



**Addictions and Mental Health Division
Transformation Initiative
Adult Mental Health Initiative (AMHI)**

June 17, 2010 – Communication 2

The Addictions and Mental Health Division (AMH) continues to move forward quickly on designing and implementing the Adult Mental Health Initiative (AMHI). AMH is on target to implement Phase I of AMHI on September 1, 2010. The future phases (Phase II and Phase III) are expected to occur within the next few years.

The September 1, 2010 implementation date will be the beginning of a phased transfer of responsibilities. AMH believes that there will be a steadily increasing rate of implementation starting with the new contracts being executed and effective on September 1, 2010. As we progress through the remainder of the biennium the Mental Health Organizations (MHOs) will be funded to take on additional responsibilities.

Phases of AMHI

Phase I

This first phase of AMHI is designed to provide more resources in the community to support individuals as they move toward successful independence. In Phase I, the MHO will be actively involved throughout their members' treatment progress and transitions in the system. AMH expects the MHOs to be active participants in treatment teams at the state hospitals and ensure that coordination occurs to assist clients in transitioning between licensed facilities and from licensed facilities to successful independent living.

AMH will be providing financial resources to the MHOs to increase Supported Housing, including rental assistance, and increased Rehabilitative Mental Health Treatment Services. MHOs will also expand Supported Employment and Education, Assertive Community Treatment, as well as assist members in finding and maintaining safe and affordable housing.

During this first phase, MHOs will begin ensuring that their members receive ongoing assessments using the Level of Care Utilization System for Psychiatric and Addiction Services (LOCUS). The use of this tool, building on AMH's Transformation O1 efforts, will help establish the ground work of ensuring that individuals receive the appropriate level of services based on their individual needs.

The Community Mental Health Programs will continue to play a vital role in the delivery of services and management of the system. Ultimately, the counties will still be accountable for moving people out of state hospitals but the MHOs will be actively engaged in this process as well. Transformation O1 also worked with the state hospitals to develop ready to discharge criteria. These criteria will ensure that all parties will have the information they need to successfully transition individuals from the hospitals to community settings.

Phase II and III

The second phase will provide the MHOs additional responsibilities, oversight and resources and may bring different payment methodologies. Currently, AMH's ability to use different funding methodologies, such as case rates or capitated payments, is limited by the State's Medicaid State Plan. As AMHI moves forward, the Planning Committee will help us build the framework for this next phase. A key discussion item will be payment methodologies.

AMH is tentatively planning that Phase II will occur in 2012 with Phase III beginning sometime in 2013 or 2014. Moving through these phases will not be solely dependent upon the federal government approval of a State Plan Amendment but will also be dependent on the system's readiness to move to the next phase.

Current Planning Efforts

AMH continues to engage community stakeholders and key internal staff in the planning process. The Planning Committee is fully engaged in the planning efforts. To date, planning efforts have focused on the changes that will be necessary to implement Phase I. These include contract changes, financing and development of clear expectations. In the next few weeks, AMH and stakeholders will develop a vision of what the future state will look like after Phase I is implemented.

Next Steps on Communication

The next AMHI communication will be no later than July 1, 2010. The AMH webpage for this initiative is active. We will continue to update the information on this page and the page will have an e-alert option. Please sign up for e-alert to continue to receive the most up-to-date information about the project. The webpage is at: <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/mentalhealth/adult-initiative/main.shtml>

Ralph Summers and Jane-ellen Weidanz have discussed AMHI with many groups and organizations. These ongoing discussions are critical to the success of AMHI. If additional organizations would like to have an AMHI presentation, they can contact Jane-ellen or Ralph directly.

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