

# Enrollment in the Jail Diversion Program

For residents of Smyth and Wythe Counties, the magistrate can make a referral to the jail diversion program after asking a few questions related to your mental health history. Individuals can also be referred through Southwest Virginia pre-trial services.

Mount Rogers' Jail Diversion Program offers services aimed at supporting individuals through the criminal justice system by identifying an individual's needs. Once an individual's needs are identified, a variety of mental health services and treatment options are implemented in order to support individuals as they encounter the legal system.

Jail Diversion is a multi-agency, collaborative program which aims to better treat individuals with mental health treatment needs who have encountered the legal system while simultaneously working to reduce census at regional jails.

# Eligibility

We serve individuals with a mental illness who will accept intervention instead of continuing through the legal system.

- Must be in the Intercept II phase of the judicial system (after arrest and before sentencing)
- No pending cases or probation in other jurisdictions
- Have a mental health diagnosis
- Charged with a non-violent misdemeanor
- Would not be a risk to public safety if released from jail
- Resident of Smyth or Wythe County, Virginia

# Program Participant Requirements

- Keep all scheduled appointments and court dates
- Cooperate with all psychiatric testing
- Participate in a medication monitoring program and take all medication as prescribed
- Complete weekly check-ins
- Participate in counseling/group/community support programs
- Refrain from ingesting any non-prescribed controlled substance
- Refrain from consuming alcohol
- Do not commit any additional offenses



# What is Jail Diversion?

Mount Rogers Community Services' Jail Diversion Program provides alternatives to incarceration for people who are arrested and jailed as a result of behaviors caused by mental illness.

The Jail Diversion program identifies individuals who have a mental illness and have been charged with a non-violent misdemeanor offense. Individuals who are admitted to the Jail Diversion program will receive a needs assessment and referral to appropriate resources. Individuals will also be enrolled in services designed to meet their mental health needs. Services can include financial assessment to determine insurance or Medicaid eligibility, Mental Health inpatient hospitalization, Crisis Stabilization, medical services, outpatient counseling and case management and housing needs.

Magistrates, pre-trial services, attorneys, and the court can request an assessment and make a referral to services.

The goal of Jail Diversion is to treat the behaviors caused by mental illness rather than incarcerate individuals with non-violent offenses.

Jail Diversion through Mount Rogers Community Services is only available to residents of Smyth and Wythe Counties at this time.

## Contact Information

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**Forensic Intercept  
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(Jail Diversion)**