

**2013 Outpatient Sub-County Service Planning Form (Optional)**  
Erie County Dept. of Mental Health (70290)

Consult the LSP Guidelines for additional guidance on completing this form.

**STEP 1:** Describe the rationale for designating the sub-county service areas.

Erie County is a large, diverse county of communities that have distinct and widely varying characteristics. Six Sub-county planning areas within Erie County were delineated, composed of municipal areas as the base units. These regions were grouped based on population size, income level, contiguity and continuity, school district divisions, and agriculture prevalence. The percent of population involved in the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting industries was also factored into this determination. Erie’s sub-county plan population data is based on the 2010 U.S. Census. Each planning area has a population of well over 15,000. While the total population sizes among the six regions are heterogeneous, the numerous other important factors in grouping these municipalities into these planning areas outweigh the need to make their population sizes homogeneous. Additionally, these regions are representative of the varying built environment characteristics and densities found throughout Erie County. When reviewing the distribution of outpatient capacity versus service delivery at the sub-county level, there is an apparent wide variance in unmet need, ranging from 100% unmet need to excess capacity of 33%. While these are important data for considering the geographic distribution of outpatient treatment capacity, it is also necessary that Erie County recognize that the OASAS need methodology on which it is based is not a product of an exact science. It does not discriminate for variables known to impact on determination of prevalence and demand within communities and populations, variables such as the incidence of certain crimes and of neighborhood transience. Further analysis and planning will be necessary when presented with capacity development and/or re-distribution opportunities. This sub-county need methodology helps to direct this inquiry in a manner more finely targeted than has been achievable under the earlier aggregated approach encompassing a county-wide view. Access barriers such as transportation and financial feasibility can be more readily captured. Surveying existing program demand patterns and related wait lists is another example of such areas of finer focus. These criteria might then lead to solutions that would be elusive under a more expansive, county-wide methodology. Please note that the “Service Provided” (annual visits) figures as determined by Erie County, both Countywide and, by Planning Areas, varies from that determined by OASAS due to adjustments based on notable local factors. The attached Excel sub-county plan data worksheet shows these adjusted visits data while the notes below the table provides brief explanations for the revisions made by the County. NOTE: The local VA hospital in 2009 provided 22,178 outpatient CD visits. Moreover, it has reported that the large majority of these are for residents of Erie County. These visits have not been included in the “Service Provided” figures due to not having the VA data at a sub-county level. However, it is likely that this data would not be especially impactful on sub-county planning until such time that the County-wide unmet need was reduced to the vicinity of 50,000 visits.

**STEP 2:** Outpatient service need is estimated from a population-based prevalence and service need methodology. For each sub-county service planning area designated, enter the most recent adult population and its percentage of the county's total adult population. Then, calculate the estimated service need for each service planning area by applying the same population percentage from the previous column to the total countywide service need estimate. Finally, enter the current outpatient service volume (annual visits) for each service planning area and calculate the unmet service need.

Service Planning Area	Adult Population (Age 18 and Over)	Percent of Total	Service Need (annual visits)	Service Provided (annual visits)	Unmet Need (annual visits)
Countywide	720,096	100 %	365,315	249,928	115,387
SubCounty Planning Area #1	199,734	28 %	101,192	134,165	(32,973)
SubCounty Planning Area #2	207,946	29 %	105,576	63,836	41,740
SubCounty Planning Area #3	139,752	19 %	70,871	23,014	47,857
SubCounty Planning Area #4	99,394	14 %	50,413	27,629	22,784
SubCounty Planning Area #5	41,861	6 %	21,188	0	21,188
SubCounty Planning Area #6	31,409	4 %	16,074	1,284	14,790

**STEP 3:** Attach a map delineating the sub-county service areas identified on this form.