

CONNECTIONS

The Virginia Acute Psychiatric & Community Services Boards Bed Registry Newsletter!

December 2014

Volume 1, Issue 2

The purpose of “Connections” is to provide specialized information to a targeted audience working with the Virginia Psychiatric Bed Registry.

Bed Registry Updates:

There are currently 69 facilities that update the registry and 1,826 mental health professionals in Virginia who regularly use the registry. On average, the registry is used more than 2,500 times a month for possible bed searches or for general information.

All public and private facilities are required to update the registry daily and when there are changes. Facilities update the registry on average **three times a day**.

Type of Facility:	Average Daily Updates to the PBR:
State Facilities	3.26
Community Hospitals	3.14
Crisis Stabilization Units	2.09

“Our nation is in the midst of a health care transformation.”

William A. Hazel Jr. MD
Secretary of Health and Human Resources
for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

“People across the Commonwealth should be confident that in a time of crisis, the system can and will respond....”

Debra Ferguson, Ph.D.
Commissioner Virginia
Department of Behavioral Health and
Developmental Services.



Hot Topics:

- Bed Registry Updates
- Do Other States Have A Psychiatric Bed Registry?
- Did you know...
- Continued Strategies for Updating the Registry: A few examples.
- Enhancements to the Registry

<https://www.vhi.org/pbr/>

Do other states have a Psychiatric Bed Registry?

Follow this link for the Original Report: [STATE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DATA REPOSITORIES](#)



The General Assembly enacted legislation to create an acute psychiatric bed registry in April 2014. Virginia House Bill 1232 requires the development of a web-based acute psychiatric bed registry for public and private inpatient psychiatric facilities and crisis stabilization units.

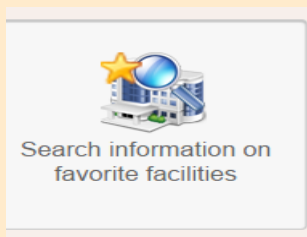
Similar legislation is pending with the Finance Committee in New York as of April 2014. This registry shall include descriptive information for every public and private inpatient psychiatric facility and every public or private crisis stabilization unit in the state. It also provides real-time information about the number of beds available at each facility. Every state facility, community services board, behavioral health authority, and private provider licensed by the department shall participate in the acute psychiatric bed registry. They also must designate an employee to submit information for the inclusion in the acute psychiatric bed registry.

Vermont has pending legislation which would enact a mental health resource and referral registry in the state. The proposed electronic mental health resource and referral system would support and connect health care professionals specializing in mental health or substance abuse treatment, medical homes, community health teams, advocates, families, and consumers. This system will replace the daily phone calls that DMH Admissions makes to each facility and the distribution of the daily census spreadsheets. With the Electronic Bed Board System, each facility will update their bed availability in real time. Those in need of available beds will be able to search based on bed type and location. The Electronic Bed Locator System can be found on the web at <https://bedboard.vermont.gov/>

The Minnesota Department of Human Services and MHA have partnered to provide the [Minnesota Mental Health Access website](#) (mental health bed tracker). The purpose of the site is to assist health care providers to locate potential openings in mental health services for the purpose of referring patients for care. The website locates inpatient acute care mental health beds as well as community-based services within the state of Minnesota.

Did You know....

- We encourage everyone to place your civil commitment hearing schedule on your facility detail page for viewing.
- You can save favorite facilities and directly view them from your log-in screen. Look for the logo below on your screen.



- You can later go back and view and/or complete a bed search that someone on your team started during a different shift. See the [HELP](#) menu for instructions.
- Your site administrator can add as many users and/or searchers that is needed to meet your demands. Click [HERE](#) if you are a site administrator for instructions.
- **Sharing of passwords and login information is NOT recommended.**



Strategies for Updating the Psychiatric Bed Registry:

A Few More Examples

Facility 1: This facility rotates the responsibility of updating the registry during the day weekly among their social workers. During the week, they are responsible for reviewing their census in the morning and throughout the day, making any adjustments to the bed registry as needed. At the end of the shift, they check the bed registry and make sure the information is updated. Nursing staff is then responsible for updating the registry when social workers are not available or during off-hours. Initially there were some problems, but now everyone is trained and there have been fewer issues. The registry is at least updated on every shift.

Facility 2: This facility identified a good problem. People in multiple job roles were tasked with updating the registry, which was a well-intended effort to assure timeliness. They quickly realized this had the unintended consequence of sometimes resulting in the registry not being updated. To rectify this, they decided to streamline the responsibility to only nursing, with accountability built in by assigning updaters for every shift change. These updaters have the responsibility of real-time updates as well.

Would you like training on all the features of the PBR?

Many people are learning to use the bed registry to assist with tracking and documentation. The bed registry can be used to demonstrate a bed search was completed when required. If you would like to host a regional training or you feel that your staff would benefit from learning more about the features of the registry do not hesitate to request training.

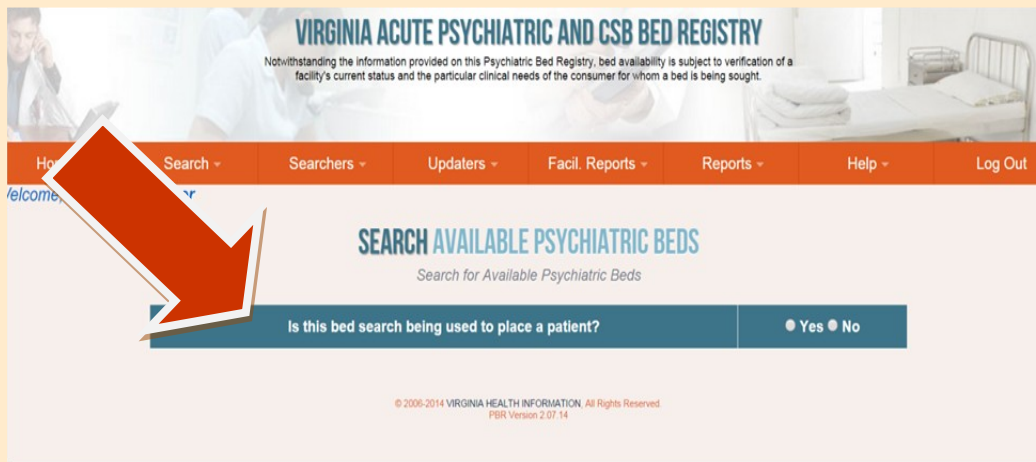
For training or general questions regarding the Psychiatric Bed Registry, please contact:

Cleopatra Booker, Psy.D., DBHDS,



cleopatra.booker@dbhds.virginia.gov

Enhancements to the Psychiatric Bed Registry:

A psychiatric bed registry stakeholder's meeting is held once every six to eight weeks to discuss data analysis, feedback from the field, and future enhancements. Since the release of the registry the website has been modified based on feedback. The most recent enhancements to the PBR were released on October 9, 2014.



Key items:

- **Icons** will help you distinguish between a Hospital with medical capabilities and Psych Services only (Hospital with Medical Services Icons  or Psych Only Icons )
- Before each bed search you will be asked **“Is this bed search being used to place a patient? Y/N.”** Answering this question correctly helps us understand your needs and how you might use the PBR for other purposes.
- **Automatic password reset link.** If a user forgets his password, he can click the reset password link, then supply his facility number and email. A new random password will be emailed.
- The **Bed Registry Newsletter, Connections**, has been added to the HELP Menu.
- When completing the survey portion of the bed search, if “Patient Placed?” is “yes” at one facility, there is an **auto-fill** for all other empty Patient Placed rows with “no” and “Reasons Not Placed” is automatically populated to “Placed at a different facility.”

If you have technical questions or suggestions about the website (e.g., using your login search features, etc.), please contact:

Deborah Waite, VHI Operations Manager,

deborah@vhi.org

