



Parkland/Spanaway Crisis Facility

To provide effective care for those experiencing a mental health crisis, Pierce County needs a second crisis stabilization facility to be located in the Parkland/Spanaway area. First responders, providers, and the community identified this as a top priority in our region. The only such facility in Pierce is currently located in Fife, but is too far for first responders serving the central and southern areas of the county, where about half the population reside. The Fife facility has operated for eight years, and the second facility will be operated in the same manner and by the same provider, Recovery Innovations.

- Law enforcement near the Fife facility has seen a substantial drop in behavioral health related incidents. The Fife Chief of Police recently wrote:

“Additionally, examining the first four months of each year, between 2016, 2017 and 2018, we have seen a drop-in calls for service in each of the subsequent years. This is an extremely significant analysis because it coincides with the opening of the [Fife facility]. ... The [Fife facility], and more specifically, Administrator Leer, have fostered an excellent working relationship with the Fife Police Department, which has been beneficial to our officers, our community, and those in need of treatment. The Fife Police Department fully supports the [Fife facility] and is supportive of additional Centers throughout Pierce County.”

- The facility is locked, and is licensed by DOH and DBHR as a 16-bed facility.
- Guests are brought by first responders and providers. There are no walk-ins.
 - May 2018 YTD Referral data through
 - Hospital ER's – 811
 - Law Enforcement – 251
 - Fire / EMS – 41
 - Other Entities – 41
- All guests are triaged immediately for appropriateness for the facility. Individuals with violent behavior are diverted by law enforcement to another location.
- The Fife facility provides a structured environment with 24-hour care, active support options, and planned activities oriented toward the goals of the individual.
- High staff/patient ratio: 1:2 staff/patients
- Over 8-year period, 20,000 patients served
- The facility is locked and access into or out of the facility is controlled by keycard.
- Guests stay an average 48 hours before returning back home, transferred to other facilities, or to community shelter.
- Comprehensive discharge planning includes ensuring strong linkage back into the community; and each person leaves with a plan for ongoing supports and necessary appointments for continued care.