

**2023**

**Residential Treatment Facility (RTF)  
Admissions Advisory Board**

**Annual Report**



**Office of  
Mental Health**

**Council on  
Children and Families**





<b>OMH Region</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Representative Type</b>	<b>Representative Agency (if applicable)</b>
CNY	Caitlin Kilts	Caregiver	Family member with lived experience with RTFs	N/A
CNY	Caregiver*	Caregiver	Family member with lived experience with RTFs	N/A
CNY	Amy Cunningham	Commissioner	Local Governmental Unit	Onondaga County, Department of Children and Family Services
CNY	Richelle Gregory	Director of Community Services	Local Governmental Unit	Clinton County, Community Services Board
HR	Michael Orth	Commissioner	Local Governmental Unit	Westchester County Department of Community Mental Health
HR	Dr. Angela Adger-Antonikowski	Associate Dean, Community Outreach & Medical Education; Clinical Psychologist, Departments of Neurology & Psychiatry	Representative from a hospital	Albany Medical College
LI	Charlotte Poland	Social Worker Supervisor Child & Adolescent Psychiatry	Representative from a hospital with pediatric inpatient psychiatric beds	Nassau University Medical Center
LI	Brian Pritchard	Associate Executive Director	Representative from a hospital with pediatric inpatient psychiatric beds	South Oaks Hospital
NYC	Rachel Surwit Teitel	Social Worker Supervisor	Representative from a hospital with pediatric inpatient psychiatric beds	NYC Health and Hospitals-Bellevue
CNY	Christine VanDelinder	Unit Social Worker	Representative from a hospital with pediatric inpatient psychiatric beds	SUNY Upstate Medical Center
CNY	Dr. John Lynch	RTF Medical Director	RTF Medical Director	Hillside Children's Center







- Between 5 and 20 years old
  - This criterion does not apply to applications from OPWDD for the specialized OLV ITP RTF. To access the OLV ITP RTF, the applicant must be between the age of 12 years old and 17 years old.
- Intelligence quotient equal to or greater than 51
  - This criterion does not apply to applications from OPWDD for the specialized OLV ITP RTF.
- Voluntarily consent for release of information, review for eligibility and treatment at an RTF.
- Current primary diagnosis of a designated mental illness
  - A designated mental illness is defined as a disruption of cognitive, emotional, or behavioral functioning, which can be classified and diagnosed using the current edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM), or the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), other than:
    - Substance use disorders in the absence of other mental health conditions defined in the DSM or ICD;
    - Neurodevelopmental disorders in the absence of other mental health conditions defined in the DSM or ICD. The exceptions are Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder and Tic Disorders, which can be considered designated mental illnesses
    - Major neurocognitive disorder, traumatic brain injury, or mental disorders due to another medical condition; or
    - Other conditions that may be a focus of clinical attention (commonly described with Z codes). The exception is Parent-Child Relationship Problem (V61.20/Z62.820) for children, which can be considered a designated mental illness.
  - This criterion does not apply to applications from OPWDD for the specialized OLV ITP RTF. Applications for eligibility to access the OLV ITP RTF require a current designated mental illness AND autism spectrum or intellectual disability diagnosis.
- Verification of meeting Serious Emotional Disturbance Criteria
  - Serious emotional disturbance means the Child or Youth has a designated mental illness diagnosis according to the DSM as incorporated by reference in Part 584 of 14 NYCRR **and** has experienced functional limitations due to emotional disturbance over the past 12 months on a continuous or intermittent basis. The functional limitations must be moderate in at least two of the following areas or severe in at least one of the following areas:
    - ability to care for self (e.g., personal hygiene; obtaining and eating food; dressing; avoiding injuries); or
    - family life (e.g., capacity to live in a family or family like environment; relationships with parents or substitute parents, siblings and other relatives; behavior in family setting); or
    - social relationships (e.g., establishing and maintaining friendships; interpersonal interactions with peers, neighbors and other adults; social skills; compliance with social norms; play and appropriate use of leisure time); or
    - self-direction/self-control (e.g., ability to sustain focused attention for a long enough period of time to permit completion of age-appropriate tasks; behavioral self-control; appropriate judgment and value systems; decision-making ability); or



- ability to learn (e.g., school achievement and attendance; receptive and expressive language; relationships with teachers; behavior in school).
- Meet RTF medical necessity criteria (Certification of Need Criteria), as follows:
  - Outpatient, community-based, and other out of home interventions available do not meet the psychiatric treatment needs of the youth.
  - The youth is experiencing a severity of psychiatric need which requires proper care and treatment of the youth’s psychiatric condition on a sub-acute inpatient basis in an RTF under the direction of a physician.
  - Care and treatment in a RTF can reasonably be expected to improve the youth’s condition or prevent further regression so that RTF services will no longer be needed. Poor prognosis shall not in itself constitute grounds for a denial of eligibility if treatment by an RTF can reasonably be expected to effect a change in prognosis.
- Additional RTF Eligibility criteria **only** applicable for the OLV ITP RTF:
  - Application has been approved by OPWDD Central Office;
  - Applicant is OPWDD service eligible;
  - Applicant is Home and Community Based Waiver Services eligible;
  - Applicant is designated for NYS Education Department Alternate Assessment;
  - Applicant has an identified and specific discharge plan.

If a youth is found eligible to access RTF services and authorized to apply, the referral is then sent to RTFs that serve the youth’s age, gender identity, IQ range, and Individualized Education Plan (IEP) classification, at the preference of the youth and legal guardian. If a referral for the OLV ITP RTF from OPWDD is found eligible, it is then forwarded to OLV ITP RTF for consideration for admission.

### RTF Providers of Service

As of December 31st, 2023, there were 11 psychiatric RTF providers with a total of 258 licensed RTF beds in New York State licensed by the OMH. A [map](#) with the location of each RTF is available on the OMH webpage [Services for Children and Families](#).

Provider of Service Name	Program Name	OMH Region of Location	County of Location	Gender Identities Served	Ages served	IQ Range Served	IEP Classifications Served	Number of Licensed Beds
*Astor Services for Children and Families, Home for Children RTF	Astor RTF	HR	Dutchess	Co-ed	5-14 years	70+	ED, LD, MD, OHI, AU, SI	16
Baker Hall dba OLV Human Services, RTF	OLV RTF	WNY	Erie	Co-ed	12-21 years	51+	AU, ED, ID, MD, OHI	32
Child and Family Services of Erie County, RTF	Conners RTF	WNY	Erie	Co-ed	5-14 years	51+	All disability designations	14
Hillside Children’s Center- Finger Lakes Campus, RTF	Hillside FL RTF	CNY	Cayuga	Co-ed	11-17 years	70+	ED, LD, OHI	50
Hillside Children’s Center-Monroe Campus RTF	Hillside Monroe RTF	WNY	Monroe	Co-ed	12-18 years	51+	AU, ED, LD, MD, OHI, SI	22

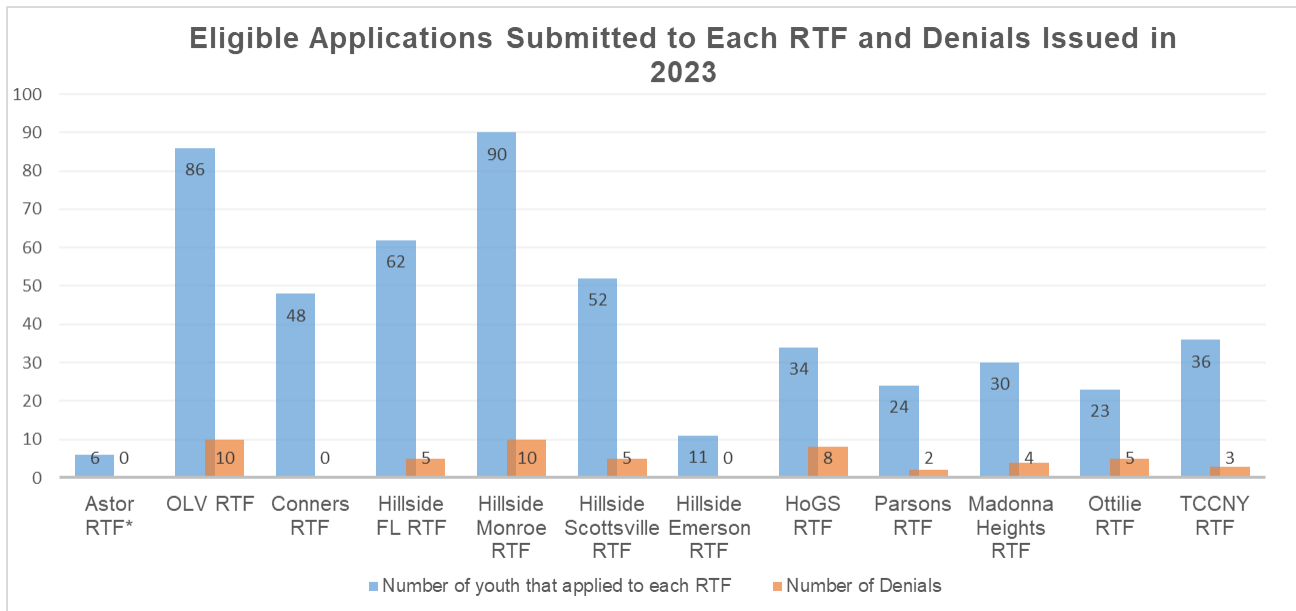
Provider of Service Name	Program Name	OMH Region of Location	County of Location	Gender Identities Served	Ages served	IQ Range Served	IEP Classifications Served	Number of Licensed Beds
Hillside Children's Center-Scottsville Campus RTF	Hillside Scottsville RTF	WNY	Monroe	Co-ed	5-14 years	51+	AU, ED, LD, MD, OHI, SI	18
Hillside Children's Center-Emerson RTF	Hillside Emerson RTF	WNY	Monroe	Co-ed	12-17 years	70+	ED, LD, OHI	8
House of the Good Shepherd RTF	HoGS RTF	CNY	Oneida	Co-ed	10-17 years	70+	ED, LD, MD, OHI, ID	14
Parsons Child & Family Center RTF	Parsons RTF	HR	Albany	Co-ed	12-17 years	70+	ED, LD, OHI, MD, ID, AU	14
SCO Family of Services, Cottage Facility, RTF	Madonna Heights RTF	LI	Suffolk	Female only	12-17 years	70+	ED, LD	14
SCO Family of Services, Otilie Home for Children RTF	Otilie RTF	NYC	Queens	Co-ed	10-20 years	51-79	ED, ID	40
The Child Center of NY, Inc. Brooklyn RTF	TCCNY RTF	NYC	Brooklyn	Co-ed	12-20 years	70+	All disability designations	32
Total								274

\*Astor RTF closed 6/30/23.

### RTF Admissions Data

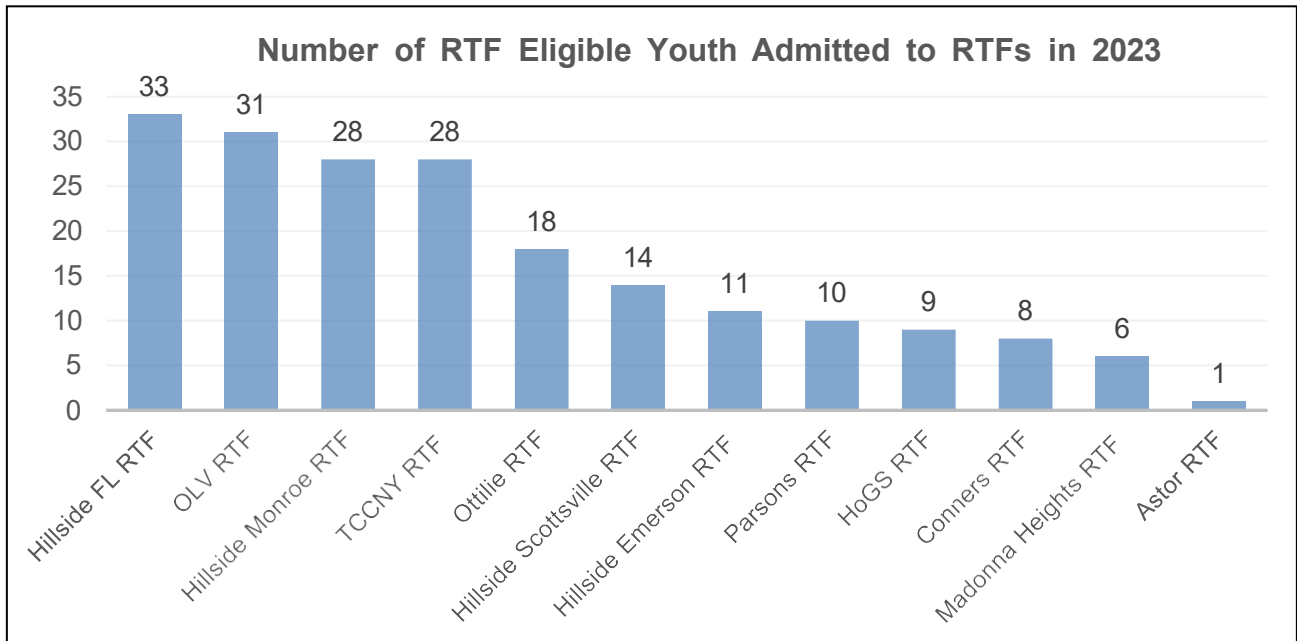
On average, each RTF received about 44 eligible applications in 2023. In that year, the Hillside Monroe RTF received the most RTF eligible applications (90) and Astor, which closed in June 2023, received the least RTF eligible applications (6).

OLV and Hillside Monroe issued the most denials (10). Astor, Conners, and Hillside Emerson issued no denials for admission.



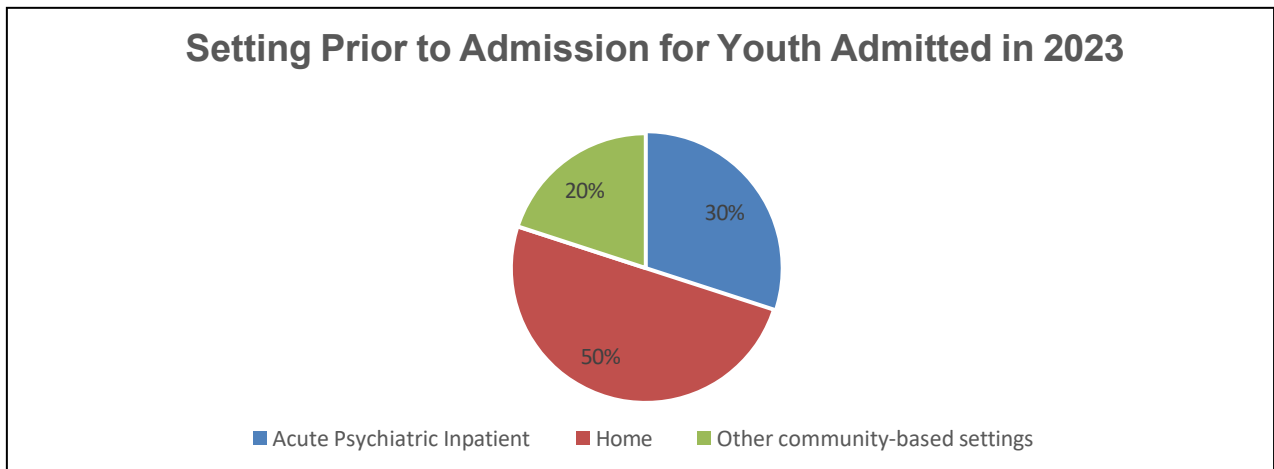
\*Astor closed 6/30/2023

In 2023, there were a total of 197 admissions of RTF eligible youth statewide. Hillside Finger Lakes RTF had the most RTF admissions (33 youth). Astor RTF, which closed on June 30, 2023, had the fewest RTF admissions (1 youth).



\*Astor RTF closed 6/30/23.

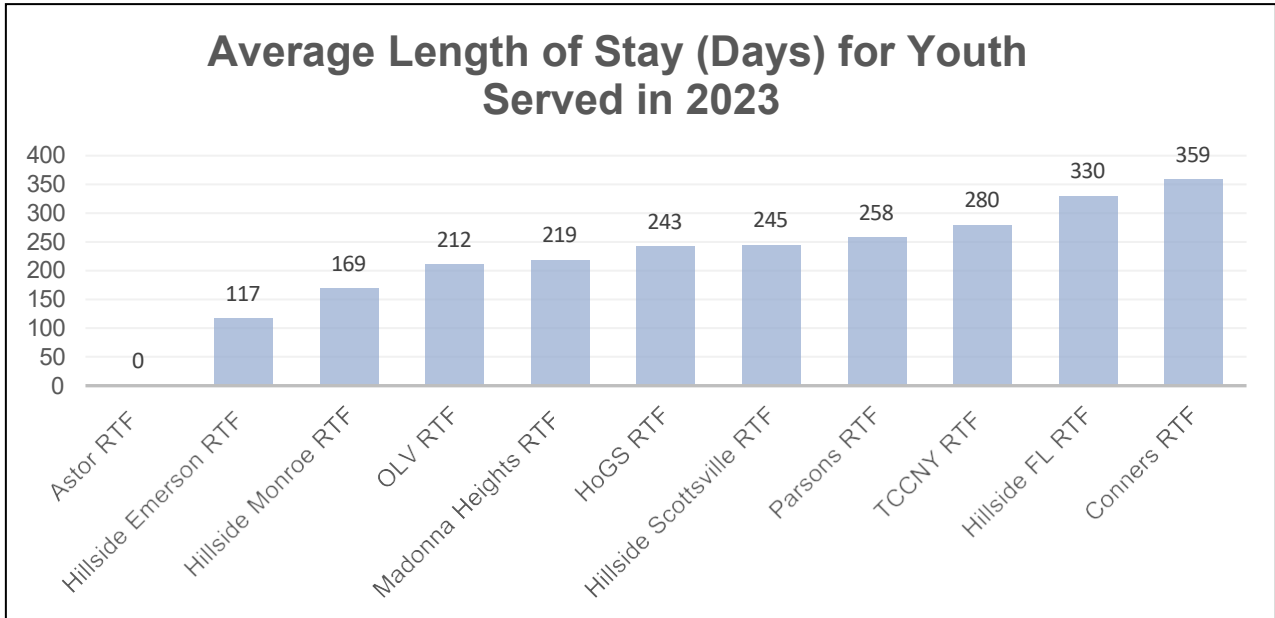
Of the 197 RTF eligible youth admitted to an RTF in 2023, approximately 30% were from acute psychiatric inpatient settings and 50% admitted from a home setting and approximately 20% of RTF eligible youth were admitted from a community-based setting other than a home or acute psychiatric inpatient setting.



In 2023, there were **no** children that transferred from a hospital operated by OMH and

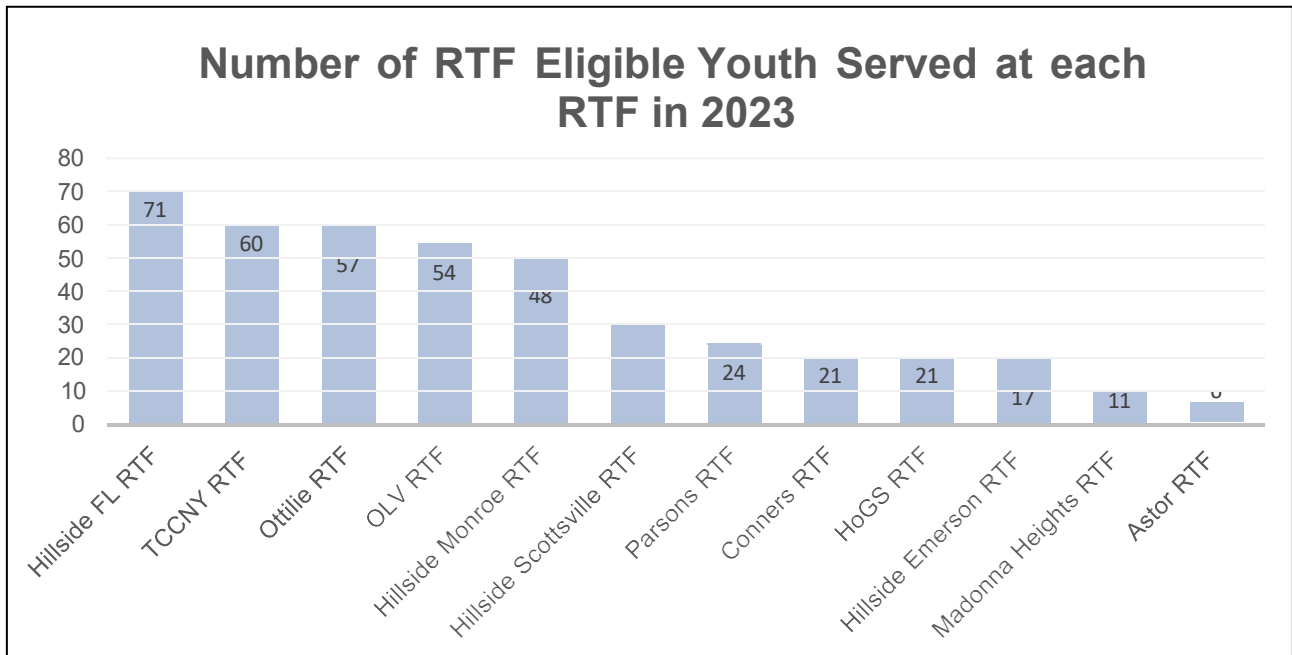
subsequently transferred to another hospital within seven days of admission to an RTF.

In 2023, the average length of stay of those served by RTFs statewide and still admitted as of 12/31/23 was 284 days. Conners RTF had the highest average length of stay for youth served and still admitted in 2023 (359 days). Disregarding Astor RTF due to its closure mid-year, Hillside Emerson had the lowest average length of stay for those served and still admitted.



\*Astor RTF closed 6/30/23.

In 2023, RTFs served a total of 413 youth from across New York state. Hillside Finger Lakes RTF served the most youth (71 youth). Astor RTF, which closed June 30, 2023, served the fewest youth (6).



\*Astor RTF closed 6/30/23.

In 2023, the number of involuntary placements and/or transfers from OMH operated inpatient facilities to RTF was zero statewide. This is because RTFs only accept voluntary admissions.

### 2024 Report

Board members requested that the following additional data be included in future reports:

- Reasons that RTFs issue denials for admission
- The number of LGBTQ youth served
- The impact of staffing issues on waitlist
- The youth's original county of residence
- The race and ethnicity of youth served
- The preferred language of youth served
- The OPWDD eligibility status of youth applying to RTFs
- The average length of wait for admission after an RTF receives the referral
- The impacts of length of stay on admissions.

These additional data elements will be collected via requests for information from RTF providers and OMH databases.