

Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital Policy	
Social Services	
New: X	Date:

Social services at the Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital (VPCH) shall be provided by a licensed social worker.

The Social Worker is a core member of the treatment team.

The Social Worker shall complete a Comprehensive Social Assessment by the time the treatment team meets to develop the Comprehensive Interdisciplinary Treatment Plan.

Social work responsibilities include, but are not limited to, participating in discharge planning, arranging for follow-up care, and developing mechanisms for exchange of information with sources outside the hospital.

The Social Worker has primary responsibility for coordinating aftercare planning for patients at VPCH who are not in the custody of the Department of Corrections.

The Social Worker involves the patient in making decisions about his or her care and treatment in the hospital and in making decisions regarding his or her aftercare plan.

The Social Worker provides education, support and advocacy for the patient whenever necessary.

With the patient's consent:

- the Social Worker engages family members, and others with whom the patient has a personal relationship, in treatment and aftercare planning.
- the Social Worker provides education, support and advocacy for family members and others with whom the patient has a personal relationship.

At the time of discharge, the Social Worker shall complete an Aftercare Referral Form and ensure that copies are distributed in a timely manner to those individuals and organizations that will provide care, treatment and other services for the patient following hospitalization.\

Approved by:	Signature:	Date:
Paul Dupre, Commissioner, DMH	<i>Paul Dupre</i>	4-7-14