

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services

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To: Joint Legislative Oversight Committee Members on HHS Commission for MH/DD/SAS Consumer/Family Advisory Committee Chairs State CFAC Advocacy Organizations and Groups NC Association of County Commissioners **County Managers County Board Chairs** NC Council of Community Programs

State Facility Directors LME Directors LME Board Chairs **DHHS** Division Directors **Provider Organizations** MH/DD/SAS Professional Organizations and Groups MH/DD/SAS Stakeholder Organizations and Groups NC Association of County DSS Directors



Steve Jordan

From:

Re: **Communication Bulletin #123**

The Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services (DMH/DD/SAS) is developing new tools to efficiently provide information to Local Management Entities (LMEs), providers, stakeholders, consumers and the general public regarding changes in the service system.

One current topic of interest is the creation of Local Management Entities-Managed Care Organizations (LME-MCOs) and the state-wide transition to the 1915 (b)/(c) Medicaid Waiver. Legislation passed in 2011 regarding the 1915 (b)/(c) Medicaid Waiver requires the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to restructure the management responsibilities for the delivery of services to individuals with mental illness, intellectual and other developmental disabilities, and substance abuse disorders. One goal of the legislation is the establishment of a system that is capable of managing public resources available for mental health, intellectual and other developmental disabilities and substance abuse services, including federal block grant funds, federal funding for Medicaid and Health Choice, and all other public funding sources.

To illustrate this topic and others a series of one-two page fact sheets has been developed. The first three fact sheets in the series are attached to this Communication Bulletin. They address the following topics:

- What is the 1915 (b)/(c) Medicaid Waiver?
- How is North Carolina implementing the 1915 (b)/(c) Medicaid Waiver? •
- Why are Local Management Entities merging?

Some other topics currently being developed include:

- What is Care Coordination?
- What is the role of DHHS in the oversight of the LME-MCOs?

These and other fact sheets will be widely distributed and will also be available on the DMH/DD/SAS website.

Please contact Chris Pfitzer of the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services at <u>chris.pfitzer@dhhs.nc.gov</u> with your suggestions for fact sheet topics.

Cc: Albert A. Delia Michael Watson Beth Melcher DMH/DD/SAS Executive Leadership Team DMH/DD/SAS Management Leadership Team Sharnese Ransome Lisa Hollowell Shawn Parker Kaye Holder Pam Kilpatrick John Dervin

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