

**Mental Health Observation/ Short Term Stabilization Facility
1720 Jackson Street. La Crosse Wisconsin**

Safety and Security

All patients are voluntary adults who have been prescreened by law enforcement or mobile crisis teams and are deemed appropriate for admission. Prescreening includes an initial assessment of potential violence, the presence of drugs or alcohol, any injuries the patient may have, and overall willingness to voluntarily receive treatment. Patients will also be scanned with an electronic wand prior to admission to ensure there are no weapons present. No Walk-In or Drop-In admissions will be allowed.

Exterior building cameras will be monitored on a regular basis, as part of the regular 15-minute patient "check ins" by staff. Cameras are also monitored when patients are arriving via law enforcement or mobile crisis response teams.

Patients are not allowed to "come and go" as they please, and only leave facility when escorted by staff for prescheduled appointments or outside breaks at the supervised patio area.

Wisconsin Department of Health Services Chapter "83" community based residential facility licensing requires all doors be unlocked. However exterior entry doors may be locked if exit doors inside the building are unlocked.

Patients do not and will not interact with any individuals who may have been the source of the mental health episode.

Tellurian staff are extensively trained in deescalating patients whose symptoms continue, including providing clinical support, peer support, employing relaxation techniques and utilizing skills training. Patients choosing to leave prior to discharge occurs very seldom. In the past 60 days there has been just one "walk away". Law Enforcement and Social Services were notified, and the patient was located. There is no history of patients leaving and causing any damage or other issues in the immediate neighborhood.

Discharge

Patients will be discharged to a predetermined destination and transported by a Tellurian staff member. Patients will not be discharged "out the door" into the neighborhood.

Substance Use

Patients are required to provide a urinalysis within 15 minutes of admission. If the test indicates that the patient will likely go into withdrawal, they will immediately be transported to the hospital. There is no alcohol or drug use permitted while a patient is at the facility and patients are monitored every 15-minutes.

Length of Stay

Length of stay for each patient will vary depending on the issue or issues being treated. Similar operational models throughout the country indicate that some patients stabilize and are ready to return to the community in a matter of a few hours. Others may require a stay of one to several days. It is anticipated that patients at the Jackson Street facility not stabilized within the first 24 hours will stay an average of 1-3 days. Patients needing additional time to stabilize will be transported to the 10-bed Tellurian facility at 4647 Mormon Coulee Road. There is no maximum length of stay, however the average length of stay for the Tellurian Crisis Stabilization /Hospital Diversion Facility on Mormon Coulee Road is 3-6 days. Patients receiving care who choose to leave the facility cannot return and continue care.

Why Residential Zoning

State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services requirements for a Community Based Residential Housing Facility licensed under DHS 83, requires multifamily housing zoning. Service being provided at 1720 Jackson Street requires "83" licensure.

Police "calls" in past month

There have been no police calls or incident reports filed in the past month at the 4647 Mormon Coulee Road facility.

Funding and Sustainability

Grant funding for the 1720 Jackson Street Mental Health Observation and Short-Term Stabilization is assured through September of 2025. An additional \$10 million dollars in funding for this project as well as four other similar projects in the state has been included in the next biennial state budget, and if approved by the legislature should allow continued funding for an additional 4-years. La Crosse County Human Service has contracted with Tellurian for the past 13 years to provide mental health crisis stabilization and hospital diversion services to county residents; saving the county 100's of thousands of dollars per year in hospitalization and incarceration costs. If state funding does not continue past September of 2025, it is expected the county will enter a contract with Tellurian for these services, similar to the contract with the Tellurian facility on Mormon Coulee Road, thus assuring financial sustainability.