

Sexually Aggressive Youth Services

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Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Purpose

- Sexually Aggressive Youth (SAY) services provide assessment/evaluation and treatment to individuals identified as Sexually Aggressive Youth
- This is an outpatient service with contracted qualified providers
- This service is expected to help youth internalize coping strategies, transition from treatment and independently apply their newly learned skills.



Desired Outcomes

- Decrease the youth's sexual victimization of others
- Decrease the youth's inappropriate sexual acting out
- Increase competency and progress in the prescribed treatment components



SAY Eligibility

Per RCW 74.13.075

(1) For the purposes of funds appropriated for the treatment of sexually aggressive youth, the term "sexually aggressive youth" means those juveniles who:

(a) Have been abused and have committed a sexually aggressive act or other violent act that is sexual in nature; **and**

(i) Are in the care and custody of the state or a federally recognized Indian tribe located within the state; **or**

(ii) Are the subject of a proceeding under chapter 13.34 RCW or a child welfare proceeding held before a tribal court located within the state; **or**



SAY Eligibility continued

- (b) Cannot be detained under the juvenile justice system due to being under age twelve and incompetent to stand trial for acts that could be prosecuted as sex offenses as defined by RCW 9.94A.030 if the juvenile was over twelve years of age, or competent to stand trial if under twelve years of age. (See also RCW 26.44.160)
- (2) The department may offer appropriate available services and treatment to a sexually aggressive youth and his or her parents or legal guardians as provided in this section and may refer the child and his or her parents to appropriate treatment and services available within the community, regardless of whether the child is the subject of a proceeding under chapter 13.34 RCW.



Policy

DCYF will accept as a Risk Only Investigation, intakes regarding sexually aggressive youth (SAY) who are not in the department's care when:

- Referred by law enforcement regarding a child under the age of eight who has been determined by law enforcement to have committed a sexually aggressive act
- Referred by a prosecutor's office regarding a child under the age of 12 who has been determined by the prosecutor to have committed a sexually aggressive act but will not be prosecuted due to being incompetent



Policy continued

Once an intake has been accepted for sexually aggressive youth, the case worker will assess for the following factors:

- Whether or not the youth has been abused or neglected
- The parents' willingness to protect, seek and utilize services, and cooperate with case planning
- The youth's potential for continued sexual aggression (this is usually done through evaluation by contracted qualified provider)



Referral Procedure

Each Region has an established SAY Committee. The SAY Committees are responsible for determining a youth's eligibility for SAY funded resources as outlined in RCW 74.13.075.

The assigned case worker will refer youth needing SAY treatment interventions to the Regional SAY committee for determination and approval.

Referrals must include:

- A detailed description of the youth's sexually aggressive act
- Any other relevant information necessary to determine SAY funding needs
- If approved for funding worker refers to contracted SAY treatment provider

SAY Resources

SAY services funding has been reduced dramatically over the years.

Due to these reductions, the number of youth able to be served with SAY funds has dramatically decreased over the years.

Each regional allotment varies greatly and some regions have very little SAY funding. This requires the DCYF SAY regional managers/committees to prioritize services to maximize the impact of the funds available.

Thank you!

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