



## LARIMER COUNTY WORKS POLICY

<b>Title:</b>	Mental Health and Substance Abuse Referrals		
<b>Effective Date:</b>	07/01/2010	<b>Page: 1 of</b>	2
<b>Desk:</b>	WFC & BPD	<b>Revision:</b>	2
<b>Reference:</b>	LCWC P&P 02-142		
<b>Agency Letters:</b>			
<b>Regulations:</b>	3.620.3, B & B		

### Background:

It shall be the policy of the Larimer County Works Program to assist Colorado Works participants with mental health and substance abuse issues when those issues are known barriers to gainful employment, family health, or personal/professional well-being.

Mental health and substance abuse is addressed in three primary venues:

1. Participant Assessment form
2. Works Orientation
3. Works Career Coach

Mental health and substance abuse is screened through the use of the Participant Assessment form which is completed by every applicant. Screening for these issues may occur anytime during program participation if it is identified as a barrier by the participant. Works staff will also address the need for counseling or services if demonstrated behavior indicates a need for such action.

To encourage participation in mental health and/or substance abuse counseling, mental health staff will present information to applicants on the available mental health and substance abuse treatment services in the initial Works Assessment/Orientation.

If the need for services is identified at any point in time during program participation, the participant will be referred to the on-site mental health staff. Mental health (MH) staff will then follow up directly with that individual to establish contact and schedule an assessment. Based on the assessment, MH staff will make appropriate referrals for services including establishing the participant as a client of MH and/or referrals to treatment centers. Participants will meet with MH staff on-site at the Workforce Center offices or if the situation dictates at the Larimer Center for Mental Health.

If the participant is exempt from participating in other approved work activities because he/she is on an approved one month coach hold or a Quality Assurance Committee hold to pursue counseling and/or substance abuse treatment, the activities that they are participating in as part of this treatment will be listed on the Individual Responsibility Contract (IRC).