



MHSD

METROPOLITAN HUMAN
SERVICES DISTRICT



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Metropolitan Human Services District Hosts Presentation on Assisted Outpatient Treatment for Mentally Ill – November 1

NEW ORLEANS, LA - Metropolitan Human Services District will partner with Jefferson Parish Human Services Authority to host an Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) presentation on November 1, 2017 at 5:30pm at University Medical Center, 2000 Canal St. New Orleans, LA. Organized by Healing Minds NOLA, sponsors include CommCare Corporation, The New Orleans Downtown Development District and HRI Properties of New Orleans. The event is free and open to the public.

The process of AOT is to civilly commit by a court those individuals who are non-compliant with behavioral health treatment to receive outpatient treatment as an alternative to incarceration or hospitalization. The presentation will be led by Oscar Kazen, former associate probate judge who implemented the first fully operational civil AOT court in Texas. "AOT is advantageous to assist appropriate persons with getting their behavioral needs met," says Dr. Rochelle Head-Dunham, MHSD Executive/Medical Director. She added that the challenge is in determining the best, most effective implementation strategy that is reasonable and doable using this coercive model of care.

"We're happy to promote the discussion of all issues impacting individuals with behavioral health needs in our community," says Lisa English Rhoden, Executive Director of Jefferson Parish Human Services Authority.

For questions and more information about the presentation, please contact Janet Hays at HealingMindsNOLA@gmail.com or call 504-274-6091. For more information about Jefferson Parish Human Services Authority, visit www.jphsa.org.

Metropolitan Human Services District is the local lead agency for mental illness, addictive disorders and intellectual/development disability services. MHSD provides community-based services for all ages in Orleans, St. Bernard and Plaquemines parishes through agency clinics and community partners. State and Federal funding are the primary resources for MHSD. For more information, visit www.mhsdla.org or call 504-568-3130.

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