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EVENTS

2009 Provider Workshops/ Trainings

Tuesday, March 17th
CT BHP Web Registration/
Re-Registration

Tuesday, April 21st
DCF CANS Web
Registration Refresher

Tuesday, May 19th
Authorizations & Billing
for CT BHP Individual
Practitioners

MONDAY, June 15th
Focal Treatment
Planning

Tuesday, July 21st
CT BHP Web Registration/
Re-Registration

All workshops will be held the
CT BHP A.S.O. office located
at: 500 Enterprise Dr.
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

A complete schedule & RSVP
form is available on the CT
BHP website :
www.ctbhp.com

CT Behavioral Health Partnership

Partnership in Print

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Adult Inpatient ByPass Program

An exciting new initiative with CT's Adult Inpatient Psychiatric providers has been developed by the CT BHP. The benefits of a Bypass Program are that they provide administrative relief to our inpatient providers by authorizing care for longer periods of time, thus decreasing the number of concurrent reviews required for a stay. Initial research indicated that adult inpatient psychiatric services appeared to be an ideal candidate for a Bypass Program. All decisions regarding participation in the program were based upon authorization data for calendar year 2007 (Q1 '07 through Q4 '07).

The program was designed for those inpatient mental health programs that have successfully maintained an average length of stay (ALOS) within the target range of 4.1 – 8.9 days, have no current quality improvement plans related to quality of care and have treated a minimum of twenty members annually. Those facilities that met the above criteria will receive a 6 day initial authorization for psychiatric admissions for the adult population they serve. Discharge information will still be required.

Successful adult inpatient facilities received outreach by the CT BHP to

provide additional information and a complete listing of the criteria and determination of participation for this program as well as the criteria and annual evaluation parameters for continued participation in this program.

The collaborative efforts and the work of our inpatient facilities and the CT BHP to maintain quality driven, efficient, effective and consistent lengths of stay has allowed the state to consider the adjustment of established authorization parameters. We look forward to continuing our work in enhancing collaboration within the behavioral health delivery system. ■

Fostering Change in Foster Care

The Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership (CT BHP), in collaboration with the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (CT DCF), conducted a retrospective analysis of data on children and adolescents placed in foster care to identify any relationship between use of behavioral health services and disruption from a first or second foster home placement. This project grew out of clinical discussions with the Departments re-

garding children who were brought to the ED by foster families who felt they were no longer able to care for the children as a result of their behavioral health problems. This led to questions regarding whether a foster child appearing in the ED should trigger an urgent behavioral health intervention to prevent a possible disruption from the foster care placement.

While data analysis and focus groups with foster families indicated that a relation-

ship between disruption of foster care placement and authorization of behavioral health care services does exist, more questions than answers resulted from CT BHP's study. It was determined that it was premature to begin development of a clinical intervention or a possible training curriculum at this time. In fact, more work needs to occur in this important area of research. As a result, CT BHP:

(cont. pg 2)

Words to Live By

In January 2006, the Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership began its' implementation with the goal to craft a more fully integrated public behavioral health service system for children and families that was both responsive and accountable. The collaboration between the administrative service organization, state agencies, providers, family advocates and our members is nothing short of remarkable.

When we began work on this contract in 2005 and well into our implementation throughout 2006, our beginnings were humble. Our implementation began in an open office space with 6 rows of 4 folding tables. Fondly referred to as the "bingo hall", that space required our staff to sit elbow to elbow, day after day, diligently building a foundation for the work that we continue today. While tape dispensers and staplers marked lines of personal demarcation...the experience bonded our staff together. Each department staff member realized that the work they accomplished was part of a whole: a mission to collaborate, reform and enhance the services available for

Connecticut's children and families.

When we moved into our current office space, cubicles and doors were a blessing but there was also the need to remain united and a need for everyone to realize that their work was still part of a whole. In 2007, we asked our staff to create a motto or slogan for the year. An idea that represented the work we

“ The collaboration between the administrative service organization, state agencies, providers, family advocates and our members is nothing short of remarkable.”

do and the goals we collectively strive towards. 2007 brought "Keep It Moving". A concept that expressed the need to steadfastly continue our efforts and concentrate on discharge delay initiatives, wrap-around community services and developing data reports that would provide a more locally informed ser-

vice system.

In 2008, the motto became "Make It Happen". These words guided the Partnership to develop the adult-inpatient By Pass program, pay for performance initiatives focused on practice improvement and length of stay, continued focus to lower hospital and residential discharge delays and an initiative to support our Enhanced Care Clinics collaborate with primary care practices. All of these initiatives assisted in decreasing waits for needed services, allowing for improved access to care for our members.

As we prepare for 2009, the call has gone out again for our new words of inspiration and guidance. Our staff continues to support a comprehensive delivery system, our partners and collaborators still challenge us to raise the bar, and our mission remains to achieve these goals and then try to go beyond them. As we survey the landscape ahead, we will be looking to you, our provider community, to support us, challenge us and most importantly, work with us to make our shared goals a reality. ■

Foster Care (cont. from pg 1)

- Conducted a literature review to identify behavioral health programs/interventions that target decreasing the foster care disruption rate.
- Will assist DCF in updating it's Foster Parent Resource Manual and work towards establishing a section of ValueOptions website "AchieveSolutions" dedi-

cated to providing information relevant to foster parents.

- Will research, in conjunction with DCF, practices related to Child Specific Training and Crisis Prevention Planning for Foster Parents and their children.
- Will develop pilot programs in two DCF area offices, whereby

foster children and their foster families are offered additional supports within two weeks of placement.

The CT BHP is strongly committed to continuing to work together with the State of Connecticut towards improving the behavioral health services offered to foster children and their parents. ■

Provider Spotlight submitted by Child & Family Agency of SE CT, Inc.

Find a Provider, On-line!



Child and Family Agency's mission is to promote the well-being and development of all children and their families, in particular to give priority to the unmet needs of children lacking physical, emotional and intellectual care and nurturing.

With a heritage that dates from 1809, Child and Family has grown to become the largest non-profit children's social service provider in southeastern Connecticut. Current programs deal with the prevention of child abuse, the treatment of family violence, teen pregnancy, children's health care, childcare, parent education and children's mental health.

A staff of 162 dedicated professionals at 28 service centers served over 13,000 chil-

dren in the 79 towns of Middlesex and New London counties, the Child & Family Agency service region. Staff members include social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists, teachers, nurse practitioners, community workers, teacher's aides, physicians, administrative and support.

“ Child and Family has grown to become the largest non-profit children's social service provider in southeastern Connecticut

Child and Family also has over 600 members in six auxiliaries located in Essex, Lyme/Old Lyme, East Lyme, New London, Groton, and Mystic/Noank/Stonington who generously volunteer their time and talents caring for children, assisting with services and fundraising

events, and help to make all our programs possible.

Services are available to all residents of New London and Middlesex counties. A sliding fee scale assures that no one will be turned away, or refused assistance, based on financial reasons. Child and Family is funded by the State of Connecticut Department of Children and Families as a child guidance clinic and is licensed by the Department of Public Health as a child care facility and as a community health care center and funded by individuals, state departments, federal agencies, civic organizations, foundations and United Ways.

For more information on Child & Family Agency, its programs, membership and funding opportunities, visit their website at www.cfapress.org

CT BHP's On-line Provider Directory offers help in finding participating behavioral health providers in the CT BHP network. The directory can narrow your search to select providers with a specific expertise, service, or program. The directory is updated regularly to provide the most up to date information on the CT BHP provider network. The online directory can be accessed on the CT BHP website: www.ctbhp.com by clicking on the link under *Recent News* or by clicking *Find A Provider* on the Provider or Member homepages. If providers or members are unable to find a provider that matches their needs or you are looking for resources that cover specialized needs, contact the CT BHP directly by calling 1-877-552-8247 to speak with a Customer Service Representative.

DCF CANS Web Training Complete

In a continued effort to improve the referral process and ease administrative burdens, the CT BHP and DCF developed a web-based, electronic version of the CANS (Child & Adolescent Needs and Strengths Assessment) paper form to better capture the needs of CT youth and provide improved administrative efficiency for CT providers. The web-based

version has replaced the paper-based forms. On July 1st, the Middletown and Norwich DCF Area Offices began a pilot program designed to transition from a paper-based system to a web-based system where all Registration/Request for Placement forms, CANS forms and any Updates to an active CANS will be completed on-line. Since July, the CT BHP hosted 19 trainings

for CT DCF Area Offices and Parole offices as well as staff members from Riverview, High Meadows and CT Children's Place. The CT BHP was quite pleased with the turnout that drew over three hundred trainees between the months of July and November. We look forward to this initiative and working with all our new web registration users. ■



500 Enterprise Dr.\Suite 4D
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Place
Proper
Postage
Here

TO: _____

CT BEHAVIORAL PARTNERSHIP - PROVIDER NEWSLETTER



YOU'VE GOT MAIL!

The Provider Relations Department of The CT Behavioral Health Partnership maintains a CT BHP Provider email distribution list for rapid notification of policy changes, procedures, Provider Alerts and EDS Provider Bulletins; as well as news, upcoming trainings and events. If you or a member of your staff is currently not a part of this distribution list, please email us at ctbhp@valueoptions.com.



Website: www.ctbhp.com
Phone: 1-877-552-8247 or 1-877-55 CTBHP

Bulletin Rewind

We here at the CT BHP wanted to take the opportunity to keep providers abreast of recent communications, which include: alerts, bulletins and policy changes. With such a varied and robust network of providers, it is always a challenge to ensure that each provider is made aware of any and all updates.

Bulletin Rewind will be a continuing feature of Partnership in Print and will highlight recent provider alerts (PA) and bulletins (PB). Please note that all CT BHP Provider Bulletins and Alerts can also be found on the CT BHP and EDS websites.

CT BHP Provider Alert 08-03 (Sept)
Subject: CT BHP Bypass Program - Adult Inpatient Psychiatric Providers.

CT BHP Provider Alert 08-04 (Sept)
Subject: CT BHP Web Registration Enhancements

CT BHP Provider Notice (October)
Subject: Residential Treatment Center In-State Vacancy Report

PB08- 53 (October)
Subject: Special Financial Cycle and Claims Cycle Schedule

PB08-56 (October)
Subject: Change in Publication Process

PA08-57 (October)
Subject: Applications for New Primary Care Case Management Program under HUSKY A.

PB08-61 (October)
Subject: CT Behavioral Health Partnership Timely Filing Requirements

CT BHP Provider Alert 08-05 (Nov)
Subject: Required submission of DCF CANS Registration via CT BHP website

A full listing of all CT BHP Bulletins and Provider Alerts can be located on the CT BHP website: www.ctbhp.com & on EDS' website: www.ctdssmap.com

