

# How to Make a Referral

St. Claire Regional Medical Center  
Adult and Senior Behavioral Health Unit  
Call 24 hours a day • 7 days a week • 606.783.6661



222 Medical Circle • Morehead, KY 40351 • 606.783.6661

## **Why is it important to call first?**

- To see if the patient is appropriate for admission
- To determine bed availability
- To avoid unnecessary delays and ensure continuity of patient care

## **How it works:**

- A clinical staff member on the Behavioral Health Unit will ask a series of questions to complete an inquiry form.
- This information will be reviewed by the attending psychiatrist who will then determine if admission is appropriate.
- If admission is appropriate, we will ask that the individual be sent to the St. Claire Regional Medical Center Emergency Department for medical clearance.
- If admission is not appropriate, we will help you review other options to adequately meet the current needs of the patient.

## **The following are general guidelines (though not limited to) that warrant a referral for an admission:**

- Severe depression with profound feelings of sadness, hopelessness or emptiness
- Suicidal/homicidal ideation
- Potential harm to self or others via unprovoked hitting, kicking, biting, throwing objects, etc.  
*This usually has to be a behavior that is typically NOT characteristic of that individual and seems to have come on suddenly and without reasonable explanation.*
- NEW onset of psychosis/paranoia or ACUTE EXACERBATION of chronic psychotic symptoms
- Need for psychotherapeutic medication withdrawal, dose change, or toxic effects that could not be safely managed in a lesser restrictive environment