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# **Virginia Continues to Unnecessarily Hospitalize Over 200 Virginians**

***NOTE:*** *The Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) maintains an ongoing list of individuals in state psychiatric hospitals who are clinically ready to return home but cannot leave the hospital due to “extraordinary barriers” to discharge. dLCV is committed to keeping you informed about the status of the “Extraordinary Barriers to Discharge” list (EBL), as the existence of this list is an ongoing violation of these individuals’ legal and Constitutional rights to community-based care.*

DBHDS reports that as of the end of August 2022, **203** individuals were on the Extraordinary Barriers to Discharge List (EBL). Twenty-six (26) individuals on the EBL have an ID/DD diagnosis. Some of these individuals have been waiting, needlessly, for months or even years to return home.

**EBL SPOTLIGHT: Violating Rights**

* + Each of these individuals were found by their doctors to be Ready for Discharge (RFD) back to the community, and have been waiting for discharge for more than two weeks.
	+ This means that approximately **10%** of the people currently being served in State Hospitals don’t need to be there.
	+ Keeping individuals in a restrictive, institutional setting, like a DBHDS facility, when they do not need inpatient care **violates the individual’s human rights, legal rights, and Constitutional rights**.

**A state psychiatric hospital is NOT a home.**

**The Commonwealth must do better on behalf of our fellow citizens!**