

Administrative/Regulatory Relief Work Group Minutes April 16, 2013

Opening Remarks

Chuck opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their partnership, especially in light of the challenges and opportunities ahead for the field. Debbie Pantin agreed to co-chair the meeting with Chuck in Alexis Gadsden's absence. Chuck also facilitated the meeting in Steve Hanson's absence.

Chuck emphasized that the proposed draft Part 822 Chemical Dependence Outpatient and Opioid Treatment Program Regulation has not yet been posted for public comment and that this was our opportunity to present comments/recommendations for revisions as a group to OASAS Counsel for consideration.

Provider Work Group Update

Debbie provided a summary of progress of the provider workgroup formed to present recommendations regarding how providers can utilize their existing expertise and competencies to provide guidance and support to the field in preparation for working in an insurance/managed care environment.

Four areas have been identified:

- Medical necessity and other operational procedures (consistent terminology, revision of LOCADTR, operational day-to-day denial of payments, co-pay issues, etc.)
- Essential health benefits package as it relates to residential services (length of stay, mechanism to gather information regarding impact on quality care and service delivery)
- Insurance exchange (parity for behavioral health services, ensure that certain services get in the bill)
- Resources needed (provider resource/information networks, developing relationships with managed care companies, staffing infrastructure)

UPDATE: Debbie has worked with a subcommittee to develop summary of key issues, and that document is attached to the e-mail transmitting these Minutes.

Health Care Reform/BHO and Regulatory Overview

Rob Kent provided an update on health care reform and BHOs. For current BHO / MRT information please see the BHO/HARP Update section of the MRT website at http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/redesign

In regard to the proposed draft Part 822 regulation, Rob indicated that most of the comments he has received so far were centered on extended care and patient/staff ratios. As indicated above, once this group has a complete summary of comments/recommended revisions, they will be sent to Counsel's Office for consideration. In closing, Rob mentioned that he will be presenting at the ASAP Conference and thanked the group for their continued input.

Draft Part 822 – Chemical Dependence Outpatient and Opioid Treatment Programs Summary of Provider Comments and Facilitated Discussion

Laura Higgins provided a document that summarized comments submitted by providers in regard to the proposed draft Part 822 regulation and a side-by-side document that compares the current regulation with the draft proposed changes. The comments received by providers were summarized into four categories but the discussion facilitated by Pat Lincourt expanded to include the following subject matters:

- Extended Care;
- Peer Advocates;
- Treatment Plan Timeframes;
- Clinical Guidance;
- Addiction Medicine; and
- Medicaid Billing.

UPDATE: Laura has summarized the comments, and that document is attached to the e-mail transmitting these Minutes.

Wrap Up/Adjourn

Chuck and Debbie thanked everyone for their participation. The next scheduled meeting is August 6th from 10:30 to 1:30. Due to summer schedules, the August 6th meeting will be a call-in meeting. Call-in information will be provided.