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LME-MCO Communication Bulletin #J282

Date: March 22, 2018

To: LME-MCOs

From: Kathy Nichols, Associate Director, Services and Supports, Division of Mental Health,
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Deb Goda, Behavioral Health Unit Manager, Division of Medical Assistance

Subject: Update regarding Columbus County Realignment

Earlier this week, the Department of Health and Human Services informed Columbus County that Secretary Cohen has approved their request to disengage from Eastpointe and realign with Trillium, with an effective date of July 1, 2018. This was done in accordance with the NCGS 122C-115(a3) and the county disengagement rules. The Department carefully weighed this transition against overall impacts to the system, especially as we move towards managed care.

Successful transformation to managed care requires coordination across the state and minimizing unnecessary change. As such, each LME/MCO and County must stabilize their healthcare delivery systems. During this period of transition, if the Department were asked to evaluate any disengagement or realignment requests, it would be required to consider the impact on the stability of the healthcare system, and would likely find granting such a request to cause negative impact. If Counties have concerns about the services managed and authorized by an LME/MCO, please raise those concerns to the Department.

Previous bulletins can be accessed at:

<http://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/mhddsas/joint-communication-bulletins>

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