

Provider Advisory Council (PAC) Minutes from 10/23/15 Meeting

Members Present – Green Oaks Hospital, Turtle Creek Recovery Center, Lakes Regional MHMR, Child and Family Guidance Center, Youth Advocate Programs, IPS

Representatives from VO and DSHS were also in attendance.

Authorizations

- One provider reported that SUD auths have been running slow. They reported that they have had several sitting at a time and have had staff calling VO to follow-up.
- Other SUD providers in attendance reported no significant issues.
- Holly Brock, VO, stated that mental health authorizations should be speeding up soon due to some programming changes implemented by VO.

Housing Funds

- VO reported that there are DSHS funds available for supportive housing again for SFY 2016. Holly Brock reported that these payments went out to eligible providers at the beginning of October.

NorthSTAR Transition Planning

- NTBHA provided an update on transition planning.
- NTBHA has reached a final agreement with HHSC/DSHS on the Local Plan for Indigent Behavioral Health Services.
- NTBHA is currently drafting the RFP for the Administrative Services Organization (ASO). NTBHA is working with Dallas County Purchasing and DSHS on review and finalization of the RFP.

Meeting Structure

- Sherry Cusumano, PAC Chair, asked for feedback from the group regarding the meeting structure and focus of the group for SFY 2016.
- Sherry is the Chair of the Dallas County BHLT Adult Clinical Operations Team (ACOT). She noted that the ACOT and PAC have significant membership and topics of discussion in common and discussed the possibility of combining the two meetings.
- A couple of providers expressed hesitance to combine the PAC with a separate meeting noting the value of the PAC meeting as a venue for addressing specific NorthSTAR provider concerns and receiving NorthSTAR updates.
- PAC membership will be invited to the November ACOT meeting in order to get a sense of the purpose and structure of the meeting.
- The group discussed low attendance at recent meetings and strategies for increasing attendance including utilizing a conference calling option periodically.

Other Issues Discussed

- As per Sunset recommendations, the State will be discontinuing and/or consolidating certain advisory groups. By November 1, 2015 information should be available on which advisory groups will be kept or not and who will be serving on those.