

## Our Mission

WERC is the only clinic in the Saint Louis region specialized in early psychosis. Our goal is to accurately identify young people early in the course of their illness and provide evidence-based intervention to reduce symptoms and improve social, educational, and vocational functioning.



WERC is supported by foundation, institutional, and philanthropic funds. With continued support, we hope to make early psychosis care widely available in the Saint Louis region and broaden the types of services provided.

For more information or to determine eligibility:

# CALL US

## 314.362.6952



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[werc.wustl.edu](http://werc.wustl.edu)



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SCAN HERE  
FOR MORE  
INFORMATION



# WERC

Washington Early Recognition Center



## An Evidence-Based Clinic for Early Stage Psychosis

 **Washington**  
University in St. Louis  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

**WERC**  
Washington Early Recognition Center

## What is Early Psychosis?

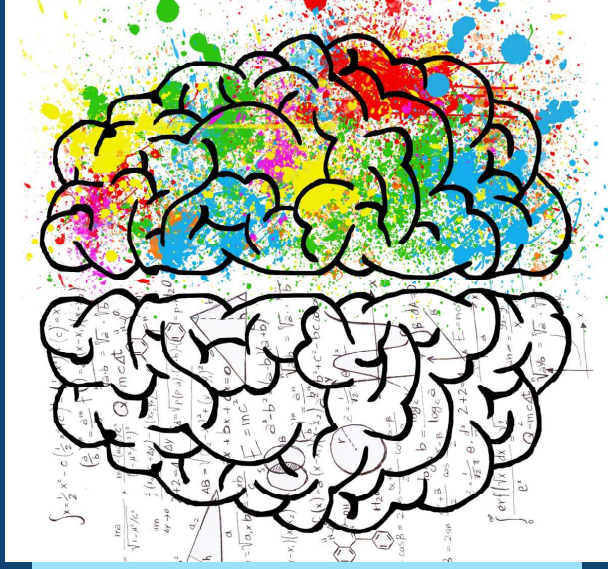
Psychosis affects the brain's ability to process information and understand reality. Recognizing early signs of psychosis is important to ensure appropriate treatment is provided as soon as possible. Earlier treatment of psychosis has been correlated with improved brain development and long-term outcomes.

### Early Warning Signs Include:

- Recent change in thinking or speech
- A drop in grades or job performance
- Social withdrawal or isolation
- Suspiciousness or unease around others
- Lack of personal hygiene
- Unusual or irrational beliefs
- Inability to think clearly or pay attention
- Hearing, seeing, or tasting things others don't
- Anxiety or fear
- Emotional outbursts
- Increased substance use
- Depression or decreased motivation



Take our early symptom test here



## Who We Are

Washington Early Recognition Center (WERC) is a specialized treatment center for young people experiencing early signs of psychosis or who have been recently diagnosed with a psychotic disorder

Our licensed counselors, social workers, psychiatric physicians, and other clinicians collaborate to develop personalized treatment plans. We strive to provide the most effective clinical interventions and will investigate novel approaches to care.

We are also exploring if advances in brain imaging could help identify psychosis earlier, customize treatment, and monitor brain changes.

## Who We Serve

WERC provides services for young people in the Saint Louis region, ages 13 to 25, who are either:

- At clinical high risk for a psychotic disorder based on progressive symptoms and meeting diagnostic criteria -or-
- within 2 years of the onset of a psychotic disorder

\*Interventions are designed to meet the needs of those with an IQ of 70+

## Why Choose Us?

WERC's multidisciplinary team offers a variety of comprehensive services to meet the unique needs of our patients and families, including:

- Detailed psychological assessments
- Psychiatric evaluation
- Medication management
- Individual and group therapy
- Family support and psychoeducation
- Case management
- Community outreach
- Research opportunities
  - ex: brain imaging

