

Residential Workgroup Minutes
July 13, 2009
9:00 am – 12:00 noon

Attendees: T McDougal for Joe Raymond, Martha Joslin for Grayce Crockett, Kelly Crowley, Dan Zorn, Ted Lane, Michael Watson, Yvonne Copeland, Claretta Witherspoon, Nancy Costen, Bob Hedrick, Sherry Bradsher, Bob Hensley, Thomas Smith, Leslie Kellenberger, Annie Smith, Tara Fields, Karen McLeod, Rob Turner, Jennifer Rothman, Susan Robinson, Delwin Clark, Laura Beaver, Martin Pharr, Mike Rieder, Libby Jones, Jay Coughaneon, Jim Shaheen, Linda Gunn-Jones, Nancy Cleghorn, Carolyn Wisner, Catharine Goldsmith, Stephanie Alexander, Jim Jarrard, Tanya Simmons, Chris Simmons, Leza Wainwright and Tara Larson

The July 6, 2009 Residential Workgroup Meeting minutes were approved.

Handouts were distributed which included the following: Agenda for 7/13/09 Meeting; Minutes from 7/6/09 Meeting; Data entitled Consumers in TFC; Data by Level of Care (III and IV) and County; draft letter to Families; draft Dear System Letter to the Field; draft Residential Level III and Level IV letter to providers; draft Therapeutic Family Service Definition; Transitional Placements Subcommittee Activity Log and minutes from their July 8, 2009 meeting.

Update of Data:

The handout entitled Consumers in TFC (Y2362) reported NC Medicaid authorization data by calendar year from 6/1/06 to 7/3/09. This data is grouped by authorization effective date range with an unduplicated recipient count for each period. Six months is the approximate length of stay in TFC. The goal is to determine how many children on average receive TFC services in order to assess utilization and capacity.

There are currently 98 LCPA with a total bed capacity of 5554 licensed beds. According to point in time data from ValueOptions, there are 1900 children with active authorizations for TFC as of June 24. Bob Hensley reports that additionally some of the 5554 TFC beds are occupied by Family Foster Care children. Based on his data for the months of March – May 2009, an average of 615 addition beds are occupied by this FFC population. Therefore it appears that there is vacant capacity of approximately 3000 Licensed TFC beds. However, we do not have information on any beds that are no longer in operation by a family or that are, for some other reason, not able to be used for placement at this time.

The next handout included information on average number of children served per month in Level III and Level IV homes from Jan-May 2009 sorted by level of care and county. The persons served per county were based on the child's county of eligibility, typically county of residence, not the county in which they were served. This information may be used as a tool to look for gaps in service and capacity issues.

DMA is currently working with DJJ to establish in which homes DJJ involved children/adolescents are placed.

When all the information is collected and distributed, LME's will be able to use and work from this data to begin planning for children and adolescents who will need to be placed in alternative settings.

Review of Draft Parent/Caregiver Letter:

The draft parent/caregiver letter was distributed and discussed. There were suggestions to make minor changes. The letter will be sent out this week by the LME's to families. The letter will also be posted on the DMA web site, under DMA Budget Initiatives, **MH/SA Residential Services.**

Review of Dear "System" Letter

The draft Dear "System" letter was distributed and discussed. It will be revised and will be mailed, by the respective DHHS Divisions to the county DSS Directors, LME Directors, Chief Court Counselor and Court Administrators this week.

Review of Residential Level III and IV Provider Letter

The draft residential Level III and IV provider letter was distributed and discussed. The revised letter will be mailed this week. Child Placing Agencies and Community Support Providers will be copied on the letter.

Final Review of the Therapeutic Family Service Definition

The definition was distributed and discussed. There is a requirement for each agency to have at least one licensed professional to provide clinical oversight. Additionally provisions include supervision of qualified professions working directly with families to be delivered by a master's level professional. Accountability and documentation criteria are clarified. Funding issues around room and board expenses were discussed. Editing suggestions were made and noted. Catharine Goldsmith and Susan Robinson will make the necessary changes and revised definition will be disseminated and posted. The revised definition will serve as the basis for submission of draft State Plan Amendment to begin the CMS approval process. Upon approval of the SPA, TFS providers will be able to direct enroll pending endorsement.

Review from Transitional Placements Subcommittee DMA/DMH Level III and IV Residential Workgroup

A summary of the recommendations and progress of the workgroup was distributed and discussed. Please see minutes of July 8, 2007 for details of the subcommittee's recommendations and concerns. These include: access issues, development of increased capacity of TFS homes, streamlined endorsement process for LCPA who are already nationally accredited; and the recognition of certain providers who are already gearing up with training and implementation of best practice TFC models in preparation for this system change. A request was made for Value Options to prepare an aggregate list of

number of children per LME area determined to have an increased number of risk factors so that LMEs will be able to assure proper planning for this population.

Agenda Items for 7/20/09 Meeting

Endorsement Checklist for TFC
Draft Child Facility Based Crisis
EPSDT