

ST. CLAIR COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY**ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES**Date Issued **03/20**

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SECTION Individual Rights		SUBJECT Unauthorized Leave from Residential Program/Specialized Foster Care Home		
WRITTEN BY Residential Policy Committee		REVIEWED BY Mindy Wiegand		AUTHORIZED BY Tracey Pingitore

I. APPLICATION:

- ☐ SCCCMHA Board
☒ SCCCMHA Providers & Subcontractors
☒ Direct-Operated Programs
☒ Community Agency Programs
☒ Residential Programs
☒ Specialized Foster Care

II. PURPOSE STATEMENT:

St. Clair County Community Mental Health Authority (SCCCMHA) shall insure that interested parties will be immediately notified in the event a resident leaves a residential program/specialized foster care home (or related activities) without prior authorization. Each Corporation/Provider will set and post its own policy on unauthorized leaves from group homes/specialized foster care homes.

III. DEFINITIONS:

- A. Facility: Means a residential facility for the care or treatment of individuals with serious mental illness, serious emotional disturbance, or developmental disability that is either a state facility or a licensed facility.
- B. Interested Parties: Parent or guardian, primary case holder, treatment team members, day program, law enforcement, the Office of Recipient Rights, and/or Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.
- C. Unauthorized Leave: Leaving the premises of the residential facility/residential facility sponsored activity without permission or consultation with residential facility staff/case holder.

IV. STANDARDS:

- A. The group home/specialized foster care provider shall monitor residents and ensure the health and safety of each resident is maintained in the therapeutic milieu.

V. PROCEDURES:**A. When an Individual Informs Staff He/She Wants to Leave the Premises**

Residential Program Staff & Specialized Foster Care Provider Staff

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1. Monitors individual attempting to leave the premises without prior authorization and attempts to discuss with the individual his/her reason for wanting to leave.
2. Follows strategies incorporated in the resident's Individual Plan of Services.
3. Notifies supervisor/designee and continues monitoring individual if issue is not resolved.

Residential Program Supervisor/Designee & Specialized Foster Care Provider/Staff

4. Decides, in consultation with treatment team members and other interested parties, whether to support the individual's departure from the premises, and, if allowed to leave, decides if the individual requires supervision while away from the group home/specialized foster care home.

B. When an Individual is Missing or Elopes without Staff Knowledge

Residential Program Staff & Specialized Foster Care Provider Staff

1. Searches building and premises.
2. Notifies supervisor or designee if individual cannot be found.
3. Proceeds immediately to locate the individual as per administrative procedures and/or staffing patterns allow.

Residential Program Supervisor/Designee & Specialized Foster Care Provider

4. Notifies, as appropriate, interested parties to include but not limited to guardian, primary caseholder or treatment team members, local police authority, day program, the Office of Recipient Rights, and/or Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.
5. Ensures an Incident Report is completed, per SCCCMHA administrative procedures, #05-001-0040 Incident Reporting, and forwarded to the Office of Recipient Rights.
6. Requests the treatment team reviews the recipient's Individual Plan of Service and revises it as necessary to address future elopement concerns.

VI. REFERENCES:

None Available

VII. EXHIBITS:

None Available

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VIII. REVISION HISTORY:

Dates issued 05/88; 02/93;04/96; 08/98; 09/00; 08/02; 08/04; 10/06; 10/08; 10/10; 08/12; 01/14; 01/15; 01/16; 01/17; 03/18; 03/19; 03/20.