

Suicide Gown Policy

MRYH has suicide gowns available to use in the following manner:

1. Under no circumstances should a client have their clothes removed by staff and not be given a suicide gown. If a client removes their own clothes in the behavior management room, leave them alone but continue behavior management room policy. Same sex staff to do visual checks. Should the client attempt to harm him/herself make best effort to have same sex staff assist in removing client from the behavior management room and place in a passive restraint. Should help from opposite sex staff be needed try to provide modesty with a blanket, etc. until a suicide gown can be provided for them. All other clients and unnecessary staff must go to the gym.

Examples of reasons for use of a suicide gown:

1. Client actively attempting to harm him/herself with clothing and/or any other item.
2. Client has made direct suicide comments within the past 24 hours. This case must be with Administration approval.
3. P.O./State Worker/Admin or safety plan request suicide gown as an extra precaution because of previous attempts or elevated risk.

Dear P.O. / State Worker/Parent,

The administration at Muskegon River Youth Home are continually looking at ways to improve our programs. One of the areas of need we have found is the ability to implement a suicide gown policy. We ask that you review it and sign that you are in agreement with the suicide gown being utilized as needed. If we are unable to maintain an appropriate level of safety for the youth we will request discharge to a psychiatric placement.

I have been provided a copy of the suicide gown policy and agree that if in the event it is needed the staff at Muskegon River Youth Home are authorized to implement their policy.

_____ All youth I place

_____ Only for: _____

_____ No, I do not give authorization

County Placing / Probation/ State worker's Signature

Date