

**WHAT DOES THAT STAND FOR?  
ACRONYMS USED IN MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCACY IN  
MASSACHUSETTS**

**Prepared by the Mental Health Legal Advisors Committee  
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Acronym	Explanation	Context
51A	Abuse and neglect of minor pursuant to Mass. Gen. L. ch. 51A	filed w/ DCF
209A	Abuse prevention order pursuant to Mass. Gen. L. ch. 209A	Court order
AA	Alcoholics Anonymous	Substance abuse term
ABAS	Adaptive Behavior Assessment System	assessment used in DDS eligibility
ACT	Assertive Community Treatment (see also PACT)	mental health term
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act	federal law
ADD	Attention Deficit Disorder	diagnostic term
ADHD	Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder	diagnostic term
ADLs	Activities of Daily Living	disability term
AG	Attorney General of the Comm. of Mass.	Mass. state agency
AIM	Aid for Incarcerated Mothers	non-profit in Mass.
AMI	Alliance for the Mentally Ill	national and state associations
AOT	Assisted Outpatient Treatment	mental health term
APA	American Psychiatric Association or American Psychological Association	national associations
ARC	Association for Retarded Citizens (The ARC)	national and state associations
ART	Acute Residential Treatment	mental health term
ASAP	Aging Services Access Points	Elder services info.
ASAP	Assessments for Safe & Appropriate Placements	DCF term
BBA	Boston Bar Association	Mass. state organization
BBO	Board of Bar Overseers of Mass.	Mass. state agency
BCIL	Boston Center for Independent Living	Advocacy and service org for people with disabilities
BIRT	Behavioral Intensive Residential Treatment	DMH/DCF term
BISCS	Brain Injury and Specialized Community Services (formerly SHIP)	Program of Mass. Rehab. Commission
BSAS	Bureau of Substance Abuse Services	of DPH

BSEA	Bureau of Special Education Appeals	Appeal Board of the Comm. of Mass., presently w/in DESE, but soon to be independent
BTR	Behavioral treatment residence	DCF program
CAFAS	Child & Adolescent Functional Assessment	Rosie D. term
CANS	Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths tool	used by DYS, Rosie D. term
CAP	Collaborative Assessment Program	of DCF and DMH; phasing out June 30, 2009
CARD	Child awaiting residential disposition	insurance term for stuck kid
CASPP	Child and Adolescent Services Planning Principles	Rosie D. term
C&P	Care & Protection proceeding	way to get kids into DCF care/custody
CCA	Consumer and Caregiver Assessment	DDS term
CFJJ	Citizens for Juvenile Justice	Non-profit in Mass.
CHAPA	Citizens Housing and Planning Association	Non-profit in Mass.
CBAT	Community Based Acute Treatment	Mental health unit licensed by DEEC
CBFS	Community Based Flexible Supports	Mental health term for adults
CBHI	Children's Behavioral Health Initiative	Initiative of EOHHS prompted by Rosie D. lawsuit
CFFC	Coordinated Family Focused Care	Rosie D. term
CHINS	Child In Need of Services	way to get kids into DCF care ; Rosie D. term
CIRT	Clinically Intensive Residential Treatment	Mental health term
CIT	Crisis Intervention Team	Judicial term – pre booking jail diversion
CJPC	Criminal Justice Policy Coalition	Non-profit in Mass.
CLC	Children's Law Center of Lynn	Non-profit in Mass.
CLE	Center for Law and Education	Non-profit in Mass.
CLRD	Coalition for the Legal Rights of People with Disabilities	coalition of advocates in Mass.
CLUM	Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts	Non-profit in Mass.
CMHC	Community Mental Health Center	Federally funded local health centers
CMHS	Center for Mental Health Services	federal agency
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services	Federal agency in DHHS responsible for federal

		administration of the Medicaid, Medicare and State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) programs. (was Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA))
CMSP	Children's Medical Security Plan	Mass. insurance program
CORD	Cape Organized for Rights of the Disabled	Advocacy and service org for people with disabilities
CORI	Criminal Offender Record Information	Mass. state agency/criminal law term
CPCS	Committee for Public Counsel Services	public defender agency in Mass.
CPR	Center for Public Representation	Non-profit in Mass.
CPS	Certified Peer Specialist	mental health term
CPT	Care planning team	Rosie D. term
CRAFFT	Car, Relax, Alone, Forget, Friends, Trouble	Rosie D. term
CRC	Community Re-entry Center	DYS term
CRS	Community Residential Support	Mental health term
CRT	Community Residence Tenancy Law	law which applies to DMH clients
CSA	Community Service Agency	Rosie D. term
CSLS	Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services	Legal services
CSP	Community Support Program	Rosie D. term
CSU	Crisis Stabilization Unit	mental health term
CV	Conditional Voluntary- M.G.L. Section 123, Section 10 & 11	mental health term
DBT	Dialectical Behavior Therapy	mental health term
DCF	Department of Children and Families (formerly DSS)	Mass. state agency, Rosie D. term
DD	Developmental Disability	DDS term
DDART	Dual Diagnosis Acute Residential Treatment	mental health / substance abuse term
DDS	Department of Developmental Services	Mass. state agency
DDS	Department of Disability Services	Rosie D. term
DDU	Departmental Disciplinary Unit	of DOC facilities
DEEC	Division of Early Education and Care	Mass. state agency (was OCCS and b/f that OFC)
DESE	Department of Elementary and Secondary Education	Mass. state agency (formerly DOE)
DET	Department of Employment and Training	Mass. state agency

DHHS	U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services	federal agency
DLC	Disability Law Center	Mass. non-profit
DMA	Division of Medical Assistance	Mass. state agency
DMH	Department of Mental Health	Mass. state agency, Rosie D. term
DMR -> DDS	Department of Mental Retardation (now Department of Developmental Services)	Mass. state agency
DOC	Department of Corrections	Mass. state agency
DOE -> DESE	Department of Education (now called Department of Elementary and Secondary Education)	Mass. state agency
DOJ	Department of Justice	federal agency
DPH	Department of Public Health	Mass. state agency
DPC	Disability Policy Consortium	advocacy organization in Mass.
DPPC	Disabled Persons Protection Commission	Mass. state agency
DPW	Department of Public Welfare (now DTA)	Mass. state agency
DSM	Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders	mental health/clinical term
DSM IV	Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, Version IV	Rosie D. term
DSS -> DCF	Department of Social Services (now called Department of Children and Families)	Mass. state agency
DTA	Department of Transitional Assistance	Mass. state agency
DUA	Division of Unemployment Assistance	Mass. state agency
DYS	Department of Youth Services	Mass. state agency
EBP	Evidence-Based Practice	mental health term
ECT	Electric Shock Therapy	mental health term
ELTF	Education Law Task Force	advocacy group in Mass.
EOHHS	Executive Office of Health and Human Services	Mass. state agency, Rosie D. term
EOP	Enhanced Outpatient Program	MBHP term
EOPS	Executive Office of Public Safety	Mass. state agency
EPSTD	Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment	Medicaid term, Rosie D. term
ER	Emergency Room	hospital term
ESIS	Educational Services in Institutional Settings	Mass. state agency within DESE, now called SEIS.
ESP	Emergency Service Program	MBHP term, Rosie D. term
EST	Emergency Services Team	Mental health term
FACT	Forensic Assertive Community	Mental health term

	Treatment	
FASP	Family After School Program	DCF and mental health term
FASST	Family Advocacy, Stabilization and Support Team	DMH/mental health term
FBS	Family Based Services	DCF term
FCSN	Federation for Children with Special Needs	Non-profit in Mass.
FGC	Family Group Conferencing	DCF term
FICM	Forensic Intensive Case Management	Term evolved from ACT
FIRST	Family Intensive Reunification and Stabilization Team	DCF/mental health term
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act	legal term
FST	Family Stabilization Team (also Family Stabilization Services),	Rosie D. term
GAL	Guardian Ad Litem	Judicial term
GBLS	Greater Boston Legal Services	Legal services agency
GCL	Grant of Conditional Liberty	DYS term
HCBS	Home and Community Based Services 1915 (c) Waiver	Medicaid term
HCFA	Health Care for All	Non-profit in Mass.
HHS	U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services	Federal agency
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act	Federal law
HLA	Health Law Advocates	Non-profit in Mass.
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	Federal agency
IAP	Individualized Action Plan	DMH term.
ICAP	Inventory of Client and Agency Planning	DDS term
ICC	Intensive Case Coordination	MassHealth/Rosie D. term
ICF-ID	Intermediate Care Facility for persons with Intellectual Disability	DDS term
ICM	Intensive Case Management or Intensive Clinical Management	MassHealth term
ICP	Individual Care Plan	Rosie D. term
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act	federal special education law; Rosie D. term
IEP	Individual Education Plan	Special ed term, Rosie D. term
ILC	Independent Living Center	Disability services term
IOC	Involuntary Outpatient commitment	Mental health term
IRTP	Intensive Residential Treatment Program	Mental health term
ISAP	Integrated Substance Abuse Programs	Substance abuse term

ISP	Individual Service Plan	DMH term, DDS term
IT	Information Technology	Rosie D. term
ITP	Individual transition plan	Special ed term, DDS term
JCAHO	Joint Committee on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations	National organization
JDAI	Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative	National initiative
JRAP	Juvenile Rights Advocacy Project	Legal services in Mass.
JRC	Judge Rotenberg Center	Treatment program in Mass.
JRI	Justice Resource Institute	Non-profit in Mass.
LACCM	Legal Assistance Corp. of Central Mass.	Legal services
LAR	Legally authorized representative	Legal term
LARC	Legal Advocacy Resource Center	Legal services
LCSW	Licensed Clinical Social Worker	Clinical term
LEA	Local Education Authority/Agency	Education term, Rosie D. term
LHA	Local Housing Authority	Housing term
LICSW	Licensed Clinical Social Worker	Clinical term
LOC	Level of Care	Clinical term, Rosie D. term
MAAPS	Massachusetts Association of 766 - Approved Private Schools	Non-profit in Mass.
MAC	Mass. Advocates for Children	Legal services in Mass.
MAMH	Mass. Assoc. for Mental Health	Non-profit in Mass.
MASS	Mass. Advocates Standing Strong	Non-profit in Mass.
MASSCAP	Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment Process	DDS term
MBHP	Mass. Behavioral Health Partnership (Partnership)	For-profit insurance co., Rosie D. term
MCAD	Mass. Commissions Against Discrimination	Mass. state agency
MCAS	Mass. Comprehensive Assessment System	Mass. Test for public school students
MCE	Managed Care Entity	Insurance term, Rosie D. term
M-CHAT	Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers	Rosie D. term
MCI	Mass. Correctional Institution	Mass. state agency term
MCI	Mobile Crisis Intervention	Rosie D. term
MCO	Managed Care Organization	Insurance term
MCLE	Mass. Continuing Legal Education	Non-profit in Mass.
MCPAP	Massachusetts Child Psychiatry Access Project	Rosie D.
MDAT	Multi Disciplinary Assessment Teams	DCF term to promote family engagement
MDDC	Mass. Developmental Disabilities	Non-profit in Mass.

	Council	
MFOC	Mass. Families Organized for Change	Non-profit in Mass.
MGH	Mass. General Hospital	Hospital in Mass.
MHLAC	Mental Health Legal Advisors Committee	Mass. state agency
MHSA	Mass. Housing and Shelter Alliance	Non-profit in Mass.
MHSPY	Mental Health Services Program for Youth	Rosie D. term
MLAC	Mass. Legal Assistance Corp.	Legal services
MLRI	Mass. Law Reform Institute	Legal services
MOD	Mass. Office on Disability	Mass. state agency
MPOWER	Mass. People Organized for Wellness and Empowerment	Non-profit in Mass.
MRC	Mass. Rehab. Commission	Mass. state agency
MSE	Mental Status Examination	Mental health term
MST	Multi-systemic Therapy	Mental health term
NA	Narcotics Anonymous	Substance abuse term
NAPAS	National Assoc. of Protection and Advocacy Systems	Legal services organization
NARPA	National Assoc. for Rights Protection and Advocacy	Legal services organization
NASW	National. Assoc. for Social Work	National association
NCLB	No Child Left Behind	federal education law
NEMC	New England Medical Center (now Tufts Medical Center)	Hospital
NILC	Northeast Independent Living Center	Agency for people with disabilities
NIMH	National Institute for Mental Health	Federal agency
NLG	National Lawyers Guild	Legal services
OAAYS	Office of Youth and Young Adult Services	of BSAS of DPH
OCCS -> DEEC	Office of Child Care Services (now DEEC)	Mass. state agency
OCR	Office for Civil Rights	Division of federal DOE
OFC -> OCCS -> DEEC	Office for Children (now DEEC)	Mass. state agency
OSEP	Office of Special Education Programs	Division of OSERS. Serves youth to 21.
OSERS	Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services	Division of the federal DOE. Serves people with disabilities.
P&A	Protection and Advocacy Program	Federal legal services agency.
PACT	Program of Assertive Community Treatment (also ACT)	DMH/MassHealth term

PAL	Parent Advocacy League	Non-profit in Mass.
PASS	Plans to Achieve Self-Sufficiency	Social security term
PASARR	Pre-Admission Screening and Annual Resident Review	Mental health term
PBIS	Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports	education term
PCA	Personal Care Attendant	Disabilities term
PCC	Primary Care Clinician	Rosie D. term
PCP	Primary Care Physician/Provider	Rosie D. term
PDD	Pervasive Developmental Disorder	Disabilities term
PEDS	Parents' evaluation of developmental status	DPH term, Rosie D. term
PINK SLIP	MGH Ch. 123, Section 12	Mental health term
PO	Probation Officer	Criminal law term
PQA	Program Quality Assurance	Division of the DOE of Mass.
PSC	Pediatric Symptom Checklist	Rosie D. term
PSI	Permission to Share Information	MassHealth term
PTSD	Post Traumatic Stress Disorder	Diagnostic term
RCC	Recovery Connection Center	Substance abuse term
RESC	Regional Emergency Service Center	DPH term, Rosie D. term
RFP	Request for Proposal	Term used when state/federal agencies put out bids for services
RFR	Request for Response	Term used when state/federal agencies put out bids for services
RLC	Recovery Learning Center	Mental health term
s. 8	Federally funded housing voucher or project subsidy	Housing term
s.12	Ch. 123, s. 12 – pink paper – emergency commitment	Mental health term
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration	Federal agency, Rosie D. term
SED	Serious Emotional Disturbance	Mental Health diagnostic term, Rosie D. term
SEIU	Service Employees International Union	Union
SEIS	Special Education in Institutional Settings	Division of DESE; Mass. state agency
SHIP	State Head Injured Program	Mass. state agency -- now called Brain Injury and Specialized Community Services (BISCS)
SIMS	Student Information Management System	DESE term



SIRS	Supported Individual Residential Support	Mental health term
SJC	Supreme Judicial Court of Mass.	Judiciary
SEI	Serious Emotional Illness	DPH term
SNF	Skilled nursing facility	Nursing term
SOAP	Structured outpatient addictions services	MassHealth term
SOC	System of Care	National organization, Rosie D. term
SPMI	Serious and Persistent Mental Illness	Mental health term
SRO	Single Room Occupancy	Housing term
SSA	Social Security Administration	Federal Agency
SSDI	Social Security Disability Insurance	Federal benefits program
SSI	Supplemental Security Income	Federal benefits program
SSRI	Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors	Mental health term
STARR	Stabilization, Assessment and Rapid Reintegration	DCF term for short term placement services
TAC	Transitional Advisory Committee	Committee of Mass. state agency EOHHS
TAC	Technical Assistance Collaborative	Non-profit in Mass.
TC	Therapeutic Community	Mental health term
TM	Therapeutic Mentoring	Rosie D. term
TPP	Tenancy Preservation Project	Housing term
UCC	Urgent Care Center	Rosie D. term
VLP	Volunteer Lawyers Project	Legal services
WIA	Workforce Investment Act	Federal law
WMR	Wellness Management and Recovery	Mental health term
WRAP	Wellness Recovery Action Plan	Mental health term
YAD	Youth Advocacy Department	Legal services/public defender in Mass.