

# Introduction to Medical Cohorted Housing (MCH)

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# Medical Therapeutic Housing Units

- Until recently, CHS' medical therapeutic housing units have been comprised of the men's North Infirmary Command (NIC) Annex, the Communicable Disease Unit (CDU) in the West Facility, and the women's infirmary in RMSC.
- The infirmaries were designed to house patients who require on-unit nursing and medical services.
- The CDU was designed to house patients who require medical quarantine or isolation for communicable disease.
- Both types of medical TxHU permitted easy access to nursing and medical resources.

# Outposted Therapeutic Housing Unit at NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue

- On April 8, 2026, the first-of-its-kind Outposted Therapeutic Housing Unit at Bellevue Hospital opened to CHS patients with complex medical needs.
- The 104-bed unit houses CHS patients with significant health conditions who do not require inpatient care but would benefit from close access to hospital-based specialty services, including oncology, cardiology, and neurology.
- In addition to greater proximity to hospital-based specialty services, patients on the Outposted unit require easy and close access to ongoing on-site nursing and medical care.

# Medical Cohorted Housing (MCH)

- With the opening of OTxHU, CHS identified the opportunity to enhance the continuum of care for patients who do not require OTxHU beds but could benefit from greater access to nursing and medical care.
- Eligibility for these housing units, named Medical Cohorted Housing (MCH), include:
  - A chronic condition benefiting from increased frequency of medical or nursing contact
  - Age 55 or older with active medical needs
  - Ambulation limitations with active medical needs
  - Patients awaiting OTxHU transfer who may face a temporary barrier to immediate placement

# Medical Cohort Housing (MCH)

- MCH is not an infirmary or residential medical area; however, it does provide close access to clinic space and nursing care.
- MCH also provides easier access for as-needed check-ins by medical staff.
- CHS determines eligibility for admission to and discharge from the unit, creating a more therapeutic milieu and greater stability on the unit.

# Why MCH Matters

- Patients who meet certain criteria may benefit from more frequent clinical attention and care than what is typically provided in other General Population housing.
- Creating MCH units in specific locations where resources are close to care enables CHS staff to deliver proactive clinical services while lessening demand on DOC for production.
- Through MCH, CHS enables a team of medical and nursing staff to build and maintain therapeutic relationships with groups of patients with similar, ongoing needs.
- MCH is not a step-down unit or a clinical intervention; it is a structural solution that supports greater continuity and quality of health care for some of the more medically vulnerable individuals on Rikers Island.

# Changes to Male Medical Therapeutic Housing

## PRE OTxHU

- Infirmatory-type: 65 beds
- Infirmatory-PACE: 12 beds
- **TOTAL Medical TxHU: 77 beds**

## POST OTxHU

- Outposted/Bellevue: 84 beds
- Outposted/PACE/Medical: 20 beds
- Medical Cohorted Housing: 100 beds
- **TOTAL Medical TxHU 204 beds**

**Thank you to our partners at DOC for helping to establish and implement the Outposted and MCH units.**

Questions or comments?