**ACTIVE TREATMENT**

*Since Merakey operates facilities funded by Title XIX and some are licensed as ICF/ID programs (Intermediate Care Facility for Intellectual Disabilities) we are required by Federal Regulations to provide active treatment for each of our individuals.*

As an employee of Merakey you will be an active member of an interdisciplinary team and will be involved in determining an individual’s plan of care and in providing active treatment.

THE CORE OF ACTIVE TREATMENT IS THAT EVERY PERSON HAS THE CAPACITY TO GROW AND DEVELOP.

* We must guarantee that each IPP/ISP is developed so that they can acquire the skills to function as independently as possible and with as much self‑awareness and understanding that is possible.
* We must also guarantee that each IPP/ISP is geared toward preventing or delaying regression or loss of their current functional status.

When surveyors conduct surveys, they observe the individuals’ programming and review documentation to assure that Merakey is providing active treatment consistently, with determination and on an ongoing basis for all the individuals we serve.

Active treatment must be based solely on the individual and it must be meaningful and appropriate activities and opportunities for the individual.

Requirements of active treatment apply to individuals served by ICF/ID programs, regardless of AGE. It has been found that many older individuals did not receive adequate and effective programming and training, in their earlier years. Therefore, at Merakey ALL individuals are entitled to, and encouraged to become as independent and as functional as possible.

We require that each individual receive active programming because we believe that GROWTH and DEVELOPMENT begins in infancy and continues through the entire life span of every human being. Development is lifelong.

Although development is lifelong, people will not grow and develop unless their surroundings or environment PROVIDES THE OPPORTUNITY for it to occur. Staff need to be TRAINERS ‑ TEACHERS ‑ FACILITATORS. We must instill a desire to learn the skills, determine what the person wants to learn and then PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITY AND THE TRAINING SO THEY CAN ACQUIRE THE SKILLS.

When training the individual, the goal is to help them ACQUIRE, IMPROVE or GENERALIZE a particular skill. Decision making can be practiced and increased, as the individual acquires the skills. The most effective components of habilitation are those that are applied CONSISTENTLY.

Your goal is to make sure the individual: becomes as independent as possible, is offered choices and is positively encouraged to succeed. This goal must be obvious in your documentation and it must be observable in your daily work with the individuals. Goals must be implemented at every functional opportunity for each individual.

As an employee of Merakey you are responsible to provide the individuals with an environment that encourages and consistently promotes active treatment. All staff should be committed to promoting growth, development and well‑being, while complementing and improving the life of the individuals we serve.

R/6/2020/RC/CE/cl