

DSHS Overview

Aging & Long term Support Administration (ALTSA)

The Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (ALTSA) promotes choice, independence, and safety through innovative services and partnerships with tribes, advocates, providers and caregivers to support seniors and people with disabilities so they can live with good health, independence, dignity and control over decisions that affect their lives.

Long Term Care Services/Home and Community Services - administration of and collaboration w/other providers.

Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing – assist with telecommunications, reasonable accommodations.

WA Cares Fund – funding long-term care.

Adult Protective Services – investigations on abuse, neglect, exploitation.

Residential Care Services – nursing homes, assisted living, adult family homes.

Behavioral Health Administration (BHA)

The Department of Social and Health Services' (DSHS) Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) transforms lives by supporting sustainable recovery, independence and wellness. We do this through funding and supporting effective prevention and intervention services for youth and families, and treatment and recovery support for youth and adults with addiction and mental health conditions (also known as behavioral health). It operates three state psychiatric hospitals and the Office of Forensic Mental Health Services that deliver high-quality services to adults and children with complex needs.

Child Study and Treatment Center – psychiatric children's hospital

Eastern & Western State Hospital – evaluations, competency restoration, and inpatient psychiatric treatment for people with serious or long-term mental health illnesses.

Office of Forensic Mental Health Services – competency evaluations and restoration services to adults in the criminal justice system.

Special Commitment Center (SCC) – mental health treatment for civilly committed sex offenders who have completed their prison sentences.

Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)

Support individuals with developmental disabilities to be able to receive services that support them in living in their own communities rather than in institutional settings.

Assistive technology – equipment, devices, or systems used to help someone live independently.

Non-Residential Services/Programs – case management, Community First Choice, Dental Services, early intervention birth – age 3, supported employment, Pre-Voc, Individual & Family Services, SSI, Overnight Respite.

Residential Habilitation Centers – life skills, nursing services, active treatment, behavioral support, and physical/occupational/speech therapy in a care facility environment.

Medicare Reimbursement Program

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation believes everyone should have the opportunity to pursue meaningful work, and that employment further improves a person's ability to live independently, make informed choices, and contribute to one's community. DVR provides individuals with disabilities the tools, services, and supports required to achieve successful employment, which hopefully results in a greater quality of life for people. With offices located throughout the state of Washington, we have been a community partner for more than 80 years.

Services We Provide:

- We provide individualized vocational rehabilitation counseling, employment services and supports to people with disabilities who want to work, but face substantial barriers in finding meaningful and sustained employment.
- We provide technical assistance and training to businesses regarding the recruiting and hiring of people with disabilities.

Economic Services Administration (ESA)

Provide assistance with cash, food, child support, disability determination, transition to employment and other services.

Community Services Division – Food Assistance, Cash Assistance (TANF), Medical Eligibility (Medicaid), Community partnerships, Homeless Assistance, Refugee and Immigration Assistance, WorkFirst, SNAP, ABD, Pregnant Women's Assistance.

Division of Child Support – helping parents support their children through increased financial aid and medical insurance coverage; establish parentage; establish, enforce, and modify child support orders; facilitate payments between parties via the Washington State Support Registry and the State Disbursement Unit; and, remove/reduce barriers to paying support (employment, housing, etc.).

Division of Disability Determination Services - SSA Disability Determination for benefits and medical assistance under contract with the Social Security Administration.

Facilities, Finance, and Analytics Administration

The Facilities, Finance, and Analytics Administration (FFA) provides leadership in financial, operational, and risk management services to support the mission and goals of the Department of Social and Health Services.

Provide background checks for employees, research and data analysis on DSHS programs, Capital Programs (manage construction, renovation, and preservation of DSHS buildings and hospitals), DSHS Budget, manage energy and resource conservation efforts in DSHS, procurement and contracting, runs investigations through the Office of Fraud & Accountability, run payroll and retirement programs, maintenance on operations for residential facilities, and, through OFR, recovers costs, fees, and overpayments for state programs.

Office of the Secretary

Provide guidance to the Administration and the Divisions within it. Protect the integrity of Department of Social and Health Services programs. Continually improve accountability and agency capacity through strategic planning, continuous improvement, and project management. Provide technology services and network infrastructure, shared messaging, and data security. Field public records requests. Administer victim/witness notification. Provide mentoring to employees.

Office of Communications – responsible for internal and external communications, media relations, government relations, and web services for all DSHS.

Office of Justice and Civil Rights – ensure equal and timely access to services, investigates EEO and Civil Rights complaints in DSHS, provide fair and equitable reviews of Admin Hrg decisions in public benefit cases and Adult protective Services, and provide oversight for policy.

Human Resource Division – Talent Acquisition.