



Provider Associations Meeting

September 16, 2019

1. **Rate Transformation Update:** The Rate Rationalization Workgroup met earlier today and discussed alternate scenarios to adjust rates across neutrality corridors. Some members of the Workgroup strongly advocated for across the board cuts and equal treatment of all providers. There is a proposal in the waiver amendment to change the administrative reimbursement methodology to eliminate anything above 15%. OPWDD and DOH anticipates that rates will be released in mid-October. Any agency who will be receiving a lower rate for 7/1/19 will be required to pay back any excess for the period 7/1/19 through the release date, and OPWDD understands that may pose a challenge for many agencies.
2. **IPSIDD:** OPWDD staff confirmed that it has implemented system changes for processing of IPSIDD claims to match adjudication for Article 16 claims, effective September 26, 2019. All claims will be adjusted retroactive back to 2018, pending claims testing; OPWDD staff stated that they will be looking to complete that work by mid-October. This information will also be included in an upcoming Medicaid update.
3. **Willowbrook Notices:** Providers were reminded to provide notice to the Willowbrook Consumer Advisory Board attorneys whenever a Willowbrook consumer is required to relocate on an emergency basis. Some providers have been failing to provide this required notice.
4. **Housing/Tax Credits:** OPWDD is pursuing additional opportunities for a set aside in affordable housing projects for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The group discussed strategies for future housing opportunities, including shared living, a more flexible design for Supervised and Supportive housing, among other independent living options. A follow up discussion is the need for people with more significant psychiatric and behavioral challenges that many providers are now encountering. OPWDD will look to add this to future meetings.
5. **DQI Survey Protocol and Quality Standards:** OPWDD staff made a presentation on quality survey re-design, which will include a new risk-based assessment approach and collection of more specific data. OPWDD is considering ending the current moratorium on the Compass designation. The Compass initiative reflects OPWDD's desire to reduce the burden on its QA staff and reduce the number of annual audits. The group discussed the differences between Compass and CQL certification. OPWDD did indicate that 18 agencies with CQL certifications had either an adverse action or on Early Alert status.
6. **Managed Care:** OPWDD staff is finalizing updates to the qualification document, SIP-PL, which will be released sometime in 2019. There will be an opportunity for public comment.

7. **CFCO:** OPWDD staff reported that the CFCO target implementation date is January 1, 2020. The Department is engaged in education and roll-out and a billing webinar will be provided later this week for providers. Once finalized, reinstatement of the HCBS waiver will be retroactive to October 1, 2019. Community habilitation services authorization will be binding on Medicaid managed care companies until the next service authorization. The provider education seminars will be coming in October, 10/15 in Albany; 10/17 in Rochester; 10/29 in NYC. Further information is on the MC-COP website.

8. **Clinical Advisory Group:** OPWDD staff reported that the Clinical Advisory Group is being reconstituted and will be examining measures of care.

