LME-MCO Joint Communication Bulletin # 380

Date: November 23, 2020

To: Local Management Entities-Managed Care Organizations (LME-MCOs)

From: Renee Rader, Assistant Director for Policy and Programs, DMH/DD/SAS
Deb Goda, Behavioral Health Unit Manager, NC Medicaid

Subject: Permanent Supportive Housing Training Requirements and the Transitions to Community Living Initiative (Revised)

North Carolina, entering the sixth year of the Transitions to Community Living Initiative (TCLI), coordinates with the Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC) on the development of comprehensive Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) training. The PSH training is based on the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Evidence-Based Practices Toolkit and supports the use of best practices in supporting individuals with mental illness in independent, community housing. Effective July 1, 2020, the DHHS Approved Tenancy Supports Training is the PSH training.

The PSH training is required for Community Support Team (CST) staff. Both Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) teams and Transition Management Services (TMS) teams also provide critical housing support to individuals participating in TCLI.

- Per the current ACT policy and the attached TMS service definition, staff must complete the DHHS Approved Tenancy Supports training.
- To support North Carolina in successfully placing and supporting individuals in independent, community housing, DHHS is requiring the primary ACT team member responsible for delivering tenancy support services and TMS Team Leads to complete the PSH training. All ACT teams and TMS teams must meet this requirement no later than April 1, 2021.
The training must be facilitated by approved trainers to meet the requirements. Qualified trainers include:

- The UNC Institute for Best Practices and Peer Voice NC (Point of Contact- Stacy L. Smith at stacy_smith@med.unc.edu)
- Alliance Health (Point of Contact- providernetwork@alliancbhc.org)
- Cardinal Innovations Healthcare Solutions (Point of Contact- Beth Pfister at Beth.Pfister@cardinalinnovations.org)
- Partners Behavioral Health Management (Point of Contact- Training@partnersbhm.org)
- Vaya Health (Points of Contact- Melissa Ledbetter at Melissa.Ledbetter@vayahealth.com and Tommy Duncan at Tommy.Duncan@vayahealth.com)

If you have questions, please contact Saarah Waleed at 984-236-5060 or saarah.waleed@dhhs.nc.gov.

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

Attachment: State-Funded TMS Service Definition

cc: Marti Knisley, Technical Assistance Collaborative
    Sam Hedrick, DHHS Senior Advisor to the Secretary for ADA and Olmstead
    Kody Kinsley, Behavioral Health & I/DD
    Victor Armstrong, DMH/DD/SAS
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