



## Civil Commitment Unit

For

### Sexual Offenders

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#### Purpose

The Civil Commitment Unit for Sexual Offenders (CCUSO) provides a secure, long term, and highly structured setting to treat sexually violent predators who have served their prison terms but who, in a separate civil trial, have been found likely to commit further violent sexual offenses.

#### Who

Established in 1999, the program has grown steadily. As of July 2009, there were 79 patients, all of them court-ordered. It is projected that admissions will grow to 86 by the end of SFY 2010 and to 93 the following year.

There are currently four patients in the fifth phase of the treatment program. No patient has completed all five phases of the treatment program, but several patients have been dismissed from the program on judicial orders or trials.

#### What

The CCUSO unit is a secure facility located on the campus of the Mental Health Institute at Cherokee. CCUSO patients have no contact with patients of the MHI.

The CCUSO treatment program includes:

- Group and individual therapy, including victim empathy and strategies to prevent relapse.
- Educational programming for patients who do not have the basic skills needed to fully participate in therapy.
- Physiological assessments to measure and verify results of treatment strategies.
- Transitional and discharge planning, and supervision for patients who have completed all five treatment phases, if ordered by a court.

#### How are we Doing?

Patients must participate in the structured program in order to advance toward eventual release. In SFY 2009, 24 percent of the average daily population of 75 patients progressed to the next treatment phase.