**Description of New Hampshire’s ITS Population**

All of the individuals who will be served in ITS programs will have varying degrees of intellectual or developmental disabilities or acquired brain injuries. They will also have varying degrees of maladaptive behaviors and levels of static and dynamic risk, in addition to complex mental health needs. While each person will have unique clinical characteristics, the following generalizations can be offered regarding the population as a whole.

Please note that the following categories are not intended to serve as admission criteria. The following is only intended as a non-exhaustive list of the most common characteristics of individuals whose needs may warrant services in an ITS program.

* Individuals will have a history of exhibiting high-risk behaviors, which will include one or a combination of the following:
	+ Violence and aggression (with and without use of weapons) which may have resulted in or poses the threat of serious injury to others;
	+ Arson or fire setting that has created significant risks to self and others;
	+ Sexual offending or problematic sexual behavior.
* Individuals will present with varying levels of static and dynamic risk, but all will meet the Community of Practice’s threshold of moderate-high or high risk for behavior that could have a significant negative impact on those around them. These high-risk behaviors may be long-standing and require substantial therapeutic intervention.
* Other presenting challenges could potentially include one or a combination of:
	+ Drug or alcohol abuse, or Substance Use Disorder
	+ Complex mental health needs, including but not limited to a history of serious physical or sexual trauma, limited to no family involvement, or long-term institutionalization, among other needs.
	+ Co-occurring clinical mental health diagnoses including but not limited to Bipolar and personality disorders, Schizophrenia, Dissociative disorders, Depressive disorders, Anxiety disorders, and PTSD, among others. Individuals likely require regular psychiatric care, psychotropic medication management, and periodic inpatient psychiatric treatment.
	+ History of involvement in the criminal justice system.
	+ Self-injurious behaviors, property destruction, elopement and/or impulse control struggles.
	+ Neurological impairments affecting impulsivity, frustration tolerance, executive functioning, or behavioral control.
	+ Medical diagnoses that may affect clinical profile, including Seizure Disorders, Diabetes, and other disorders.
* In order to be served in an ITS program, participants MUST be both:
	+ Found eligible to receive Home and Community Based Care (HCBC) waiver services pursuant to He-M 517 regulations.
	+ Be approved for a placement in an ITS program through the Community of Practice.

**Possible sources of referral for individuals that require ITS program services include the following:**

|  |
| --- |
| * Young adults aging out of the educational system and/or DCYF services who have serious high risk behaviors and have been deemed eligible for services from the developmental disabilities system.
 |
| * Individuals completing treatment in the Secure Psychiatric Unit who have been deemed eligible for services from the developmental disabilities system.
* Individuals who may be completing a period of incarceration who have been deemed eligible for services from the developmental disabilities system.
* Individuals who have been arrested and for whom the courts, attorneys or probation department is seeking services from the developmental disabilities system as part of a court disposition to the criminal case.
* Individuals who are eligible for HCBC waiver services, and are court ordered to receive services within the developmental disabilities system pursuant to RSA 171:B
* Individuals who have been deemed by New Hampshire Hospital to no longer be in need of in-patient services in the state psychiatric hospital, and have approval of the CoP for ITS placement.
* Individuals currently served within the area agency system whose team members (which shall include area agency staff and guardian) agree that placement in an ITS program is necessary to meet the individual’s treatment and/or safety needs.
 |

It is the expectation that ITS programs are temporary treatment programs, and the ultimate goal for every participant will be to step down to a less restrictive program. All treatment is expected to be individualized, focused on the treatment needs and person-centered goals of the participant, with the support of his or her team members.

**The overall program and treatment focus is to provide individuals with the necessary skills to live a meaningful, productive life and remain offense free, which affords greater opportunity for participants to reach their goals.**