy and activity rooms
- Communal dining/lounge areas
- On-site nursing stations
- Outdoor recreation areas and/or supervised access to community

Our Team

- Psychiatrist/Medical Director
- Forensic Psychologist
- Clinical Supervisor
- Mental Health Professionals
- Psychiatric Nurses
- Certified Peer Specialists
- Care Coordinators and Administrative Support

For More Information

New Vitae Wellness and Recovery

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