



Admission Referrals to Barbara McInnis House FAQ

What is the Barbara McInnis House?

The Barbara McInnis House is a medical respite facility. We provide cost effective short term medical and recuperative services to homeless men and women in the Boston area who do not require hospitalization but are far too sick to tolerate the stress of life in shelters or on the street. Our average length of stay is between nine and eleven days. The Barbara McInnis House is just one piece of the integrated care model which makes up Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program.

What services are offered at the Barbara McInnis House?

Patients are assigned a team consisting of an MD, NP or PA, RN, and a case manager. Patients are seen by their medical provider each day and receive 24 hour nursing care. Additionally behavioral health services and psychiatric consultations, dental services, patient support groups and health education, discharge planning, case management, and benefits management are offered.

What are the main criteria for patients to receive care at the Barbara McInnis House?

A patient must have an acute medical problem, be medically and psychiatrically stable to be managed in a group setting, need short term care and be independent with ADLS. All patients must be able to ambulate independently (may use an assistive device).

Does the Barbara McInnis House accept patients that are on methadone?

If a patient is taking methadone for a substance use disorder he or she must be enrolled in a methadone treatment program within range of our transport van. We require our confirmation form and a last dose letter to be completed by the referring agency for all patients on MMT.

Can you accept a patient on IV antibiotics?

If the patient is on IV antibiotics they must be infused through a PICC line or midline. Please send our PICC confirmation sheet with our Initial Referral Form.

What is the referral process like?

- Patients are admitted 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from hospitals, shelters and clinics. Patients cannot self-refer.
- Patients arriving from Emergency Rooms, Observation Units, or shelters, are admitted 24 hours a day. To refer these patients please fax clinical information and call the Barbara McInnis House.
- If you are making a referral from an **inpatient** site, please use our Initial Referral Form and *follow up with a telephone call*. All patients arriving from an inpatient hospital setting must arrive by 1pm on the day they are accepted.
- If you are referring a patient from a **non-medical outpatient site** we recommend calling the Admissions Department directly to discuss the case. We may recommend that the patient be seen in one of our medical clinic sites for assessment.

How and when can we call Barbara McInnis House?

For Mon-Fri 8am-4:30pm referrals please call the Admissions Office at **857-654-1760** and fax information to **857-654-1112**.

For weekends and off-shift admissions please call the Nursing Supervisor at **857-654-1840** and fax information to **857-654-1115**.