

NEW YORK STATE ASSISTED OUTPATIENT TREATMENT (AOT) EVALUATION

WHO WE ARE



Human Services Research Institute (HSRI) is a mission-driven organization that provides research and technical assistance to responsibly develop and shape health and human service systems.



PathLab at The University of Pittsburgh is led by lived experience researcher Dr. Nev Jones who studies the experiences of people with serious mental illness.



The New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) has partnered with HSRI and PathLab to evaluate AOT policy and outcomes across the state.



ABOUT OUR STUDY

WHY DO A STUDY?

- The last evaluation of AOT was conducted over 10 years ago - an updated study is needed
- Understanding how the AOT system is working is a priority for state and local policymakers and the communities they serve

WHAT WE'LL STUDY

- The AOT system and processes: petition initiation, court hearings and procedures, mandated services, and oversight teams
- Linkages between the AOT system and other health and social services systems including healthcare, housing, criminal legal, aging, and disability

OUR RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- What is the purpose of AOT and what does it do?
- How does AOT work in different counties across New York State?
- What are the experiences of people on AOT?
- What types of outcomes are associated with AOT for individuals, families, and communities?

WHAT WE'LL DO

- Talk with people under AOT orders and their loved ones about their experiences with court processes and services
- Meet with behavioral health leaders, mental health advocates, service professionals, and system administrators to learn about how AOT is used in counties across the state
- Examine data on community characteristics, service, and system quality
- Engage people with lived experience of AOT to integrate community feedback throughout the evaluation
- Present our preliminary results to the public early 2026

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