



Central New York Services, Inc. (CNYS) is a private, not-for-profit Behavioral Health Organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals and families affected by mental illness and substance abuse. We are privileged to serve our most at-risk community members through outpatient treatment, housing, financial management, forensic mental health, and employment programs. CNYS also offers Medicaid Services Coordination.



FORENSIC EVALUATION UNIT



What We Do

Central New York Services, Inc. through a contract with the Oneida County Mental Health Department, provides evaluation, assessment, and case management services to Oneida County courts for individuals who, due to addiction or mental health related problems, may be better served by treatment rather than incarceration. The mission of the Forensic Evaluation Unit is to provide a means by which individuals may be afforded necessary treatment interventions while continuing to be held accountable for their actions and the crimes of which they are accused. Our goal is to reduce or eliminate the need for future court involvement with individual offenders.

As the cost for housing inmates continues to rise, treatment for drug abuse and/or mental illness is a research-based proven alternative to incarceration which is cost-effective. The Justice Policy Institute indicates that treatment delivered in the community cost approximately \$20,000 less per person per year.

Our Services

We work with all town and city courts in Oneida County. Our participants include those who have been charged with misdemeanor crimes due to drug addiction and/or other behavioral health challenges. We also help those who have a connection to the legal system, even if they have not been arrested. Linkage to treatment services provides defendants with the opportunity to address the issues that led to their arrest as to avoid future arrests.

Upon referral from the Court, participants are given a brief assessment to determine treatment needs. Our case managers link defendants to the appropriate services in the community, and provide follow-up with the provider and court to determine and report compliance and progress. We provide regular communication to the court regarding the individual's progress and adherence to program participation for one year or until treatment/counseling is complete.

If the program is successfully completed, the individual can avoid charges on the crime for which they were referred.



If treatment is not completed successfully, the court is notified in writing by FEU. It is then the Judge's discretion to 1) issue a bench warrant for non-compliance, or 2) give the individual a second chance at treatment.

Referral / Intake Process

Upon referral, a brief psycho/social assessment will be given. Based on the information gathered, a treatment plan is designed and release forms are signed by the defendant and FEU staff. The individual leaves our office with an appointment to the service provider(s) outlined in the treatment plan. Service providers inform FEU of attendance and compliance, and FEU makes reports to the court accordingly. FEU is notified by the provider when treatment is complete.

Contact Us

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