

DEPARTMENT OF STATE HOSPITALS- VACAVILLE1600 California Drive
Vacaville, CA 95696

Department of State Hospitals – Vacaville Facility Fact Sheet



History: Department of State Hospitals (DSH)-Vacaville (also known as Vacaville Psychiatric Program) is located in northern Solano County midway between Sacramento and San Francisco and was established in 1988. It is a psychiatric hospital within the secure boundaries of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), California Medical Facility. All of the patients are referred by CDCR pursuant to various sections of the California Penal Code. The hospital does not accept voluntary admissions.

Patient Population:

Total Licensed Bed Capacity: 396

Current Patient Census (as of March 2013):

- Acute Program: 208
- Intermediate Program: 180

Hospital Staff: A total of 497 employees work at DSH-Vacaville, including psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, rehabilitation therapists, medical technical assistants, psychiatric technicians, registered nurses, and other clinical and administrative staff.

Union Representation: DSH-Vacaville staff are represented by the following employee union organizations:

- Service Employees International Union (SEIU) 137
- Union of American Physicians and Dentists (UAPD) 21
- California Association of Psychiatric Technicians (CAPT) 3
- California Correctional Peace Officer Association (CCPOA) 232
- American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) 25
- International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) 1
- Non-Represented Employees 75
- Exempt Employees 4

Treatment Services and Programs: DSH-Vacaville provides the following services and programs to our patients:

Intermediate Treatment Program – The Intermediate Treatment Program is an inpatient psychiatric program providing intermediate care to both high custody and low custody correctional patients within the California Medical Facility.

Treatment approaches are designed with recognition of shared psychiatric, social and psychological characteristics of the patient population. Sufficient flexibility is maintained in order to accommodate a wide range of special needs and functioning levels. The professional disciplines of Psychiatry, Clinical Social Work, Psychology, Nursing, Dietetics, and Rehabilitative Therapy constitute a

multidisciplinary approach to patient evaluation and treatment. The majority of patients are admitted from the CDCR Mental Health Services Delivery System (MHSDS) and the DMH Salinas Valley Psychiatric Program (SVPP) waiting list. Treatment continuity between the CDCR mental health programs is high. The majority of patients will have had some preliminary mental health treatment consistent with that provided in the program.

Acute Psychiatric Program – The Acute Psychiatric Program (APP) operates under the California Medical Facility General Acute Care License. The APP consists of licensed inpatient acute psychiatric program beds, with seven units, and three yards. The population served are male patients from CDCR who are 18 years of age or older.

The APP is guided by the biopsychosocial rehabilitation model. This model recognizes the interrelationship of factors that contribute to mental illness, including brain impairment, inter-psychic abnormalities, and environmental, situational, and social factors. The treatment approach is designed to address each of these areas, through pharmacotherapy, group and individual therapy, and the program's structure and milieu. The theoretical framework of non-medical treatment is cognitive-behavioral. Sufficient flexibility is maintained in order to accommodate a wide range of special needs and functioning levels. Implementation of the clinical program is accomplished through an interdisciplinary treatment planning and decision making structure. The professional disciplines of Psychiatry, Psychiatric Social Work, Psychology, Nursing, Dietetics, and Rehabilitative Therapy constitute a multidisciplinary approach to patient evaluation and treatment. An integral and ongoing program evaluation system is maintained in order to provide an accurate and continuing description of the patient population, as well as to measure treatment efficacy.