



## COURTS

# Assisted Outpatient Treatment



To learn more about AOT,  
please call 855-99-MCCMH  
(855-996-2264) or visit  
[mccmh.net/AOT/](http://mccmh.net/AOT/)

Call our Crisis Hotline for 24/7  
support: 586-307-9100

## Ensuring treatment compliance for people with serious mental illness

People with serious mental illness (SMI) may not realize they need help because of their condition. As a result, they may not receive the necessary treatment. This can lead to higher rates of suicide, self-harm, aggressive behavior, homelessness, and frequent visits to the emergency room.

Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) is a court order for community-based mental health treatment for people with SMI. AOT can help people get the support they need, which can prevent crises and improve their overall well-being.

When people with SMI struggle to follow their treatment plans, the court can positively impact their lives by implementing AOT. The court can establish a system of accountability for both MCCMH and the person, which can reduce the number of hospitalizations and incarcerations.



**MACOMB COUNTY**  
COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

Macomb County Community Mental Health programs and services are supported and funded, in part, by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). MCCMH is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) and operates under the direction of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners and the Macomb County Community Mental Health Board.

MCCMH centers are barrier-free, and offer TTY access, American Sign Language communication, and other language translations.

 [mccmh.net](http://mccmh.net)



@wearemccmh

Before the hearing, MCCMH will submit a form (PCM 216) to the court. This form lists available mental health services and recommends the best options for the person. The court will then decide which services to order.

When the court approves AOT, the official court order (PCM 214) lists the specific services that have been authorized. The court does not order every service that is listed. The treatment team creates a personalized treatment plan based on the person's specific needs. This plan must be submitted to the court within 30 days of the order.

The person will receive outpatient treatment for their SMI while on an AOT order. If the court orders a **combined AOT**, the person will be hospitalized before starting outpatient care.

## What are courts responsible for?

- Receive petitions
- Receive and review all forms about the hearing and AOT order
- Schedule hearings
- Appoint counsel
- Record hearing outcome
- Send a copy of the order to MCCMH and/or hospital
- Maintain accountability for both the person and service providers
- Oversee notices of noncompliance, terminations of AOT, and extensions

## Action steps for courts:

- Train all staff on eligibility for AOT and treatment services appropriate and available
- Develop internal policy and procedure detailing how to implement AOT in the court
- Designate specific staff members to implement an AOT program within the court
- Work with MCCMH to coordinate AOT implementation in the community
- Designate a liaison from each organization to facilitate communication, coordination, and information sharing
- Collect data to evaluate AOT implementation

