



Coalition Of Provider Associations

Representing More Than 250 Provider Agencies in New York State

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Provider Association Meeting Minutes – November 19, 2018

1. **Staff Changes.** Richard Cicero has become Director of Audit Services for OPWDD.
2. **Status of Staff Action Plan FAQ.** The FAQ was released and will be forwarded to all providers. OPWDD will be holding a webinar on December 10th and January 15th on the Staff Action Plan and implementing the Life Plan. Providers should understand that Staff Action Plan is required 60 days after the Life Plan is finalized – but not before.
3. **CCO Update.** As of the end of October, 99.8% of eligible individuals have been enrolled with a CCO and assigned a Care Manager. 92% of individuals have held a face-to-face meeting with their Care Manager. OPWDD acknowledged receipt of a letter from provider associations raising issues regarding technical issues with CCO implementation. OPWDD will be responding, but acknowledged IT issues and certain guidance “gaps.” There are specific concerns regarding service authorization levels in section 4 of the Life Plan.
4. **Prevocational ADM.** The Prevoc Workgroup examined issues of approvals for additional hours for SEMP for an existing job and to assist individual seeking a job. Providers raised concerns about the inadequacy of the current Community Prevoc fee and its impact on access to services. New regulations were issued for Community Prevoc in September. Now even individuals with a job can receive Prevoc. Staff travel time to and from Community Prevoc location (with or without individual), and attending training, is also eligible for reimbursement.
5. **Workshop Transformation.** OPWDD has received 71 proposals: 30 integrated business by 12/31/20; 34 programs will close by 12/31/20; the remaining providers have not reached a decision. Of providers converting to integrated business, 18 providers have been authorized for new enrollment because of progress in converting to integrated business. Site-based Prevoc services will continue, but can only be delivered in an Integrated Business.
6. **SEMP Regulations.** Draft regulations have been released and final regulations will be issued shortly together with an ADM. There are no significant changes in requirements. Pathways to Employment program participants are only required to take Innovation training once. OPWDD acknowledged need for final action on Long Term SEMP rates to support Integrated Businesses.
7. **Telehealth.** OPWDD is developing an ADM to be issued before end of calendar year for Article 16 telehealth services including clinical standards and documentation requirements. Technical billing issues under development include site of service code and modifier for Medicaid billing.

8. **DOH Clinic Infrastructure Grants.** The DOH grant pool of dollars is \$204 million. DOH received 459 applications seeking \$2.5 billion. 244 applications were received from community providers seeking \$800 million. From the grant pool, \$47 million is designated for community providers. Award decisions will be released by end of this calendar year.

9. **Rate Transformation Update.** 7/1/18 rates were issued in cycle 2149 on 11/14/18 (except for CRP rates). 2152 Higher Needs rates were issued in cycle 2152 on 12/5/18. Calculation error correction rates will be posted on 12/12/18. DOH is working on a template that will permit agencies to insert CFR data into a tool that will generate a projected rate. Once the template is finalized, DOH will hold a webinar on the tool. The webinar will be held Friday, December 1st in order to be available for NYC providers whose CFR is due 12/1/18. This will permit those fiscal year CFR filers to have until the January 4, 2019 deadline to file amended CFRs if errors are detected through use of the new tool. The Webex set for 12/1/18 will be recorded allowing fiscal filers access to the presentation during the month of December.

10. **Minimum Wage.** OPWDD providers will NOT be resurveyed for minimum wage adjustments. DOH will be sending out a survey instrument to validate provider spending of minimum supplement for minimum wage enhancements. If a provider has not spent all its minimum wage salary dollars, such funds must be returned. There will no minimum wage survey for January 1, 2019 adjustments. Donna Cater stated that she is not using a new survey to be sure there is no mixing of the minimum wage calculation with the (2) 3.25% increases in the 18-19 budget. OPWDD is working on adjustments to the survey instrument and attestation requirements to take into consideration change in auspice issues.