

## What is *ADAPT*?

The ***Accelerated Diversion And Progressive Treatment*** project provides a community-based alternative to prosecution of adults with serious mental illness who have been arrested for criminal behaviors that do not pose a risk to public safety. *ADAPT* project partners, from Chester County Prison, Bail Agency, & Mental Health/Mental Retardation, collaborate to provide treatment, housing, support services, and criminal justice system supervision for each participant.

## What are the goals of *ADAPT*?

The ***ACCELERATED Diversion And Progressive Treatment*** project is designed for Chester County adult residents with serious mental illness who have been arrested. The program goal is to:

- Minimize jail time and prevent repeat offenses,
- Engage adults in treatment,
- Support long-term recovery,
- Promote positive behavior and community stability.

## Who is eligible for *ADAPT*?

Persons who may be referred for *ADAPT* are adults:

1. who reside in Chester County,
2. have a serious mental illness,
3. are under arrest for behaviors that do not pose a serious threat to public safety, and are
4. not presently on probation or parole or have pending charges in any other jurisdiction.

Chester County Prison staff and Bail Agency staff screen offenders upon arrest and during Bail interviews. Referrals to the Bail Agency may be from arresting officers, District Justices, Prison staff, attorneys, and mental health professionals.

## What happens in the *ADAPT* program?

Participants agree to a comprehensive mental health services plan along with criminal justice supervision. The typical participant attends mental health therapy and has a case manager to help with housing, transportation, employment, and other support needs. Medication and psychiatric consultation may also be included.

Participants progress through the *ADAPT* program and earn more independence as progress is demonstrated.

During the *ADAPT program*, the participant's criminal charges are suspended; however, participants must comply with program conditions including:

- Regular visits to the Bail Agency,
- Attendance at *ADAPT* weekly group meeting
- No new offenses,
- No evidence of substance abuse,
- Treatment compliance, including medication and other treatment recommendations
- Progress toward stable housing,
- Progress toward employment or stable benefits.
- Payment of court costs or any restitution

The *ADAPT* staff (including Bail specialist and mental health specialist) meet weekly to review the participant's progress and to screen new applications. The team maintains close communication with all mental health treatment providers.

## How do participants graduate from *ADAPT*?

Participants are involved in the ADAPT program a minimum of 18 months or up to 24 months.

Successful completion includes:

- Treatment goals achieved
- Absence of substance abuse
- No new arrests
- Legal financial obligations met
- Productive daily activity
- Stable housing or housing plan

*ADAPT* GRADUATES WILL EARN A *DISMISSAL OR REDUCTION* OF THE CRIMINAL CHARGES THAT PROMPTED THE DIVERSION TO TREATMENT.

## How does someone apply for *ADAPT*?

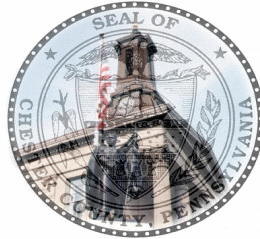
Contact the Chester County Bail Agency at:

**610-344-6886**

For project information:

*ADAPT* Forensic Diversion Specialist (c/o Human Services, Inc.) **610-692-3415**

Chester County MHMR  
*ADAPT* Project Coordinator  
**610-344-6265**



Chester County

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# ***ADAPT***

## ***ACCELERATED***

### **Diversion**

### **And**

### **Progressive**

### **Treatment**

*A community program for Chester County adults with serious mental illness arrested for criminal charges that do not pose a risk to public safety, to assist in accessing intensive mental health services in lieu of prosecution.*

*Chester County Mental Health/Mental Retardation*