

Provider Advisory Council (PAC) Minutes from 2/26/16 Meeting

Members Present – Green Oaks Hospital, Turtle Creek Recovery Center, Centro De Mi Salud, Lakes Regional MHMR, Pathways, Homeward Bound, IPS, Youth Advocate Programs

Representatives from VO were also in attendance.

Enrollments

- VO noted that their enrollment department is fully staffed after being shorthanded recently due to illnesses.
- Providers stated that they did not notice a significant impact to enrollment processes.

NorthSTAR Transition Planning

- NTBHA provided an update on transition planning.
- Provided overview of information discussed during NTBHA Provider Forum held at the Meadows Foundation on February 24, 2016.
 - Discussed Transition Guiding Principles
 - NTBHA functions and infrastructure
 - Provider network development
- Discussed coordination with MCO's
 - Providers reported experiencing difficulties in making progress with MCO contracting. Some barriers reported include MCO lack of understanding of transition and trouble identifying a consistent point of contact.
 - Providers expressed concerns about the MCO's understanding of the current local behavioral health system. Concerns included staff types such as QMHP and LCDC, understanding of current provider network and provider competencies, role and impact of existing value-added services.
 - Providers expressed an interest in participating in a roundtable discussion with MCOs.
 - NTBHA will work with DSHS and HHSC to assist in facilitating coordination between providers and MCOs.
- Providers discussed concerns related to the potential for benefits reduction for both indigent and Medicaid services. Providers want to ensure that the NTBHA transition team and the NTBHA Board of Directors work to identify, address, and monitor any potential areas of impact.

Penalties and Incentives Funds – SFY 2016

- The PAC discussed the allocation of SFY 2016 Penalties and Incentives Funds (PIF). The available PIF for SFY 2016 is \$315,000. DSHS has informed NTBHA that these funds may be utilized for transition planning for Indigent Services.
- The PAC acknowledged that additional resources are needed to put the infrastructure in place for the new LBHAs. Although both NTBHA and LifePath Systems will be allocated \$1.5M for transition planning, those funds will not be available until September 1, 2016.

- The PAC also considered the benefits of utilizing PIF to put processes in place to assist consumers with securing other benefits such as Medicaid. It was noted that developing processes for consumer benefits assistance is a focus of transition planning.
- The PAC voted to make a recommendation to the NTBHA Board of Directors to utilize available SFY 2016 PIF for transitional planning for Indigent Services. The PAC further recommends that Medicaid enrollment be a key focus of transition planning and system development.