

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a mental health evaluator in a hospital in Oregon. I routinely run into the problem of not being able to send veterans to either a psychiatric ward when they are in need, or to alcohol and drug facilities because they are full. This often means that they are discharged early as they get tired waiting in an emergency room, or we have no other option for alcohol and drug, so we discharge them. This is distressing to both us as mental health evaluators, as well as the veterans and families.

We are in desperate need of more psychiatric beds and more alcohol and drug access for our veterans.

Thank you.

Candice Elliott, MS LPC