

About Meridian

At Meridian, our mission is to promote the health, recovery, and well-being of those affected by mental illnesses and substance use disorders through prevention, coordinated treatment, and supportive services.

Meridian is a private, non-profit organization with roots in the community mental health movement, which began in the 1960s. We bring education and treatment of mental illnesses and substance use disorders to the local community.

Our mission is evident in all we do, from developing a continuum of treatment services for a range of illnesses to participating in our communities as a partner in enhancing the quality of life.



**Wellness is
within everyone's reach.**

Our Mission

**To promote the health, recovery,
and well-being of those affected
by mental illnesses and substance
use disorders through prevention,
coordinated treatment, and
supportive services.**



Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, Inc.
Tel: (352) 374-5600
Toll Free: (800) 330-5615

For a location near you visit:
mbhci.org

**Medication
Assisted
Treatment (MAT)**

About MAT

Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) uses an evidence-based practice that combines pharmacological interventions (medication) with substance use disorder counseling in individual and group sessions for those struggling with addiction to opiates and/or alcohol.

MAT is an outpatient service and is available throughout Meridian's service area.

All clinics accept Medicaid and have self-pay options; some clinics may have an allotment of grant funds available.

For more information about MAT services or to schedule an appointment:

Please call (352) 374-5600 or 1-800-330-5615, option #2



What should I **EXPECT** in a MAT program?

- The ability to maintain more of your current lifestyle compared to a residential setting.
- Required to attend all counseling sessions included in your MAT service.
- Arrive to your MAT clinic as scheduled to receive medication or prescription.
- Submit lab work and random observed drug testing in order to monitor compliance with MAT clinic standards.
- Receive a “call back” from MAT staff, which you must report to a clinic with all medications you have in possession and, if requested, any empty bottles to verify that you are taking your medications as prescribed by the clinic physician.



What **medications** are used in **MAT**?

We offer three different medications:

- * **Methadone**- taken orally for opioid addiction and safe for women to use during pregnancy.
- * **Buprenorphine**- taken orally for opioid addiction and safe for women to use during pregnancy.
- * **Vivitrol**- a monthly injection used to treat opioid and alcohol addiction. Vivitrol is generally considered not safe to take during pregnancy. If you are pregnant and seeking treatment for alcohol addiction, a MAT physician in conjunction with your obstetrician can evaluate the risks of using Vivitrol versus the continued use of alcohol on the developing fetus.

You will also receive:

A **NARCAN® Nasal Spray** kit at your intake appointment. NARCAN® Nasal Spray is used for a known or suspected opioid overdose emergency. It should be given right away and does not take the place of emergency medical care. Alert family members/caregivers about the NARCAN® Nasal Spray you receive from a MAT provider in case you or someone else experiences an opioid overdose.