North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services

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Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Michael Moseley, Director

July 2, 2007

MEMORANDUM

To: Legislative Oversight Committee Members
Commission for MH/DD/SAS
Consumer/Family Advisory Committee Chairs
State Consumer Family Advisory Committee Chairs
Advocacy Organizations and Groups
North Carolina Association of County Commissioners
County Managers
County Board Chairs
North Carolina Council of Community Programs
NC Association of Directors of DSS
State Facility Directors
Area Program Directors
Area Program Board Chairs
DHHS Division Directors
Provider Organizations
MH/DD/SAS Professional Organizations and Groups
MH/DD/SAS Stakeholder Organizations and Groups
Other MH/DD/SAS Stakeholders

From: Mike Moseley

Re: **Communication Bulletin #75**
Clarification Regarding IPRS Funding for CAP-MR/DD Waiver Recipients

Over the last several months we have begun to see a trend across LMEs to reduce or deny state funding across the board to individuals served on the CAP-MR/DD waiver who may be dually diagnosed with both a developmental disability (DD) and mental illness. In a similar trend, we have noted that LMEs are doing across the board reductions in rates of state funded DD services. This trend has also impacted consumers with DD who may not be on the CAP-MR/DD waiver. LMEs have the responsibility for authorization of state dollars allocated to them for counties within their catchment area, however, the expectation of the Division is that determination of whether a consumer requires state funding must be based both on availability of funds as well as individual clinical needs identified by the qualified professional. Therefore, blanket reductions across particular target groups or types of state funded services without regard to individual consumer need, especially as those needs relate to the stability of residential placements, should not occur.

In light of this trend the following guidelines should be noted in order to ensure that all of the needs of consumers are met including the assurance of health and safety:

- Although there is the recognition that state dollars are limited, it has always been the position of the Division of MH/DD/SAS that authorization of state dollars to all consumers, including those served on the CAP-MR/DD waiver must be determined based on individual need and circumstances of the consumer. We recognize that although waiver participants have access to a rich array of services and supports provided under the waiver, individual need must be considered specifically as it pertains to persons with dual diagnosis since these individuals often have greater staffing needs which the waiver may not provide.

- State funded residential service definitions include components that may be needed in addition to waiver funding or other sources of funding. The waiver definition of Residential Supports used in licensed residential settings is a habilitation service that provides for some additional care and supervision for the waiver recipient.

- As currently written, Supervised Living MR/MI Level I-VI include room and support care for individuals in a setting that varies from one to six individuals in a residence. In addition, varying levels of support and supervision are provided. For individuals with significant behavioral or medical issues additional staffing provided through these state funded services may be appropriate.

- It should be noted that Implementation Update #5, Developmental Therapy definition, clarifies that Developmental Therapy may not be used for individuals served on the CAP-MR/DD waiver or receiving Community Supports.

cc: Secretary Carmen Hooker Odom
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