



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
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February 10, 2009

TO: Individuals, Families, Advocates and Other Stakeholders of
Michigan's Public Mental Health System

FROM: Michael J. ~~Horn~~ *[Signature]* Director
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Administration
Michigan Department of Community Health

SUBJECT: Transmittal of the 2009 ARR and PPGs

This memorandum transmits the 2009 Application for Renewal and Recommitment (ARR) and the 2009 Program Policy Guidelines (PPGs) that are being simultaneously sent to the 18 prepaid inpatient health plans (PIHPs) and 46 community mental health services programs (CMHSPs). I am sharing these documents with you since a major focus of this effort is the involvement of individuals receiving services, their families and advocates in the design and implementation of plans for improving performance and revitalizing the public mental health system's commitment to excellence in the priorities and directions outlined in the August 2008 Concept Paper.

Each year, MDCH issues to CMHSPs the PPGs and related guidance containing the requirements and instructions to satisfy Mental Health Code and legislative reporting requirements, and to provide statewide policy direction. The PPG document attached provides statewide policy direction and requests data specific to that. Mental Health Code and legislative data requirements for FY 10 will be issued in mid-2009.

As stated in the Concept Paper, it is the intent of MDCH that the PPGs for CMHSPs, and the ARR for PIHPs, serve as the vehicles to receive baseline information and plans on how those public mental health agencies would implement the vision articulated in the Paper. The CMHSPs' PPG responses will be used by the PIHPs in their ARR environmental scans, and the development and implementation of their plans of improvement.

The PPGs focus on five areas that MDCH believes are critical in improving CMHSP supports and services:

- Building a system of care for children with serious emotional disturbance.
- Building a system of care for children with developmental disabilities.
- Improving outcomes for people with developmental disabilities.
- Implementing the Recovery Enhancing Environment Measure for adults with serious mental illness.
- Enhancing access to, and improving the implementation of, self-determination arrangements.

With the ARR, MDCH invites the PIHPs and CMHSPs, along with individuals receiving services, their supporters, and other community partners, to set a course together to improve statewide equity of service opportunity and quality of service outcome such that the people served by the public mental health system are provided options that best fit their preferences and supported to achieve true community membership. A

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secondary focus is to achieve administrative efficiencies that enable reinvestment in supports and services during these difficult times.

The PIHP's response to the ARR marks the commencement of a process that focuses on improving the quality and appropriateness of care within the denoted topic areas, provided to Medicaid beneficiaries receiving specialty supports and services managed by Michigan's PIHPs, and for other service recipients across the PIHP's participating CMHSPs. The quality improvement effort begins at the PIHP level with "**environmental scans**" that address each of 11 topics described in the Concept Paper. The effort continues with the development and submission of **plans for improvement** that focus on areas that the PIHPs have identified as "weaknesses," or "challenges," as well as opportunities for improvement. MDCH will review each PIHP's response for sufficiency and rigor and may comment, seek clarification, or request that the PIHP strengthen and resubmit its response; but will not approve or disapprove it with respect to the maintenance of the PIHP contract. Instead, MDCH will attach the final responses as an attachment to the FY 10 contract, and will negotiate priority performance objectives with each PIHP. The performance improvement work outlined in the PIHP's response will serve as a multi-year developmental effort, commencing with FY 10 and continuing beyond. MDCH will periodically evaluate the individual progress of each PIHP against the performance objectives; will utilize the results of PIHP responses to target technical assistance and to facilitate the sharing of successful methods and practices. Overall, MDCH will increase its focus and effort to assure improvements as necessary where a PIHP is failing to meet its performance objectives.

A central expectation of the work that is conducted by the PIHP to develop their response to the ARR is an expanded engagement of individuals receiving services and their family members, and advocates as primary stakeholders who must be afforded a central role in the development of the environmental scans, the design of the plans, their implementation, and in the periodic evaluation of the progress. PIHPs may use existing structures such as Quality Improvement Councils, Improving Practices Leadership Teams, and other standing advisory committees in developing their responses, where these groups contain meaningful membership of these primary stakeholders. Additional involvement must include other community partners such as providers and local community representatives. However, since some of the topic areas address a single population or an initiative that impacts certain, but not all, populations the PIHP will likely need to utilize more than one group of stakeholders. Regardless of the numbers of groups or stakeholders, it is expected that the PIHP will provide the supports and accommodations necessary to result in meaningful involvement of its stakeholders.

The ARR responses from the PIHPs are due to be submitted to MDCH by **June 1, 2009**. PIHPs must also submit a separate attestation form that is signed by the executive director or chief executive officer of the PIHP, executive director or chief executive officer of any CMHSP affiliates, and stakeholders, at least seven of whom are individuals who have or are currently receiving public mental health services, who are involved in the environmental scans and quality improvement plans development.

The PPG responses from the CMHSPs are due to be submitted to MDCH and if they are affiliates, to their PIHPs by **March 16, 2009**. MDCH staff will hold two sessions to clarify the ARR and PPG requirements and to answer questions on March 10, with the times and locations to be sent separately.

Attachments