Charleston Dorchester Mental Health Center
Psychiatric Urgent Care
Program Description and Access Procedures

Overview:
On 3/2/09 the Charleston Dorchester Mental Health Center (CDMHC) will begin a Psychiatric Urgent Care (PUC) located at 2100 Charlie Hall Blvd. Its purpose is to provide a readily accessible resource to Charleston and Dorchester County residents when in acute psychiatric distress. The PUC will provide a full range of psychiatric intervention to include; crisis management, medication management, and short-term solution focused outpatient psychotherapy.

Hours of operation:
8:30a-5p Monday through Friday.

Staff:
1 director, 2.5 masters prepared counselors, 1 RN, and physician coverage.

Services and How to Access:
The PUC will perform two distinct functions.

1. Triage and Crisis Intervention
   These services shall be provided to those who present to PUC in psychiatric distress and are in need of urgent intervention.
   How to Access:
   - Client presents to PUC as self-referred walk-in,
   - Referral from an emergency department

2. Short-Term therapeutic services
   Typical client is in psychiatric distress and intervention is of the utmost urgency. This client’s symptom presentation may present as anxiety, depression, grief, personality pathology, etc. It is generally expected that clients referred to this service will not need more than 6 - 8 sessions. If symptoms are too great or persist beyond service capability, a referral will be made to either an internal or external appropriate level of care.
   How to Access:
   - Client presents to MHC as walk-in and is deemed appropriate for service.
   - Client or referrer calls MHC and based on triage, is appropriate for service.

Transportation:
The PUC will be unable to provide transportation to its facility but will assume transportation coordination upon client’s presentation to PUC.