

# Dual Diagnosis Treatment Team

Located at  
270 Walker Drive  
State College, PA 16801  
814-826-4840

Serving:  
Blair, Bradford, Centre, Clinton,  
Huntington, Juniata, Lycoming,  
Mifflin, Sullivan and Tioga  
counties.

[www.beacon-light.org](http://www.beacon-light.org)



**BEACON LIGHT**  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM



**BEACON LIGHT**  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM

# WHAT IS THE DUAL DIAGNOSIS TREATMENT TEAM?

The Dual Diagnosis Treatment Team (DDTT) is a service delivery model first created by the Behavioral Health Alliance of Rural Pennsylvania (BHARP).

Beacon Light provides a DDTT team covering the counties of Tioga, Bradford, Sullivan, Lycoming, Clinton, Centre, Blair, Huntingdon, Mifflin, and Juniata.

Individuals must be dually diagnosed with MH/ID, history of crisis involvement, and have exhausted less-intensive supports and interventions in their community.

The goal of DDTT is to keep individuals in their home/community environment and to divert them from crisis involvement, inpatient hospital admissions or incarceration.

The psychiatrist-led team of clinicians provides assessment, medication management, crisis intervention, integrated case management, and behavioral support planning to keep the individual from being placed in a state hospital or other long-term inpatient setting.

The team works closely with Beacon Light's Community Stabilization and Reintegration Unit (CSRU) in McClure, PA to assist clients who may need short-term stabilization before or after their DDTT treatment.

The DDTT treatment model has a maximum length of stay of 12 months.

The team includes:

- A Psychiatrist
- A Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner
- A Program Director
- A Behavior Specialist (psychologist or master's therapist)
- Psychiatric Registered Nurses
- Service Coordinators
- A consulting pharmacist
- Administrative support

## Program Highlights

DDTT is an intensive, specialized program that combines the best of both systems (Mental Health & Intellectual Disability) to address the complex needs of a challenging and underserved population.

Highly trained team of clinicians with education and experience in both MH and ID enables more comprehensive, integrated care.

Low staff to consumer ratio ensures accessibility and frequent contact.

24/7 on-call service availability promotes community tenure and stabilization.



## Admission Criteria

- For Adults ages 18 years and older
- Present with an intellectual disability, documented prior to age 22
- Present with co-occurring behavioral health difficulties that are not attributed to an intellectual disability and the formulation of the diagnosis is performed by a licensed practitioner within the last 90 days
- Documentation of at least 2 crisis events within the last 6 months with county crisis provider or current supports
- Has exhausted less-intensive supports and interventions in their community
- Exclusionary criteria: Individuals may be considered inappropriate for DDTT if he/she is actively suicidal, actively psychotic, or has a medical condition that requires care beyond the scope of DDTT.

## Referral Process

Referrals can be made by provider agencies, family members, and other community sources. Each county will have a designated point person to oversee the referral process.

Upon receipt of the referral, the point person notifies members of the individual's Treatment Team, including:

- > County stakeholders
- > Other service providers
- > The individual and his/her family
- > Others who may be involved in the care, support or coordination for the individual.