



Pat Quinn, Governor

Michelle R. B., Saddler, Secretary

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Date: February 11, 2014

To: DHS/DMH Community Providers

Re: Comparable Services to Rebalance Long Term Care

The DHS /Division of Mental Health (DMH) is pleased to announce our continuing actions to rebalance the manner in which mental health services are provided with a new array of services specifically targeting those consumers previously utilizing Long Term Care programs.

The intent of this program is to provide to persons presenting in your emergency departments or in your psychiatric inpatient unit with a full array of ambulatory treatment and housing alternatives which, when clinically appropriate, would avail consumers with community-based treatment and housing alternatives. These services and programs are to be available so that the consumer might avoid an inpatient admission, avoid a referral to a long term care setting, decrease the amount of time in the inpatient psychiatric unit and provide safe and clinically based services for aftercare upon discharge from your emergency department or your inpatient psychiatric unit.

We have developed and finalized a plan that builds local community capacity and service delivery and makes available treatment programs to meet the service and support needs of individuals with disabilities living in your community. Many community hospital discharge planners, emergency department staff and inpatient psychiatric unit staff were involved during our initial planning phase. Through a Request for Information (RFI) process, the DMH has solicited, received and assessed proposals from community mental health providers. We have awarded contracts to ten (10) community mental health providers who will provide the levels of care, as listed below, in five distinct areas: City of Chicago – Northside; City of Chicago - Southside, South Suburban Cook County; Kankakee county and Macon county.

- **Crisis Assessment and Linkage:** this service will be provided at emergency departments within the selected service areas with the intent of increasing access to lower levels of care in order to reduce unnecessary psychiatric hospital admissions or referrals to long term care facilities. Contracted providers will be personally available to your emergency department staff to assist in evaluating and placing persons into clinically appropriate lesser levels of care than inpatient psychiatry or a nursing home.

- **Discharge Linkage and Coordination of Services:** this service will be provided to individuals who have been hospitalized in psychiatric beds within the selected service areas and will target those persons who would otherwise have been referred to nursing home level of care at discharge.
- **Outreach to Individuals to Engage in Services:** this service will be provided to individuals who have received a crisis assessment and have a history of failed follow-through on recommended services. This service is meant to increase the likelihood of consumers receiving those services, thus decreasing the likelihood of future crisis episodes that could result in referral to nursing home level of care.
- **Transitional Living Centers:** these centers will provide immediate access to housing for individuals who are either seen for crisis assessment and linkage or discharge linkage and coordination of services, and whose lack of access to housing puts them at risk of referral to nursing home level of care. During our stakeholder analysis, the primary reason for referral to nursing homes was the lack of a residence that could provide a high level of support to allow for continued stabilization. Additionally, the lack of available, safe housing options was a significant contributing factor in extending a hospital stay or delaying a discharge.
- **Transitional Supervised Residential:** this housing service will provide 24 hour structure and supervision within a community setting for individuals who require this level of care. The intent is to provide an alternative housing setting to a nursing home referral for those persons being discharged from psychiatric hospitalization or to divert a referral to a nursing home from the emergency department. During our stakeholder analysis, the primary reason for referral to nursing homes was the lack of a residence that could provide a high level of support to allow for continued stabilization. Additionally the lack of available, safe housing options was a significant contributing factor in extending a hospital stay or delaying a discharge.
- **Crisis Residential Program:** these services will be provided to individuals requiring 24 hour supervision due to a psychiatric crisis who can be safely managed in a residential non-hospital treatment setting. The intent is to reduce unnecessary psychiatric hospitalizations which could result in a nursing home referral or to divert a referral/admission to a nursing home or an inpatient psychiatric unit from the emergency department.
- **Transportation:** DMH included the cost for transportation between levels of care in the contracts for the above services which include transporting consumers from emergency departments or inpatient psychiatric units to the next level of care.

DHS/DMH is authorized to commit \$11,200,000 for this effort annually. We expect to have these services operational in February 2014. The table below provides a summary of the services funded by area and agency:

Area Served	Agency	Services Provided
<p>"The Southside Collaborative" Lead Agency is HRDI</p> <p>This Collaborative will serve the Southside Chicago area, which was responsible for approximately 800 referrals to IMDs.</p>	HRDI	Crisis Assessment and Linkage Transitional Supervised Residential
	Thresholds	Discharge Linkage and Coordination of Services Outreach to Individuals to Engage in Services Transitional Living Centers
<p>Lead Agency is Grand Prairie</p> <p>Services will be provided in the South Suburbs of Chicago, an area responsible for approximately 482 IMD referrals.</p>	Grand Prairie Services	Crisis Assessment and Linkage Transitional Living Centers Transitional Supervised Residential
	Sertoma Center	Crisis Assessment and Linkage Discharge Linkage and Coordination of Services Outreach to Individuals to Engage in Services
<p>"The Northside Collaborative" Lead Agency is Thresholds</p> <p>This Collaborative will serve the Northside Chicago area, which was responsible for approximately 400 referrals to IMDs.</p>	Thresholds	Discharge Linkage and Coordination of Services Outreach to Individuals to Engage in Services
	Trilogy	Crisis Assessment and Linkage Discharge Linkage and Coordination of Services Outreach to Individuals to Engage in Services Crisis Residential Program Transitional Living Centers
	Community Counseling Centers of Chicago	Crisis Assessment and Linkage Discharge Linkage and Coordination of Services Outreach to Individuals to Engage in Services
	Neumann Family Services	Transitional Living Centers
<p>Lead Agency is Helen Wheeler</p> <p>Services will be provided in Kankakee County, an area responsible for 234 IMD referrals.</p>	Helen Wheeler Center	Crisis Assessment and Linkage Discharge Linkage and Coordination of Services
	Thresholds	Outreach to Individuals to Engage in Services Transitional Living Centers
	Riverside Hospital	Crisis Residential Program
<p>Lead Agency is Heritage Behavioral Health Center</p> <p>Services will be provided in Macon County, which contains one IMD in Decatur.</p>	Heritage Behavioral Health Center	Crisis Assessment and Linkage Discharge Linkage and Coordination of Services Transitional Living Centers

Our contractors will be in direct communication with you to arrange for referral protocols, explain their programming and to secure your active involvement in this exciting new opportunity to provide recovery focused, community based behavioral health services.

Should you have any further questions about these services, please contact Jackie Manker, Associate Director for Community Services at Jackie.manker@illinois.gov.

Sincerely.



Theodora Binion, Acting Director
Division of Mental Health

Attachment

cc: Brenda Hampton, Deputy Director
Jackie Manker, Associate Director
Dan Wasmer, Associate Director
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Amparo Lopez, Regional Director
DMH Contracted Comparable Services Providers
Mary Lynn Clark, Illinois Hospital Association