



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

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LME/MCO Joint Communication Bulletin # J418

DATE: May 31, 2022

TO: Local Management Entities/Managed Care Organizations (LME/MCOs)

FROM: Saarah Waleed, Interim Assistant Director of Programs and Policy, DMH/DD/SAS
Deb Goda, Associate Director of Behavioral Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, NC Medicaid

SUBJECT: Expectations for Transitions to Community Living (TCL) Successful Individual Placement and Support (IPS) Enrollments

Successfully connecting Transitions to Community Living (TCL) members to supported employment services is vital to meeting substantial compliance with the Settlement Agreement and ensuring that individuals who reside in congregate living facilities or are at risk of congregate living placement are receiving necessary supports for transitioning into the community and pursuing individualized life goals.

Monitoring data continues to show that the number of TCL members and people who meet criteria for In-At Risk being successfully enrolled in the Individual Placement and Support (IPS) service remains extremely low. The data is a result of ongoing monitoring efforts completed by the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services (DMH/DD/SAS) staff and feedback from the Independent Reviewer.

It is the expectation that all TCL members are referred to the IPS service to explore employment and education opportunities. Exploring employment and education with an IPS provider will provide necessary benefits counseling, engagement and motivation strategies to breakdown internalized and external stigma and doubts and identify individualized needs to be successful.

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DMH/DD/SAS will continue to closely monitor TCL IPS enrollment and competitive job placement data with the expectation of continual increases seen across LME/MCOs. Technical assistance opportunities are available to the LME/MCOs to assist in identifying barriers and strategizing solutions towards significantly increasing TCL employment outcomes.

If you have any questions, please contact Margaret Herring at margaret.herring@dhhs.nc.gov or 984-236-5057 at DMH/DD/SAS or June Freeman at June.freeman@dhhs.nc.gov or 919-527-7646 at NC Medicaid.

Previous bulletins can be accessed at: www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/mhddsas/joint-communication-bulletins.

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