



*Supporting a Better Tomorrow...One Person at a Time*

**Operational Standards  
For  
Mental Health,  
Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities,  
And Substance Use Community Service Providers**

**Effective September 1, 2020**

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## **Title 24: Mental Health**

### **Part 2: Operational Standards for Mental Health, Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Use Community Service Providers**

#### **Part 2: Chapter 1: Certification Responsibilities of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health**

##### **Rule 1.1 Repeal of Prior Rules**

Upon their effective date, these rules and regulations supersede and repeal all previous versions of the Operational Standards for Mental Health, Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Use Community Service Providers.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

##### **Rule 1.2 Legal Authority**

- A. The state of Mississippi vested standard-setting authority in the Department of Mental Health (DMH) through Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*, which authorizes the Department to:
  - 1. Supervise, coordinate, and establish standards for all operations and activities of the state, related to mental health and providing mental health services;
  - 2. Certify, coordinate and establish operational standards and establish required services for regional mental health and intellectual disability commissions and other community service providers and services in mental health, intellectual disability, alcoholism, drug misuse, developmental disabilities, compulsive gambling, addictive disorders and related services throughout the state; and,
  - 3. Establish and promulgate reasonable operational standards for the construction and operation of state and all DMH-certified facilities, including reasonable standards for the admission, diagnosis, care, treatment, transfer of patients and their records, and also including reasonable standards for providing day care, outpatient care, emergency care, inpatient care and follow-up care, when such care is provided for people with mental or emotional illness, intellectual disability, alcoholism, drug misuse and/or developmental disabilities.
- B. Mental Health Services described in these regulations are approved therapeutic and case management services provided by (a) an approved regional mental health/intellectual disability center established under Sections 41-19-31 through 41-19-39, or by another

community service provider meeting the requirements of DMH to be an approved mental health/intellectual/developmental disabilities center if determined necessary by DMH, using state funds which are provided from the appropriation to DMH and/or funds transferred to the department by a political subdivision or instrumentality of the state and used to match federal funds under a cooperative agreement between the Division of Medicaid and the department, or (b) a facility certified by DMH to provide therapeutic and case management services, to be reimbursed on a fee for service basis. Any such services provided by a facility described in Rule C. below must have the prior authorization of the Division of Medicaid to be eligible for reimbursement under this section.

- C. As described in Senate Bill 2829 of Regular Session 2014, regional commissions can create and operate a primary care health clinic to treat (a) its patients; (b) its patients' family members related within the third degree; and, (c) its patients' household members or caregivers. Regional commissions operating a primary care health clinic must satisfy applicable state and federal laws and regulations regarding the administration and operation of a primary health care clinic. DMH does not have the statutory authority to license, certify or monitor primary care health clinics.

Source: Section 43-13-117(16) of *the Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*  
Section 41-19-33 of *the Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## Part 2: Chapter 2: Certification

### **Rule 2.1 DMH Agency Provider Certification Types**

- A. Certification by DMH of any type is not a guarantee of funding from any source. Funding is a separate process and each individual funding source/agency must be contacted for information regarding their requirements for funding and the process required for obtaining that funding.
- B. Certification by DMH of any type is not a guarantee of designation as a DMH Mental Health/Intellectual Disability/Substance Use Community Service Provider.
- C. DMH/Department (DMH/D): Agency providers that are operated under the authority and supervision of the State Board of Mental Health authorized by Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated*, must be certified. These are the community-based services locations operated by the state regional centers and the state hospitals.
- D. DMH/CMHC (DMH/C): Agency providers that are certified under this option are Community Mental Health Centers operating under the authority of regional commissions established under 41-19-31 et seq. of the *Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated*. Community Mental Health Centers certified under this option must provide all the core services defined by the DMH Operational Standards and must have the capacity to offer these services in all counties within their region. Any such services provided by an agency certified under this option must also meet requirements of the Division of Medicaid to become a Medicaid provider in order to provide mental health services as defined as part of the Division of Medicaid's Rehabilitation Option. DMH is not responsible for any required matching funds for reimbursement for this provider certification type.
- E. DMH/Private Provider (DMH/P): Agency providers that are certified under this option must provide all the core services as defined by the DMH Operational Standards for the population the agency seeks to serve and offer these services in all counties identified by the agency seeking certification by DMH. Any such services provided by an agency certified under this option must also meet the requirements of the Division of Medicaid to become a Medicaid provider in order to provide mental health services as defined as part of the Division of Medicaid's Rehabilitation Option. DMH is not responsible for any required matching funds for reimbursement for this agency provider certification type.
- F. DMH/Grants (DMH/G): Agency providers other than those designated as DMH/D and DMH/C above that receive funds for services through grants from DMH must be certified. These include agency providers that receive funds directly from DMH, but that are not Community Mental Health Centers (DMH/C designation) or DMH-operated (DMH/D designation).
- G. DMH/Home and Community-Based Waiver (DMH/H): Agency providers meeting requirements for certification to provide services under the Home and Community-Based Services-ID/DD Waiver must be certified by DMH. All DMH/H agency providers must be

enrolled as a Medicaid provider for ID/DD Waiver Services prior to service delivery. Entities that may apply include those already certified by DMH as well as other entities that provide the type services offered through the ID/DD Waiver.

- H. DMH/IDD Community Support Program: 1915i (DMH/I): Agency providers meeting requirements for certification to provide services under the Home and Community-Based Services – IDD Community Support Program (1915i) must be certified by DMH. All DMH/I agency providers must be enrolled as a Medicaid provider for the IDD Community Support Program Services prior to service delivery. Entities that may apply include those already certified by DMH as well as other entities that provide the type of services offered through the IDD Community Support Program.
- I. DMH/Other Agency Providers Requirement or Option (DMH/O): Agency providers that receive funds from agencies other than DMH may be required by that agency to obtain DMH certification. DMH/O agency providers provide one (1) or more mental health intellectual/developmental disabilities, or substance use services in an area of need determined by DMH.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*  
Section 43-13-117 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 2.2 Fees**

- A. A fee may be charged by DMH for certification or recertification depending on the certification option the agency provider chooses and the legal status of the applicant organization (i.e., private non-profit, private for-profit, public, etc.). After submitting an initial application, the applicant will be contacted in writing by DMH notifying the agency provider of the fee (if applicable). The fee must be submitted to DMH prior to the initial on-site visit.
- B. A fee to conduct the initial certification visit of \$350.00 per DMH employee per day may be charged to agency providers seeking DMH/F, DMH/I, DMH/O, DMH/P and DMH/H certification. Those agency providers seeking or holding a DMH/D, DMH/C, a DMH/G certificate, will be exempt from fees.
- C. Recertification or other review visits may require a fee of \$150.00 per DMH employee per day, which will be billed to the agency provider after the on-site visit.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 2.3 DMH Interested Agency Provider Certification**

- A. An Interested Agency Provider is defined as an organization that is seeking DMH certification as a service provider with organizational and management structures in place to meet requirements outlined in DMH Operational Standards to begin service provision.
- B. Approval and certification as a community service provider is limited to agency providers/businesses registered and in good standing with the MS Secretary of State, rather than licensed independent practitioners.
- C. Non-profit and for-profit agency providers must have and show evidence of a governing authority as required in Rule 8.1.
- D. Agency Providers interested in DMH certification must complete DMH Interested Agency Provider Orientation prior to seeking certification. DMH Interested Agency Provider Orientation must be completed prior to submitting the application for DMH Agency Provider Certification.
- E. Interested Agency Providers seeking DMH certification must submit the required DMH application and supporting documentation and adhere to the timelines and procedures for application.
- F. DMH certification is based on the following:
  - 1. Provision of applicable required services in all required service locations for desired certification option;
  - 2. Adherence to DMH Operational Standards, DMH grant requirements (if applicable) guidelines, contracts, memoranda of understanding and memoranda of agreement;
  - 3. Compliance with DMH fiscal management standards and practices;
  - 4. Evidence of fiscal compliance/good standing with external (other than DMH) funding sources;
  - 5. Compliance with ethical practices/codes of conduct of professional licensing entities related to provision of services and management of the organization; and,
  - 6. Evidence of solid business and management practices.
- G. DMH certification for all new agency provider organizations is a two-step process.
  - 1. First, an agency provider organization must receive DMH Agency Provider Certification, which includes the certification of the services the organization plans to provide.
  - 2. Second, the DMH-certified agency provider must apply for DMH certification of the service locations at which the services are provided. (*Note: not all services will require a physical service location*)
- H. DMH will notify the Division of Medicaid of an agency provider's certification status.

- I. Incomplete application packets submitted to the Division of Certification will not be processed. The Division of Certification will notify the applicant that the application packet was incomplete and request the required information. The applicant shall submit the required information within thirty (30) days to DMH. If the requested information is submitted within the timelines, then the completed application packet will be processed. If the requested information is not submitted within thirty (30) days to DMH, the application packet will be voided.
- J. An Interested Agency Provider has exactly one (1) year, from the date of the completed Interested Provider Orientation, to become a fully certified provider. A fully certified provider has successfully completed: Interested Provider Orientation, submitted applicable application(s), provisioned services and is in compliance with the completed health and safety site visit conducted by the Division of Certification.
- K. The complete application packet must contain the following:
  - 1. DMH Interested Agency Provider Application;
  - 2. Evidence of incorporation from the MS Secretary of State's Office;
  - 3. Evidence of the governing authority;
  - 4. An organizational chart that identifies agency leadership by position and name with delineated lines of authority;
  - 5. Evidence of professional licensure or official transcripts from the primary source to verify that educational requirements have been met for all agency leadership (i.e. Executive Director, Clinical Director, Chief Financial Officer/Business Manager);
  - 6. Resumes for identified leadership positions;
  - 7. Releases of information so that DMH may complete background checks on agency provider leadership personnel who may not hold professional licensure;
  - 8. Policies and procedures that address Chapters 3-17 of DMH Operational Standards;
  - 9. Chapters 18-54 based on the services the applicant seeks to provide;
  - 10. Proposed budget and documentation of three (3) months of operating expenses based on the proposed budget submitted in addition to the financial information as required in Rule 2.3.L;
  - 11. Evidence of current licensure and/or certification from all other states/entities in which the agency provider/business operates; and,
  - 12. Three (3) professional references from entities/individuals that maintain a business relationship with the applicant.
- L. Fiscal requirements for the Application Packet are as follows:
  - 1. Applicants must provide evidence of systems in place (for entities in operation, planned systems for those not currently in operation) that provide for the control of accounts receivable and accounts payable; and, for the handling of cash, credit arrangements, discounts, write-offs, billings, and, where applicable individual accounts.
  - 2. Entities currently in operation must submit the following to document average reserves of three (3) months of operating expenses:



- (a) Most recent six (6) months of bank statements; and,
  - (b) Audited financial statements that include an unqualified opinion from an independent auditor (C.P.A.).
- 3. Entities not currently in operation must submit Proforma Financial Statements compiled by a Licensed Certified Public Accountant and planned resources to provide for reserves for three (3) months of operating expenses as noted in these financial statements.
- 4. For both entities currently in operation and those not currently in operation, other fiscal resources (e.g. lines of credit and/or access to funding from affiliated organizations) will be considered. DMH retains the right to verify said resource(s).
- M. Responses to requests for additional or revised policies and procedures must be submitted to the Division of Certification within thirty (30) days of the request by DMH. If the requested information is not submitted within thirty (30) days to DMH, the application packet will be voided. DMH reserves the right to skip this step and proceed to Rule 2.3.Q if the original policies and procedures submission is entirely inadequate.
- N. DMH will either approve the second submission of the policies and procedures or require technical assistance with DMH within thirty (30) days of notification.
- O. After the required technical assistance, the agency must resubmit the second submission of policies and procedures in the strikethrough and underline revision format within thirty (30) days.
- P. DMH will either approve the second revision or deny the application. If denied, the agency provider must wait one (1) year from the date of denial to re-start the application process to become a DMH-certified provider.
- Q. Applicants with a voided application packet cannot reapply for ninety (90) days from the date the notification of the application packet was voided. Upon reapplication, the applicant must adhere to application requirements in place at that time.
- R. A completed application packet, inclusive of any requested additional information, will be reviewed and action taken within one hundred twenty (120) days from the date of receipt of the last information (inclusive of additional information requested) by the Division of Certification. The Division of Certification will notify the applicant of the outcome in writing.
- S. An applicant with an application that is denied cannot reapply or attend Interested Provider Orientation for one (1) year from the date of the notification of denial. Upon reapplication, the applicant must adhere to application requirements in place at that time.
- T. Applicants providing false information and/or documentation or participating in a manner considered to be unethical by DMH or relevant licensing and/or professional organizations

are subject to immediate denial. DMH reserves the right to refuse future applications based upon prior conduct.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 2.4 DMH Agency Provider Certification of New or Additional Services and/or Service Locations**

- A. All DMH-certified agency providers seeking DMH certification of new or additional services must submit the completed DMH Service Certification Application and supporting documentation to the Division of Certification for review and approval. Applicants must adhere to the timelines and procedures for application. Incomplete applications will not be considered for review.
- B. New DMH-certified agency providers seeking DMH certification of new or additional services and/or service locations must have completed the initial new service provider On-site Compliance Review including an approved Plan of Compliance, if applicable.
- C. Interested Agency Providers must complete the full certification process within one (1) year of the completed Interested Provider Orientation and must currently be in compliance with the Operational Standards before applications for new and/or additional services/locations will be processed.
- D. All services and service locations must be certified by DMH, with written documentation of effective certification period prior to service delivery and seeking reimbursement for services. DMH will notify the Division of Medicaid of an agency provider's certification status.
- E. An Opioid Treatment Program will not be approved if its location is in an area where needs are met by existing services. The DMH determination of need will include but is not limited to population census, existing services, and other pertinent data. This applies to initial and future satellite or branch locations of Opioid Treatment Program(s).
- F. An Opioid Treatment Program utilizing methadone must be located in an area that is properly zoned in accordance with local ordinances and requirements.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 2.5 DMH Certification Criteria**

- A. DMH issues Agency Provider, Service, and Service Location Certifications for a four (4) year certification cycle unless stated otherwise at the time of certification.

- B. In addition to complying with the appropriate areas of the current DMH Operational Standards for MH/IDD/SUD Community Service Providers, an agency provider must comply with special guidelines and/or regulations issued by DMH for the operation of services and service locations and must update the Policies and Procedures Manual(s) and other documentation as required by these guidelines and/or regulations.
- C. In addition to applicable standards, services certified and/or funded by DMH must comply with any additional specifications set forth in individual service grants/contracts as well as with the requirements outlined in the DMH Record Guide.
- D. Agency providers must maintain current and accurate data for submission of all reports and data utilizing the Web Infrastructure for Treatment Services (WITS). The data must be submitted within established time frames, as required by the DMH Provider Contract and Billing Manual and the Data Warehouse Submission Guidelines.
- E. Agency providers must comply with requirements of DMH Provider Bulletins.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 2.6 Certification Reviews**

- A. Administrative and On-Site Compliance Reviews will take place (if applicable) for the certification of the following:
  - 1. New agency provider organizations
  - 2. New services or service locations for an existing DMH-certified agency provider
  - 3. Additional services or service locations for an existing DMH-certified agency provider
  - 4. Adherence to an accepted Plan of Compliance
  - 5. During the certification period of a certified agency provider to ensure continued adherence to DMH Operational Standards, guidelines, contracts, and grant requirements, DMH reviews may be unannounced.
- B. Administrative Compliance Reviews are defined as reviews during which DMH requests that information (such as policies and procedures, staffing plans, employee training, minutes of governing authority, etc.) be submitted from the agency provider for a DMH administrative review.
- C. On-site Compliance Reviews are defined as reviews that are conducted by DMH at the administrative or service location(s).
- D. All DMH funded/certified agency providers, services and service locations are subject to a DMH approved peer review/quality assurance (Q/A) evaluation process.

1. The Peer Review Process is committed to the involvement of people receiving services, family members, mental health professionals and interested stakeholders in service evaluation and the provision of a person-driven, recovery/resiliency oriented system.
2. The goal of the Peer Review Process is to advocate for excellence in services through the voices of the people being served, to improve care in the public mental health system, and to ensure services meet the expressed needs of people receiving services.
3. People receiving services, family members, mental health professionals, and interested stakeholders comprise the peer review team. Team members obtain information from peers and agency provider personnel about satisfaction with services, quality of life measures, and support provided from professional personnel; review services and people's records (when applicable); and, dialogue with mental health administrators. The team provides feedback to agency providers and DMH.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 2.7 DMH Written Reports of Findings**

If found to be out of compliance with the criteria for DMH certification during an administrative or on-site compliance review, DMH will issue a Written Report of Findings to the Executive Director and Chairperson of the Governing Authority of the agency provider organization within thirty (30) days of the last day of the compliance review.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 2.8 Plan of Compliance**

- A. Upon receipt of a DMH Written Report of Findings, a DMH-certified agency provider must submit a Plan of Compliance in the required format, included in the DMH Record Guide, to the Division of Certification within thirty (30) days of the date of the Written Report of Findings. The Plan of Compliance must address the corrective action by the agency provider, date of corrective action, timelines for completion of corrective action, and measures put in place to maintain compliance and prevent future occurrence. DMH will not make additional requests for a Plan of Compliance to be submitted.
- B. Timelines for the submission of a Plan of Compliance may be revised due to the nature of findings. If applicable, DMH will notify the certified agency provider of a revision in timelines in the Written Report of Findings.
- C. If the Plan of Compliance is accepted by DMH, the agency provider will be notified in writing within thirty (30) days of the date of DMH receipt of the Plan of Compliance.

- D. If the Plan of Compliance is not found to be acceptable by DMH, the agency provider will be notified in writing within thirty (30) days of the date of DMH receipt of the Plan of Compliance. If the Plan of Compliance is not accepted by DMH, the agency provider is notified in writing that the termination of certification will be effective upon notification.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 2.9 Administrative Suspensions or Termination of Certification**

- A. Based on issues of noncompliance, DMH may determine the need to take administrative action to suspend, revoke or terminate certification. This decision is made by the DMH Executive Director or his/her designee.
- B. A determination that the certification status may be suspended or terminated shall be made upon any of the following criteria:
1. Failure to comply with DMH Operational Standards;
  2. Failure to comply with guidelines, contracts, memoranda of understanding, and memoranda of agreement;
  3. Failure to comply with DMH fiscal requirements;
  4. Failure to provide services for a period of twelve (12) months;
  5. Defrauding a person receiving services, person that may potentially receive services, and/or third party payer sources;
  6. Endangerment of the safety, health, and/or the physical or mental well-being of a person served by the agency provider;
  7. Inappropriate or unethical conduct by agency provider personnel or its governing authority; or
  8. Any other just cause as identified by the MS State Board of Mental Health/DMH Executive Director.
- C. DMH will notify the Executive Director and the Chairperson of the Governing Authority of the agency provider in writing of an administrative suspension or termination and the criteria for which that determination was made.
- D. Should DMH administratively suspend a certified agency provider, service or service location, the Executive Director of the agency provider will have the opportunity to submit a Plan of Compliance to DMH for approval in order to have the administrative suspension lifted. The timelines for submission of the Plan of Compliance in Rule 2.8 will apply unless otherwise stated by DMH.
- E. Should DMH terminate the certification of an agency provider, the agency provider cannot reapply for DMH certification for a period of one (1) year from the date of the termination.
- F. DMH will notify the Division of Medicaid of any agency provider's suspension and/or termination status.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Part 2: Chapter 3: Service Options**

### **Rule 3.1 Core Services for DMH/C and DMH/P Providers**

A. Community Mental Health Centers (DMH/C) operated under the authority of regional commissions established under MCA Section 41-19-31 et seq. and DMH/P must provide all the following core services and have the capacity to offer these services in all counties designated in the DMH/C region or all counties identified by (DMH/P) providers.

1. Adult Mental Health Services	Page
(a) Crisis Response Services	111
(b) Community Support Services	131
(c) Psychiatric/Physician Services	135
(d) Outpatient Therapy	137
(e) Psychosocial Rehabilitation	145
(f) Pre-Evaluation Screening for Civil Commitment (required only for centers operated by regional commissions' est. under MCA Section 41-19-31 et seq.)	259
(g) Peer Support Services	279
2. Children/Youth Mental Health Services	
(a) Crisis Response Services	111
(b) Community Support Services	131
(c) Psychiatric/Physician Services	135
(d) Outpatient Therapy	137
(e) Day Treatment Services	161
(f) Pre-Evaluation Screening for Civil Commitment (for youth age 14 and over)	259
(g) Making A Plan (MAP) Teams	273
(h) Peer Support Services	279
3. Substance Use Services	
(a) Crisis Response Services	111
(b) Prevention	313
(c) Residential Services	
1) Primary Residential Services (Adult or Adolescent)	231
2) Transitional Residential Services	230
(d) Outpatient Services/Intensive Outpatient Services	137
(e) DUI Assessment Services	317
(f) Early Intervention Services for HIV & AIDS	305
(g) Peer Support Services	279
(h) Withdrawal Management Services	334
4. Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Services	
(a) Crisis Response Services	111

B. Services for Substance Use Providers designated as (DMH/O) or (DMH/P) must include the following:

1. Outpatient Services (PHP, Intensive Outpatient/General Outpatient)	
(a) Crisis Response Services	111
(b) Outpatient Services	137
(c) Peer Support Services	279
2. Substance Use Treatment Services	
(a) Crisis Response Services	111
(b) Residential	
(1) Primary Residential Services (Adult or Adolescent)	231
(2) Transitional Residential Services (Adult)	230
(c) Peer Support Services	279
(d) DUI Assessment Services	317
(e) Early Intervention Services for HIV & AIDS	305
(f) Withdrawal Management Services	334
3. Opioid Services	
(a) Crisis Response Services	111
(b) Outpatient Services	137

Source: Section 41-4-1 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 3.2 Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Services**

A. Services available through the ID/DD Waiver include:	Page
1. Crisis Intervention	125
2. Crisis Support	127
3. Day Services – Adult	167
4. Community Respite	170
5. Prevocational Services	171
6. Job Discovery	174
7. Supported Employment	176
8. Supervised Living	197
9. Behavioral Supervised Living	201
10. Medical Supervised Living	205
11. Host Homes	211
12. Supported Living	214
13. Shared Supported Living	218
14. Support Coordination	287
15. In-Home Respite	291
16. In-Home Nursing Respite	292
17. Behavior Support	295



18. Home and Community Supports	299
19. Transition Assistance	301

B. Services available through the IDD Community Support Program include:

1. Day Services-Adult	167
2. Prevocational Services	171
3. Supported Employment	176
4. Supported Living	214
5. Targeted Case Management	287

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## **Part 2: Chapter 4: Certificates of Operation**

### **Rule 4.1 Certificates of Operation**

- A. All certified agency providers, services and service locations must have a current copy of the DMH Certificate of Operation.
- B. The following apply to a Certificate of Operation:
  - 1. The valid dates of certification, service(s), or service location(s) certified, site capacity of the service location, if appropriate, and the certificate number will be specified on the Certificate of Operation issued by DMH;
  - 2. A Certificate of Operation is not transferable;
  - 3. A Certificate of Operation is valid only for the service(s) or service location, and capacity identified on the certificate (in those cases where a definitive number can be assigned to a service or service location);
  - 4. Service location capacities must not exceed the number identified on the Certificate of Operation (in those cases where a quantitative capacity can be assigned to a service or service location);
  - 5. Certification for any established period, service or service location is contingent upon the service's continual compliance with current Operational Standards for Mental Health, Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities and/or Substance Use Community Service Providers as established by DMH;
  - 6. The Certificate of Operation must be posted in each of the certified locations for public view (Exception: IDD Supervised Living, Shared Supported Living, and Supported Living [owned or controlled by the agency provider] – Certificates of Operation must be maintained on-site but not posted for public view);
  - 7. Certificates for closed services and/or service locations must be removed from the site and returned to DMH within fifteen (15) days of the last day a person was served.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## Part 2: Chapter 5: Waivers

### **Rule 5.1 Waivers of DMH Standards**

- A. A waiver of a specific standard may only be requested, by a DMH fully certified provider, and granted for a maximum of one (1) year that has an expected outcome to be in compliance with the current Operational Standards, determined on a case-by-case basis by DMH, in accordance with the following procedures in this as specifically outlined in Rule 5.1.B.
- B. To request a waiver of a specific standard, the agency provider's Executive Director must make a written request to the Division of Certification. The request must:
  - 1. List the standard(s) for which a waiver is being requested;
  - 2. Describe, in detail, all operational systems, personnel, etc., which function to meet the intent or objective of the standard;
  - 3. Provide justification that the waiver of the standard, if approved, will not diminish the quality of service and not place anyone, within the population served, in potential harm;
  - 4. Designate individual service location(s) for which the waiver is requested;
  - 5. Specify the length of time for which the waiver is requested, not to exceed one (1) year; and,
  - 6. Identify that the expected outcome is to meet and be in compliance with the current Operational Standard of which the waiver is being requested.
- C. DMH personnel, as appropriate, will review the waiver request and will approve or deny the request.
- D. The Executive Director of the agency provider making the request will be notified of the decision within thirty (30) days of receipt of the request. Should DMH request additional information to make a determination regarding the waiver request, DMH has thirty (30) days from the date the requested information is received to make a determination and notify the Executive Director of the agency provider of the decision.
- E. Should the requested information not be provided to DMH, Division of Certification within thirty (30) days of the date DMH requests additional information needed to make a determination regarding a waiver request, the waiver request will be considered void. The agency provider requesting the waiver will be required to resubmit the request. Voided waiver requests will not be kept on file.
- F. Appeal of the denial of requests for waivers must be in accordance with Chapter 6 - Appeals.
- G. Waivers granted by DMH serve only to waive a DMH Operational Standard.

- H. Unless specifically stated in the approval letter for a waiver of a DMH Operational Standard, approved waivers are only effective for one (1) year from the date of the approval letter.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Part 2: Chapter 6: Appeals**

### **Rule 6.1 Appeals Related to Certification**

- A. Any agency provider applying for and/or holding certification by DMH may appeal the following decisions and/or penalties:
  - 1. Denial of a Plan of Compliance;
  - 2. Any financial penalties invoked by DMH associated with noncompliance with the Operational Standards and/or audit findings;
  - 3. Denial of a request for a waiver of a DMH Operational Standard;
  - 4. Termination of Certification; or
  - 5. Denial of an application to become a DMH-certified agency provider.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 6.2 Procedures for Appeal**

- A. All appeals must be initiated by filing a written notice of appeal from the Executive Director or Governing Authority by certified mail in an envelope clearly marked Notice of Appeal or by email with Notice of Appeal in the subject line to the appropriate DMH Deputy Director and a copy to the DMH attorney within ten (10) days from the date of the final notification by DMH of the decision(s) being appealed (described above). The effective action of the decision(s) being appealed shall not be stayed during the appeal process except at the discretion of the DMH Executive Director.
- B. The written notice of appeal must have as its first line of text Notice of Appeal in bold face type (specifically stating that the notice is in fact an appeal).
- C. The written notice of appeal must contain:
  - 1. A detailed statement of the facts upon which the appeal is based, including the reasons justifying why the agency provider disagrees with the decision(s) and/or penalty(ies) imposed by DMH under appeal; and,
  - 2. A statement of the relief requested.
- D. The Deputy Director will conduct the first level of review.
- E. If the Deputy Director determines that the appeal merits the relief requested without any additional information requested by the Deputy Director and/or DMH attorney, the appellant will be notified that the relief requested is granted within ten (10) days of receipt of the written appeal.
- F. If the Deputy Director determines that additional information is needed to make a decision or recommendation, additional written documentation from the appellant may be requested

within ten (10) days of receipt of the appeal. The Deputy Director will specify a timeline by which the additional information must be received.

- G. Within ten (10) days of the time set by the Deputy Director for his/her receipt of the additional information requested (described in Rule F. above), the Deputy Director will:
  - 1. Determine that the appeal merits the relief requested and notify the appellant that the relief requested is granted; or
  - 2. Determine that the appeal does not merit the relief requested and issue a recommendation of such, justifying denial of the appeal to the Executive Director of DMH, who will conduct the second level of review of the appeal.
- H. Within ten (10) days of receipt of a recommendation for denial of an appeal from the Deputy Director (as described in Rule G.2 above), the Executive Director of DMH will make a final decision regarding the appeal and notify the appellant of the decision.
- I. Timelines for review of appeals by the Deputy Director and Executive Director may be extended for good cause as determined by DMH.
- J. If the Executive Director concurs with the findings of the Deputy Director to deny the appeal, the appellant may file a written request by certified mail in an envelope clearly marked Notice of Appeal and addressed to the Executive Director's office or by email with the Notice of Appeal in the subject line, requesting a review of the appeal by the MS State Board of Mental Health. The request must be received by the Department within ten (10) days after the date of the notice of the Executive Director's decision to deny the appeal.
- K. The written notice of appeal described in Rule J. above must have as its first line of text Notice of Appeal in bold face type (specifically stating that the notice is in fact an appeal).
- L. The written request for review of the appeal by the MS State Board of Mental Health must contain:
  - 1. A detailed statement of the facts upon which the request for review of appeal is based, including the reasons justifying why the agency provider disagrees with the decision(s) by the Executive Director of DMH; and,
  - 2. A statement of the relief requested.
- M. The MS State Board of Mental Health review of appeals under this section will be in compliance with the established policy of the Board regarding appeals.
- N. The MS State Board of Mental Health review of appeals under this section may be based upon written documentation and/or oral presentation by the appellant, at the discretion of the Board.
- O. Decisions of the MS State Board of Mental Health are final.



Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## **Part 2: Chapter 7: General Information Related to Certification**

### **Rule 7.1 Access**

- A. Representatives of DMH, displaying proper identification, have the right to enter upon or into the premises of any agency provider, service location or facility it certifies at all reasonable times. The agency provider must comply with all reasonable requests to obtain information and to review individual cases, personnel and financial records and any other pertinent information. Failure to comply with legitimate requests may result in certification being withdrawn.
- B. DMH personnel and fiscal personnel have authority to interview employees and people receiving services (if appropriate as determined by DMH) concerning matters regarding programmatic and fiscal compliance, including follow-up on matters reported to the DMH's Office of Consumer Support. Failure to comply with requests for such interviews will result in termination of the audit/review and possible discontinuance of funding and DMH certification.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 7.2 Technical Assistance**

DMH may provide, upon written request from the agency provider, technical assistance to applicants in maintaining requirements for certification. Additionally, DMH may provide and/or facilitate other technical assistance when deemed necessary by DMH. Technical assistance is not limited to, but may consist of contacts between DMH personnel and the agency provider employees via written correspondence, phone consultation, and/or personal visit(s).

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 7.3 Changes to be Reported to DMH**

- A. Following certification, changes affecting the governing and/or operation of services must be reported in writing to the Division of Certification. Anticipated changes must be reported before they take place. Changes not anticipated must be reported as soon as they occur. Failure to report any changes described in this section may result in loss of certification.
- B. Examples of the significant changes that must be reported to DMH before they occur include, but are not limited to:
  - 1. Changes in the governing authority, executive and key leadership;
  - 2. Changes in ownership or sponsorship;
  - 3. Changes in staffing that would affect certification status;

4. Changes in service location (new locations must be approved by DMH prior to service provision);
  5. Increase in the capacity above that specified on the DMH certificate;
  6. Changes in service scope (such as major components of a service, age ranges and/or the population served, etc.);
  7. Major alterations to buildings which house the service location(s);
  8. Changes in operating hours; and,
  9. Change(s) in the name(s) and/or locations of service(s) certified by DMH.
- C. Examples of significant changes that must be reported as soon as they occur include, but are not limited to:
1. Termination of operation (closure) for a period of one (1) day or more due to inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances.
  2. Termination or resignation of the governing authority member(s), Executive Officer, and/or key leadership.
  3. Litigation that may affect service provision.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## Part 2: Chapter 8: Organization and Management

### **Rule 8.1 Governing Authority**

- A. The agency provider must have documented evidence of the source of its governing authority, whether corporate non-profit, corporate for-profit, charitable or governmental board/commission, or other such authority.
- B. If the governing authority is a corporate non-profit or a charitable or governmental board/commission the governing authority must have and comply with bylaws and/or policies that:
  - 1. Establish in writing the means by which the governing authority provides for the election or appointment of its officers and members and the appointment of committees necessary to carry out its responsibilities;
  - 2. Show documentation of the adoption of a schedule of meetings and quorum requirements;
  - 3. Require at least quarterly meetings;
  - 4. Provide assurance that the governing authority does not consist of employees or immediate family members of employees;
  - 5. Provide assurances that meetings of the governing authority are open to the public and include procedures for notifying the public of meetings;
  - 6. Assure that governing authority members do not receive a per diem that exceeds the state limit;
  - 7. Require the minutes of meeting, which are to include, but not be limited to:
    - (a) The date of the meeting;
    - (b) Names of members and other participants/visitors attending;
    - (c) Topics and issues discussed, motions, seconds, and votes;
    - (d) Public comments; and,
  - 8. Establish an organizational structure as evidenced by an organizational chart.
- C. Sole proprietorship must have and show evidence of an advisory committee that consists of at least three (3) members. The role of the advisory committee should include, but is not limited to, making recommendations to improve programmatic activities, serving as a link to stakeholders, and providing suggestions regarding the development of policies and procedures.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 8.2 Annual Review by Governing Authority**

- A. The governing authority of all agency providers must have written documentation of the following:
  - 1. Annual budget;

2. Written affiliation agreements;
3. All changes in policies and procedures;
4. Annual Operational Plan submitted to DMH (Refer to Rule 8.5);
5. Disaster and Continuity of Operations Plan; and,
6. Process for meaningful individual and family involvement in service system planning, decision making, implementation and evaluation. People should be provided the opportunity for meaningful participation in planning at least for their service area.
7. Completion of an annual evaluation of the Executive Director that is available for review.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 8.3 Regional MH/IDD Commissions**

- A. Regional Commissions established must describe in their bylaws and/or policies their duties as designated under Section 41-19-33 (a) through (w) of the *Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated*.
- B. Regional Commissions must also maintain written documentation of the following:
  1. Public education activities (presentations, distribution of printed materials, other media) designed to promote increased understanding of the problems of mental illness, behavioral/emotional disorders of children, intellectual/developmental disabilities, alcoholism, developmental and learning disabilities, narcotic addiction, drug use and drug dependence and other related problems including the problems of the aging and those used to promote increased understanding of the purposes and methods of rehabilitation of such illnesses or problems;
  2. Documentation of hazard, casualty or worker's compensation insurance, as well as professional liability insurance;
  3. Written approval of DMH and/or the County Board of Supervisors, depending on the original source of funding, prior to the disposal of any real and personal property paid for with state and/or county appropriated funds;
  4. Authority of the commission to provide and finance services through various mechanisms and to borrow money from private sources for such, if needed;
  5. If the Regional Commission has entered into a managed care contract(s) or any such arrangement affecting more than one (1) region, written prior approval by DMH of such contract/arrangement before its initiation and annually thereafter;
  6. If the Regional Commission provides facilities and services on a discounted or capitated basis, when such action affects more than one (1) region, written prior approval by DMH of such provision before its initiation and annually thereafter;

7. If the Regional Commission enters into contracts, agreements or other arrangements with any person, payer, agency provider or other entity, pursuant to which the regional commission assumes financial risk for the provision or delivery of any services, when such action affects more than one (1) region, written prior approval by DMH of such provision before its initiation and annually thereafter;
8. If the Regional Commission provides direct or indirect funding, grants, financial support and assistance for any health maintenance organization, preferred agency provider organization or other managed care entity or contractor (which must be operated on a non-profit basis), when such action affects more than one (1) region, written prior approval by DMH, of such action before initiation and annually thereafter;
9. If the Regional Commission forms, establishes, operates and/or is a member of or participant in any managed care entity (as defined in Section 83-41-403(c) of the *Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, as amended*), when such action affects more than one (1) region, written prior approval by DMH, of such action before initiation and annually thereafter; and,
10. At a minimum, an annual meeting by representatives of the Regional Commission and/or Community Mental Health Center with the Board of Supervisors of each county in its region for the purpose of presenting the region's total annual budget and total services system.

Source: Section 41-19-33 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 8.4 Policies and Procedures Manual**

- A. The agency provider must have and comply with written Policies and Procedures Manual(s) which addresses all applicable administrative rules and standards in Title 24 Mental Health, Part 2 of the Mississippi Administrative Code for all services provided. These written policies and procedures must give details of agency provider implementation and documentation of DMH Operational Standards for MH/IDD/SUD Community Service Providers so that a new employee or someone unfamiliar with the operation of the service would be able to carry out the duties and functions of their position and perform all operations required by the organization, its services and service locations.
- B. The policies and procedures manual must:
  1. Be reviewed at least annually by the governing authority, as documented in the governing authority meeting minutes;
  2. Be readily accessible to all employees, with a copy at each service delivery location; and,
  3. Describe how the manual is made available to the public.

- C. The policies and procedures manual must be updated as needed, with changes approved by the governing authority before they are instituted, as documented in the governing authority meeting minutes. Changed sections, pages, etc., must show the date approved/revised on each page. Employees being affected by changes to the policies and procedures must review applicable changes. This review must be documented.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 8.5 Annual Operational Plans**

- A. Annual Operational Plans must be submitted by the Chairperson of the Regional Commission or Chairperson of the Governing Authority and the Executive Director of the agency provider to DMH by July 1 of each year by all DMH/C Providers, DMH/D Providers, and DMH/P Providers.
- B. Annual Operational Plans for DMH/C, DMH/D, and DMH/P Providers that provide all or components of the core services (as identified in Rule 3.1 for DMH/C and DMH/P) must address the following:
  - 1. The core services provided by the agency provider;
  - 2. The geographical area in which core services are provided-identified by each service and county;
  - 3. Projected funding by major funding source (federal, state and local) for each core service;
  - 4. Any other services outside of the core services being provided by the agency provider;
  - 5. The geographical area in which services outside of the core services are provided-identified by each service and county; and,
  - 6. Projected funding by major funding source (federal, state and local) for each service being provided outside of the core services.
- C. DMH will approve or disapprove the Annual Operational Plan based on required standards and core services established by the Department. DMH will notify the agency provider in writing of approval/disapproval of the Annual Operational Plan.
- D. If DMH finds deficiencies in the plan based on standards and core services required for certification, DMH shall give the agency provider a six (6) month probationary period to bring practices and services up to the established standards and required core services.
- E. If after the six (6) month probationary period, DMH determines the agency provider still does not meet the standards and required core services for certification, DMH may remove the certification of the agency provider. The agency provider will then be ineligible for state funds from Medicaid reimbursement or other funding sources for those services.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*



## Part 2: Chapter 9: Quality Assurance

A. Agency providers must put in place quality management strategies that at a minimum:

1. Allow for the collection of performance measures as required by DMH;
2. Develop and implement policies and procedures for the oversight of collection and reporting of DMH required performance measures, analysis of serious incidents, periodic analysis of DMH required client level data collection, review of agency provider-wide Recovery and Resiliency Activities and oversight for the development and implementation of DMH required plans of compliance;
3. Collect demographic data to monitor and evaluate cultural competency and the need for limited English proficiency services; and,
4. IDD Agency Providers see Rule 16.5.C.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## **Part 2: Chapter 10: Fiscal Management**

### **Rule 10.1 Compliance**

All DMH-certified agency providers, regardless of type, must follow the rules and procedures outlined in this chapter. Compliance with the rules in this section will be reviewed by DMH Fiscal Auditors.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 10.2 Annual Budget**

- A. The agency provider must prepare and maintain annually a formal, written, program-oriented budget of expected revenues and expenditures that must:
  - 1. Categorize revenues for the program by source;
  - 2. Categorize expenses by the types of services or program components provided, and/or by grant funding; and,
  - 3. Account for federal funds separately in accordance with the Single Audit Act of 1984.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 10.3 Fiscal Management System**

- A. The fiscal management system must:
  - 1. Produce monthly financial reports that show the relationship of budget and expenditures, including both revenues and expenses by category, providing assurance that budgeted amounts in grants with DMH (if applicable) are not exceeded;
  - 2. Provide monthly financial reports to the certified agency provider's governing authority and Executive Director as documented in Board minutes;
  - 3. Provide for the control of accounts receivable and accounts payable and for the handling of cash, credit arrangements, discounts, write-offs, billings, and where applicable, individual accounts; and,
  - 4. Provide evidence that all generated income accounts (if applicable) are included in required fiscal audits.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 10.4 Financial Statements**

- A. Audited financial statements must be prepared annually by an independent Certified Public Accountant for DMH certified agencies with more than \$100,000 in annual revenue or, for

state agency operated service locations, the State Auditor's Office.

- B. DMH-certified agency providers with \$100,000 or less in annual revenue must have a compilation report prepared annually by an independent Certified Public Accountant.
- C. These financial statements must:
  - 1. Include all foundations, component units, and/or related organizations;
  - 2. Be presented to the agency provider's governing authority and to DMH upon completion, but no later than nine (9) months of the close of the entity's fiscal year. Written Requests for extensions must be submitted to the DMH Director, Bureau of Administration to prevent interruptions in grant funding (if applicable);
  - 3. Be in accordance with the Single Audit Act of 1984 (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133) for facilities which have expended \$750,000 (or current threshold amount set by the Federal Office of Management and Budget) or more in Federal Financial Assistance (Detailed in Appendix 1 of the DMH Service Provider's Manual which can be found at [www.dmh.ms.gov](http://www.dmh.ms.gov)); and,
  - 4. Include a management letter describing the financial operation of the certified agency provider.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 10.5 Accounting Systems**

- A. Agency providers must develop a cost accounting system that defines and determines the cost of single units of service.
- B. The agency provider must develop an accounting system to document grant match and funds of people receiving services that:
  - 1. Consists of a general ledger, cash disbursements journal, payroll journal, cash receipts journal, or other journals serving the same purpose, which are posted at least monthly;
  - 2. Includes proper internal controls to prevent fraud, waste and abuse, including proper segregation of accounting duties (receipt, purchasing, recording, and reporting functions) and the requirement that all checks have two (2) authorizing signatures;
  - 3. Ensures that adequate documentation is maintained to support all transactions, including justification to support all types of cost allocation methods utilized, invoices, cancelled checks, etc. as well as time and attendance records to support personnel costs and approved travel vouchers and receipts to support travel;
  - 4. Ensures that written contracts signed by both authorized agency provider personnel and the contractor are secured for all contractual services charged to DMH grants (other

- than utilities) that specifies the dates that the contract is valid as well as the services and/or duties for which the agency provider is purchasing;
5. Ensures that federal funds are expended in accordance with the applicable federal cost principles (OMB Circular A-122 for independent, non-profits and OMB Circular A-87 for State and local governments) and that all funds are expended in accordance with guidelines outlined in the DMH Service Providers Manual; and,
  6. Ensures that all accounting and financial personnel adhere to the ethical standards of their profession and that provides for appropriate training of accounting and financial personnel to prevent misuse of services and funds of people receiving services.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 10.6 Purchasing**

- A. The certified agency provider must develop and adhere to purchasing policies and procedures that ensure:
  1. Proper internal controls over the procurement, storage, and distribution functions are in place and in accordance with federal and state regulations, including proper oversight and segregation of duties between the purchasing, receiving, and recording functions.
  2. Regional Mental Health Centers and state agency provider operated services adhere to the laws and regulations published by the State of MS Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) Procurement Manual. These regulations can be found on the Department of Finance and Administration's website ([www.dfa.ms.gov](http://www.dfa.ms.gov)).
  3. The agency provider maintains adequate documentation to support all purchasing transactions (e.g. requisitions, bids, purchase orders, receiving reports, invoices, canceled checks and contracts).
  4. The agency provider maintains an inventory system accounting for all grant purchased equipment that includes a master listing of all equipment with, at a minimum, the serial number of the equipment item, the cost of the equipment item, the date that the item was purchased, the grant funded service for which the item was purchased, and the unique inventory number assigned to the item by the facility. A label with this unique inventory number must be affixed to the equipment item.
  5. The agency provider reports to DMH all grant equipment purchases and deletions on form DMH-101-01. The DMH-101-01 form and instructions are included in the DMH Service Providers Manual.

6. Written approval is obtained from DMH and/or the county board of supervisors, depending on the source of funding, before disposition of real and personal property purchased with state and/or county appropriated funds.
7. All insurance proceeds or proceeds from the sale of grant inventory must be returned to the service for which it was initially purchased.
8. Property and equipment ledgers are periodically reconciled to general ledger accounts.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 10.7 Policies**

- A. The fiscal management system of the agency provider must include a fee policy that:
  1. Maintains a current written schedule of rate, charge, and discount policies.
  2. Is immediately accessible to people served by the agency provider.
  3. For community living services, includes the development, and result in documentation, of a written financial agreement with each person or parent(s)/legal representative(s) (of people under eighteen [18] years of age) entering the agency provider that, at a minimum:
    - (a) Contains the basic charges agreed upon, the period to be covered by the charges, services for which special charges are made, and agreements regarding refunds for any payment made in advance;
    - (b) Is prepared prior to or at the time of admission and signed by the person/parent(s)/legal representative(s) and provided in two (2) or more copies, one (1) copy given to the person/parent(s)/legal representative(s), and one (1) copy placed on file in the person's record; and,
    - (c) Does not relieve the agency provider of the community living service of the responsibility for the protection of the person and personal property of the person admitted to the agency provider for care.
- B. All agency providers must have policies that include/address the following:
  1. Non-discrimination based on ability to pay, race, sex, age, creed, national origin or disability;
  2. A sliding fee scale;
  3. A method of obtaining a signed statement from the person receiving services indicating that the person's personal information provided is accurate;
  4. All personnel who handle agency provider funds must be bonded to cover risks associated with employee dishonesty or theft; and,
  5. Insurance that includes liability, fire, theft, disaster and worker's compensation must be obtained and kept current by the agency provider (unless otherwise provided by law).

- C. All agency providers must have rental/lease/sublease agreements with people residing in agency provider owned or controlled living arrangements. These agreements must afford people the same rights as the Landlord/Tenant Laws of the State of Mississippi (*Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated* §89-7-1 to 125 and §89-8-1 to 89-8-1 to 89).

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 10.8 Community Mental Health Centers (DMH/C Providers)**

Community Mental Health Centers must submit a plan to DMH when the Regional Commission and/or related organization has accumulated excess surplus funds in excess of one-half (1/2) its annual operating budget stating the capital improvements or other projects that require such surplus accumulation. If the required plan is not submitted within forty-five (45) days of the end of the applicable fiscal year, DMH shall withhold all state appropriated funds from such regional commission until such time as the capital improvement plan is submitted. If the plan is submitted, but not accepted by DMH, the surplus funds will be expended by the regional commission in the local mental health region on housing options for persons with mental illness, intellectual/developmental disabilities, addiction disorders, children or other mental health or intellectual/developmental disabilities services approved by DMH.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 10.9 Generated Income**

- A. Accounting records must be maintained on generated income from work contracts that detail dollar amounts and fund utilization.
- B. The agency provider must maintain evidence of prior written authorization from the Director of the Bureau of Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities for utilization of generated income for anything other than supplies needed for subcontracts/products and individual wage payments. The use of generated income must be documented as: enhancing/enriching the service location and not being used as part of a required match.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## Part 2: Chapter 11: Human Resources

### **Rule 11.1 Personnel Policies and Procedures**

- A. The agency provider must have written personnel policies and procedures that at a minimum:
  - 1. Assure that the hiring, assignment, and promotion of employees shall be based on their qualifications and abilities without regard to sex, race, color, religion, age, irrelevant disability, marital status, or ethnic or national origin;
  - 2. Prohibit pre-employment inquiries about the nature of an applicant's disability which does not affect their ability to perform the job; and,
  - 3. Prohibit an employee's salary and work time from being allocated among multiple DMH grants, and potentially among multiple grant recipients, unless approved by DMH in writing. Requests for approval must not exceed one (1) full-time equivalent position.
- B. The written personnel policies must describe personnel procedures addressing the following areas:
  - 1. Wage and salary administration;
  - 2. Employee benefits;
  - 3. Working hours;
  - 4. Vacation and sick leave (includes maternity leave);
  - 5. Annual job performance evaluations. Job performance evaluations must be in writing, and there must be documented evidence that evaluations are reviewed with the employee;
  - 6. Suspension or dismissal of an employee, including the employee appeal process;
  - 7. Private practice by agency provider employees;
  - 8. The utilization (if applicable and certified to do so) of people who have received services and family members to provide Peer Support Services; and,
  - 9. Ongoing monitoring of incidents that may affect an employee's reported background check status or child registry check status and require the agency provider to run additional checks.
- C. Designate employees, with documentation in their respective job description(s), to implement and/or coordinate personnel policies and procedures and to:
  - 1. Maintain personnel records;
  - 2. Disseminate employment information to agency provider personnel; and,
  - 3. Supervise the processing of employment forms.
- D. If an agency provider uses volunteers, there must be policies and procedures describing, at a minimum, the following:
  - 1. The scope and objectives of the volunteer service (role and activities of volunteers);

2. Supervision of volunteers by employee members in areas to which volunteers are assigned;
3. Assurance that volunteers that have not completed background checks and fingerprinting requirements and have not attended orientation will never be alone with people receiving services unsupervised by agency provider personnel; and,
4. Assurance that volunteers will never be utilized to replace an employee.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 11.2 Personnel Records**

A personnel record for each employee, volunteer, intern and contractual employee, as noted below, must be maintained and must include, but not be limited to:

- A. The application for employment or resume, including employment history and experience;
- B. A copy of the employee's degree and/or transcript, as appropriate to position requirements;
- C. A copy of the current Mississippi license or certification for all licensed or certified personnel;
- D. A copy of a valid driver's license and current personal or agency insurance (as applicable) for all designated drivers;
- E. As authorized by law, for all employees, volunteers, and interns, documentation must be maintained that a criminal records background check (including prior convictions under the Vulnerable Adults Act) and child abuse central registry check have been obtained by the current entity seeking to employ the person and no information was received that would exclude the employee/volunteer/intern. (See Sections 43-15-6, 43-20-5, and 43-20-8 of the *Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated.*) For the purpose of these checks, each employee/volunteer/intern must be fingerprinted and fingerprints must be run as a part of the background check. Criminal Records background checks and child abuse central registry checks must be completed at hire and before contact with people served as required by the agency provider's policies and procedures while the employee is employed with the agency provider.
- F. Documentation of verification of at least two (2) references. One (1) reference must be a professional reference.
- G. Annual job performance evaluations.
- H. Job description.
- I. Date of hire.

J. If contractual services are provided by a certified agency provider, or obtained by a certified agency provider; there must be a current written contractual agreement in place that addresses, at minimum, the following:

1. Roles and responsibilities of both parties identified in the agreement;
2. Procedures for obtaining necessary informed consent, including consent for release and sharing of information;
3. Assurances that DMH Operational Standards will be met by both parties identified in the agreement; and,
4. An annual written review of the contractual agreement by both parties within the current fiscal year.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 11.3 General Qualifications**

To ensure initial and continuing receipt of certification/funding from DMH or other approved sources, the agency provider must maintain documentation that employees meet the following qualifications unless otherwise specified herein:

- A. One (1) full-time Executive Director who has a minimum of a Master's degree from an accredited four (4) year college or university in public or business administration, hospital or health care administration, education or in a mental health or related field with a minimum of three (3) years administrative experience in services related to mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities or substance use services or a minimum of a Bachelor's degree in nursing and current licensure as a registered nurse (RN) for DMH/H Providers that only serve as agency providers of In-Home Nursing Respite Services, In-Home Respite Services, Home and Community Support Services and Supported Living.
- B. Director(s) with overall responsibility for a service, service area(s) (such as Community Services Director, Director of Community Support Services, Director of ID/DD Waiver Support Coordination, Service Director for Adult and Children's Partial Hospitalization, Day Treatment, Therapeutic Foster Care) or multiple services provided at/from a single location. This person must have at least a Master's degree in mental health or intellectual/developmental disabilities, or a related field and either (1) a professional license or (2) a DMH credential as a Mental Health Therapist or Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Therapist (as appropriate to the service and population being served). A registered nurse may be employed as the Director for DMH/H Providers that only serve as agency providers of In-Home Nursing Respite Services, In-Home Respite Services and Home and Community Support Services.
- C. In addition to the requirements outlined in Rule 11.3.B Directors of Therapeutic Foster Care (TFC) Services must also have at least one (1) year of experience in administration or supervision of a mental health or related service.

- D. Supervisor(s) with predominantly supervisory and administrative responsibilities on-site in the day-to-day provision of services at a single location for such areas as Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services, Day Services-Adult etc., must have at least a Bachelor's degree in a mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities, or a related field, and be under the supervision of a person with a Master's degree in mental health or intellectual/developmental disabilities, or a related field and who has either (1) a professional license or (2) a DMH credential as a Mental Health Therapist or Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Therapist (as appropriate to the service and population being served).
- E. Medication evaluation and monitoring, the initial evaluation, prescribing of medications, and regular/periodic monitoring of the therapeutic effects of medication prescribed for mental health purposes are provided by:
  - 1. A Board-certified or Board-eligible psychiatrist licensed by the MS Board of Medical Licensure; or,
  - 2. A psychiatric/mental health nurse practitioner licensed by the MS Board of Nursing; or,
  - 3. Other medical professional practicing within the scope of authority as defined by their professional licensing entity.
- F. Medical services are provided by a psychiatrist or other physician licensed by the MS Board of Medical Licensure.
- G. Nursing services are provided by a registered nurse licensed to practice in Mississippi or a licensed practical nurse (LPN) as allowed in the MS Nursing Practice Act and Rules and Regulations. This applies to appropriate supervisory oversight rules as well.
- H. Psychological services are provided by a psychologist licensed by the MS Board of Psychology.
- I. Therapy services are provided by an employee with at least a Master's degree in an addictions-, mental health-, intellectual/developmental disabilities-, or human services/behavioral health-related field and who has either (1) a professional license or (2) a DMH credential as a Mental Health Therapist, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Therapist, or Addictions Therapist (as appropriate to the service and population being served).
- J. In addition to the requirements outlined in Rule 11.3.I, the Mental Health Therapist in Therapeutic Foster Care Services, must have at least one (1) year of experience and/or training in working directly with children/youth with behavioral/emotional disturbance.
- K. All Day Treatment Specialists providing Day Treatment Services for children/youth must have a Master's degree in a mental health-related field and (1) a professional license or (2) a DMH credential as a Mental Health Therapist.

- L. Community Support Services are provided by an employee with at least a Bachelor's degree in a mental health-, intellectual/developmental disabilities-, or human services/behavioral health-related field and at least a DMH Community Support Specialist credential. Community Support Services can also be provided by DMH Credentialed Therapists (MH, IDD and Addictions as appropriate to the population being served) and people with an appropriate professional license.
- M. Therapeutic Foster Care Specialist(s) must have at least a Bachelor's degree in a mental health or related field and at least one (1) year of documented experience and/or training in working with children with special behavioral/emotional needs and their families/other caregivers.
- N. Teachers and Education Specialists must have a Master's degree or a Bachelor's degree in Special Education, as required, with training in mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities, or a related field, and possess certification by the MS Department of Education appropriate to the service area to which they are assigned.
- O. All employees providing Peer Support Services (i.e. Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals) must possess at least a high school diploma or General Education Development (GED) equivalent, self-identify as a current or a person who has previously received mental health services, parent or primary caregiver. For young adults ages eighteen – twenty-six (18-26) years, Peer Support Specialist Professionals must be enrolled and attending school or in the process of obtaining a GED. All employees must successfully complete the DMH approved Certified Peer Support Specialist training and certification exam to become a Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional.
- P. Peer Support Specialist Supervisors must hold a minimum of a Master's degree in an addictions-, mental health-, intellectual/developmental disabilities-, or human services/behavioral health-related field. They must have either 1) professional license or 2) a DMH credential as a Mental Health Therapist, Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Therapist, or Addictions Therapist prior to, or immediately upon acceptance in a Peer Support Specialist Supervisory position. This person will be required to receive basic Peer Support Specialist training specifically developed for supervision as provided by DMH.
- Q. Wraparound professionals must work at a certified wraparound agency provider and must complete all activities as required by DMH to maintain certification.
  - 1. Wraparound facilitators must hold a minimum of a Bachelor's degree in a mental health-, intellectual/developmental disabilities-, or human services/behavioral health-related field and a DMH Community Support Specialist credential. Wraparound facilitators must also complete trainings provided by the MS Wraparound Institute as required for wraparound facilitators in the *DMH Wraparound Agency Provider Registration Procedure and Requirements*. Wraparound facilitators must be under the supervision of a Wraparound Supervisor as defined in Rule 11.3.P.2.

2. Wraparound supervisors must hold a minimum of a Master's degree in a mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities, or related field and who has either a (1) professional license or (2) a DMH credential as a Mental health Therapist or an Intellectual and Developmental Therapist. Exemptions to this educational requirement may be provided based on experience or specialized certification through consultation between DMH and the MS Wraparound Institute. Wraparound supervisors must complete trainings provided by the MS Wraparound Institute as required for Wraparound supervisors in the *DMH Wraparound Agency Provider Registration Procedure and Requirements*.
- R. All direct support personnel such as Aides, House Parents, House Managers, On-Site Community Living Managers, Direct Support Workers, Direct Support Professionals, Work Trainers, Production Assistants, Day Treatment Assistants, support personnel in Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Senior Psychosocial Rehabilitation, Day Services-Adult personnel, Home and Community Support Services personnel, Job Coaches, etc. must have at least a high school diploma or equivalent GED.
- S. Specialists such as Audiologists, Speech/Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Dietitians, Physical Therapists, etc., must meet the educational requirements of and be licensed by their respective licensing authority in Mississippi.
- T. Employees serving as Qualified Intellectual/Disabilities Professionals (QIDP) must have at least a Bachelor's degree in a human services field and one (1) year of experience in direct service with people with developmental disabilities.
- U. Employees writing Job Discovery Profiles for IDD Waiver Services must have at least a Bachelor's degree in a mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities, or related field, and be under the supervision of an employee meeting the requirements of Rule 11.3.B. Employees writing Job Discovery Profiles must have completed training in Customized Employment approved by DMH prior to service provision. Observation and/or participation in Job Discovery activities can be conducted by direct support personnel meeting the requirements of Rule 11.3.R.
- V. Family members are prohibited from providing services to another family member with the exception of Home and Community Supports and In-Home Respite.
- W. Targeted Case Management for people with serious mental illness or serious emotional disturbance must be provided by, at a minimum, a licensed social worker (LSW) with two (2) years of experience in mental health, a registered nurse with two (2) years of experience in mental health, or an employee who meets the qualifications to provide therapy services as stated in Rule 11.3.I above.
- X. Targeted Case Management/Transition Coordination Services for people who have an intellectual/developmental disability must be provided by an employee with at least a Bachelor's degree in an intellectual/developmental disabilities or related field or a registered nurse and have at least one (1) year of experience working with people who

have an intellectual/developmental disability. Targeted Case Management/ Transition Coordination can also be provided by DMH Credentialed Therapists, as appropriate to the population being served or employees with an appropriate professional license.

- Y. ID/DD Waiver Support Coordination is provided by an employee with at least a Bachelor's degree in an intellectual/developmental disabilities or related field and one (1) year of experience working with people who have an intellectual/developmental disability. Support Coordination can also be provided by DMH Credentialed Therapists, as appropriate to the population being served or employees with an appropriate professional license. ID/DD Waiver Support Coordination can also be provided by a registered nurse with at least one (1) year of experience working with people who have an intellectual/developmental disability.
- Z. All employees providing Supported Employment Services to people with a serious mental illness must have, at a minimum, a Bachelor's degree in mental health, vocational rehabilitation, social services or business. Employees must be proficient or receive training in the development of a career profile, employment plans, job development, career development, job search and Social Security benefits.
- AA. Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services must be provided by people licensed in the state of Mississippi (Miss Code 73-75, (2016), as a Licensed Behavior Analyst (LBA) or Licensed Assistant Behavior Analyst (LABA) under the supervision of a Licensed Behavior Analyst. Behavior Technicians must be certified as a Registered Behavior Technician and listed with the State Licensure Board under a supervising Licensed Behavior Analyst. Licensed Psychologists whose scope of practice, training, and competence includes Applied Behavior Analysis may provide Applied Behavior Analysis services.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 11.4 Qualifications for Behavior Support, Crisis Intervention and Behavioral Supervised Living Provided through the ID/DD Waiver**

**A. Behavior Support Services**

- 1. ID/DD Waiver Behavior Consultants must be a Licensed Psychologist, Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), Licensed Certified Social Worker (LCSW), Board Certified Behavior Analysts Doctoral (BCBA-D), Board Certified Behavior Analyst® (BCBA), or have a Master's degree in a field related to working with individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities who require behavior support. ID/DD Waiver Behavior Consultants also must have at least two (2) years of documented training or experience supporting people who have intellectual/developmental disabilities and behavioral challenges, conducting Functional Behavior Assessments, developing, implementing and providing necessary training to employees/family on Behavior Support Plans and hold at least a Certified Mental Health Therapist (CMHT) or

Certified Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Therapist (CIDDT) DMH credential. The Behavior Consultant must be currently trained and certified in a nationally recognized and DMH approved technique for managing aggressive or risk-to-self behaviors to include verbal and physical de-escalation (i.e., MANDT© or CPI).

2. ID/DD Waiver Behavior Interventionists must have at least a Bachelor's degree in a field related to working with people with intellectual/developmental disabilities who require behavior services and have at least two (2) years of documented experience working with people who have intellectual/developmental disabilities. The Behavior Interventionist must be currently trained and certified in a nationally recognized and DMH approved technique for managing aggressive or risk-to-self behaviors to include verbal and physical de-escalation (i.e., MANDT© or CPI). The Behavior Interventionist must be supervised/monitored by a Behavior Consultant (as defined in Rule 11.4.A.1.).

B. ID/DD Waiver Crisis Intervention agency providers must have a team that includes:

1. A Licensed Psychologist
2. A director (as defined in Rule 11.3.B) who also has specialized training in Crisis Intervention. The Crisis Intervention Director must be currently trained and certified in a nationally recognized and DMH approved technique for managing aggressive or risk-to-self behaviors to include verbal and physical de-escalation (i.e., MANDT© or CPI).
3. A Qualified Intellectual/ Disabilities Professional who is under the supervision of a person with a Master's degree in mental health or intellectual/developmental disabilities, or a related field and who has at least two (2) years of documented experience working with people who have intellectual/developmental disabilities. The Qualified Intellectual/Disabilities Professional must be currently trained and certified in a nationally recognized and DMH approved technique for managing aggressive or risk-to-self behaviors to include verbal and physical de-escalation (i.e., MANDT© or CPI).
4. Direct support personnel (as defined in Rule 11.3.R) with specialized training in Crisis Intervention. The direct support personnel must be currently trained and certified in a nationally recognized and DMH approved technique for managing aggressive or risk-to-self behaviors to include verbal and physical de-escalation (i.e., MANDT© or CPI).

C. Behavioral Supervised Living Personnel Requirements

1. ID/DD Waiver Behavioral Consultant (Refer to Rule 11.4. A.1)
2. ID/DD Waiver Behavior Interventionists (Refer to Rule 11.4. A.2)
3. Direct support personnel currently trained and certified in a nationally recognized and DMH approved technique for managing aggressive or risk-to-self behaviors to include verbal and physical de-escalation (i.e., MANDT© or CPI).



Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 11.5 Qualifications for Agency Providers of Substance Use Services**

- A. Directors/Coordinators of all substance use treatment or prevention services must have at least: (1) a Master's degree in an addictions-, mental health-, or human services/behavioral health-related field (2) a professional license or hold a DMH credential as a Mental Health Therapist, Addictions Therapist, or a professional substance use credential approved by DMH, and two (2) years of experience in the field of substance use treatment/prevention. Employees who self-identify as in recovery must have a minimum of one (1) year of sustained recovery.
- B. Support personnel employed in Substance Use Disorder Residential Services who self-identify as in recovery must have a minimum of one (1) year of sustained recovery.
- C. Prevention Specialists must have at least a Bachelor's degree. Employees who self-identify as in recovery must have a minimum of one (1) year of sustained recovery.
- D. Substance Use Disorder Outpatient Therapists must have at least a Master's degree in an addictions-, mental health-, or human services/behavioral health-related field and a (1) professional license or (2) hold a DMH credential as a Mental Health Therapist or Addictions Therapist. Employees who self-identify as in recovery must have a minimum of one (1) year of sustained recovery.
- E. All Recovery Support Personnel must have at least a high school diploma or GED. These employees must also successfully complete a substance use disorder certification program approved by DMH within thirty-six (36) months of the date of employment. Employees who self-identify as in recovery must have a minimum of one (1) year of sustained recovery.
- F. Residential Service Therapists must have at least a Master's degree in an addiction-, mental health-, or human services/behavioral health-related field and (1) a professional license or (2) hold a DMH credential as a Mental Health Therapist or Addictions Therapist. Employees who self-identify as in recovery must have a minimum of one (1) year of sustained recovery. All employees hired on or after September 1, 2020, must meet the requirements in Rule 11.5.
- G. Agency providers certified as DMH/C, DMH/P and/or DMH/O that provide Medicaid-reimbursed services: individual therapy, family therapy, group therapy, multi-family therapy and Individual Service Plan review to people with a substance use diagnosis must have at least a Master's degree in an addiction-, mental health-, or human services/behavioral-related health field and 1) have a professional license or 2) a DMH credential as a Mental Health Therapist or 3) a DMH credential as an Addictions Therapist.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 11.6 Qualifications for Programs of Assertive Community Treatment (PACT)**

- A. Team Leader: The team leader must have at least a Master's degree in nursing, social work, psychiatric rehabilitation or psychology, or is a psychiatrist. The team leader must be professionally licensed or have a DMH credential as a Certified Mental Health Therapist.
- B. Psychiatrist/Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner: A psychiatrist/psychiatric nurse practitioner, who work on a full-time or part-time basis, must meet applicable licensure requirements of state boards.
- C. Registered Nurse: The registered nurse must be licensed and in good standing with the MS Board of Nursing.
- D. Master's Level Mental Health Professionals: Mental health professionals have: 1) professional degrees in one (1) of the core mental health disciplines; 2) clinical training including internships and other supervised practical experiences in a clinical or rehabilitation setting; and, 3) clinical work experience with people with severe and persistent mental illness. They are licensed or certified and operate under the code of ethics of their professions. Mental health professionals include people with Master's or Doctoral degrees in nursing, social work, rehabilitation counseling, or psychology; Diploma, Associate, and Bachelor's degree nurses (i.e., registered nurse); and, registered occupational therapists.
- E. Substance Use Disorders Specialist: A mental health professional with training and experience in substance use disorders assessment and treatment.
- F. Employment Specialist: A mental health professional with training and experience in rehabilitation counseling.
- G. Peer Support Specialist Professional (CPSSP): At least one (1) full-time equivalent Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional. The Peer Support Specialist Professional must be a fully integrated team member who provides expertise about the recovery process and promotes the self-determination and shared decision-making abilities of the person receiving services.
- H. Remaining Clinical Personnel: The remaining clinical personnel may be Bachelor's level and paraprofessional mental health workers. A Bachelor's level mental health worker has a Bachelor's degree in social work or a behavioral science and work experience with adults with severe and persistent mental illness. A paraprofessional mental health worker may have a Bachelor's degree in a field other than behavioral sciences or have a high school diploma and work experience with adults with severe and persistent mental illness or with people with similar human service needs. These paraprofessionals may have related training (e.g., certified occupational therapy assistant, home health care aide) or work

experience (e.g., teaching) and life experience.

- I. Service Assistant: Assistants must have at least a high school diploma or a GED and be at least twenty-one (21) years old.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 11.7 Qualifications for Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team (I-CORT)**

- A. Team Leader: The team leader must have a Master's degree in a mental health or related field and (1) a professional license or (2) or a DMH credential as a Certified Mental Health Therapist.
- B. Registered Nurse: The registered nurse must be licensed and in good standing with the MS Board of Nursing.
- C. Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional: At least one (1) full-time equivalent Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional. The Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional must be a fully integrated team member and provide expertise about the recovery process and promote self-determination and shared decision making abilities of person receiving services.
- D. Part-time Clerical Employees: Must have a high school diploma or a GED and must be twenty-one (21) years of age.
- E. Part-time Community Support Specialist: The Community Support Specialist must have a Bachelor's degree in a mental health or related field and be a DMH Certified Community Support Specialist.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 11.8 Qualifications for Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team (I-CORT) for Children/Youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance**

- A. Team Leader: The team leader must have a Master's degree in a mental health or related field and (1) a professional license or (2) or a DMH credential as a Certified Mental Health Therapist.
- B. Registered Nurse: The registered nurse must be licensed and in good standing with the MS Board of Nursing.
- C. Peer Support Specialist Professional: At least a part-time Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional. The Certified Peer Support Specialist must be a fully integrated team member and provide expertise about the recovery process and promote self-determination and

shared decision-making abilities of the parent/caregiver of the child/youth receiving services.

- D. Part-time Clerical Employee: Must have a high school diploma or a GED and must be twenty-one (21) years of age.
- E. Full-time Community Support Specialist: The Community Support Specialist must have a Bachelor's degree in a mental health or related field and be a DMH Certified Community Support Specialist.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 11.9 Multidisciplinary Personnel at DMH/C and DMH/P Providers**

Community Mental Health Center providers (certified under the DMH/C option) and other community service providers certified as DMH/P providers must have multidisciplinary personnel, with at least the following disciplines represented:

- A. A psychiatrist who is board certified or board eligible and licensed to practice medicine in Mississippi (available on a contractual, part-time or full-time basis);
- B. A psychologist licensed to practice in Mississippi (available on a contractual, part-time or full-time basis);
- C. A full-time or full-time equivalent registered nurse;
- D. A full-time or full-time equivalent Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW), Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), Provisional-Licensed Professional Counselor (P-LPC) or Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT);
- E. A full-time or full-time equivalent business manager who is capable of assuming responsibility for the fiscal operations of the agency provider;
- F. A full-time or full-time equivalent records practitioner or designated records clerk who is capable of assuming responsibility for the supervision and control of all center records; and,
- G. An employee with at least a Master's degree in a mental health or related field to supervise children's mental health services on a full-time basis. This person must have administrative authority and responsibility for children's mental health services. This person may carry a caseload of fifteen (15) children, youth or young adults.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## Part 2: Chapter 12: Training/Employee Development

### **Rule 12.1 General Orientation**

- A. All new employees, volunteers and interns must attend a General Orientation program developed by the agency provider or receive the orientation information via a DMH approved on-line training program. General Orientation must be provided and completed within thirty (30) days of hire/placement, except for direct service providers and direct service interns/volunteers. All direct service personnel must complete all required orientation prior to contact with people receiving services and/or service delivery. Volunteers that have not attended orientation should never be alone with people receiving services unless supervised by agency provider personnel.
- B. At a minimum, General Orientation must address the following areas:
1. Overview of the agency provider's mission and an overview of the agency provider's policies and procedures
  2. DMH Operational Standards (as applicable to services provided)
  3. DMH Record Guide and Record Keeping (as applicable to services provided)
  4. Basic First Aid
  5. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Certification (CPR) must be a live, face-to-face training which is conducted by a certified CPR instructor; must be certified by the American Red Cross, American Heart Association or by other agency providers approved by DMH. All employees who have contact with people receiving services must be initially certified and maintain certification as required by the certifying entity.
  6. Assistance with medication usage by non-licensed personnel (if applicable).
  7. Infection Control
    - (a) Universal Precautions
    - (b) Hand-washing
  8. Workplace Safety
    - (a) Fire and disaster training
    - (b) Emergency/disaster response
    - (c) Incident reporting
    - (d) Reporting of suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation (including signed acknowledgement of reporting responsibilities)
  9. Rights of People Receiving Services
  10. Confidentiality
  11. Family/Cultural Issues and Respecting Cultural Differences
  12. Basic standards of ethical and professional conduct
    - (a) Drug Free Workplace
    - (b) Sexual Harassment
    - (c) Acceptable professional organization/credentialing standards and guidelines as appropriate to discipline (e.g., *Principles of Ethical and Professional Conduct*, *ACA Code of Ethics*, *Social Work Code of Ethics*, *APA Code of Ethics*, or *NADSP Code of Ethics*)

13. Principles and procedures for behavior support.
14. In addition to the requirements of Rules 12.1.A and 12.1.B, all direct service personnel and therapeutic foster care/resource parents must be certified in CPR prior to contact with people receiving services and/or service delivery. CPR certification must be a live, face-to-face training which is conducted by a certified CPR instructor and must be certified by the American Red Cross, American Heart Association or by other agency providers approved by DMH. Employees must be initially certified and maintain certification as required by the certifying entity.

C. In addition to the requirements of Rules 12.1.A and 12.1.B, Opioid Treatment Programs must include the following in general orientation:

1. Overdose management and other emergency procedures;
2. Clinical and pharmacotherapy issues;
3. Special populations to include women and seniors;
4. Poly-drug addiction; and,
5. Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)/AIDS, Tuberculosis (TB), and other infectious diseases.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 12.2 Employee Training Plans**

A. Agency providers must develop an Employee Training Plan specific to each position classification as listed below. Each Employee Training Plan must be based on job responsibilities, service/position requirements, and identified employee needs. The Employee Training Plan must be reviewed annually for changes and/or updates. Documentation of annual reviews by the agency provider should be available for review by DMH personnel upon request. Position specific training must be provided within ninety (90) days of hire and consist of a minimum of twenty (20) hours of training (medical personnel excluded – i.e., psychiatrists, nurses, etc.). The following position classifications must be addressed:

1. Direct service providers (i.e., therapist, Community Support Specialist, service assistants, Support Coordinator, Targeted Case Manager, Transition Coordinator)
2. Administrative/support personnel (i.e., office manager, medical records technician, accounting personnel)

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 12.3 Continuing Education Plans**

A. Agency providers must develop an Annual Continuing Education Plan specific to each position classification as listed below. Each Continuing Education Plan should be based on

job responsibilities, credentialing requirements, and identified employee needs. The Continuing Education Plan must be reviewed annually for changes and/or updates and must be available for review by DMH personnel. The following position classifications and required minimum hours of continuing education must be addressed:

1. Employees who hold a DMH credential must adhere to the continuing education requirements of current DMH PLACE rules.
2. IDD direct service providers (i.e., direct support workers, Support Coordinators, Targeted Case Managers, And Transition Coordinators) who do not hold a license or DMH Credential, a minimum of fifteen (15) hours per year of continuing education is required.
3. Professionally licensed personnel (i.e., psychologists, social workers, etc.) must adhere to the continuing education requirements of their respective state licensing boards.
4. Administrative/support personnel (i.e., office manager, medical records technician, accounting personnel).
5. Medical personnel (i.e., psychiatrists, nurses) - as required by state licensing boards.
6. All employees must comply with their agency provider-specific training requirements.
7. Assistance with medication usage by non-licensed personnel (if applicable).

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 12.4 Required Components of Employees Training Plans and Continuing Education Plans**

- A. At a minimum, Employee Training Plans and Continuing Education Plans for direct service employees only must address the following areas:
  1. Crisis intervention and prevention concepts;
  2. Continued CPR certification for all employees who have contact with people receiving services (must be a live, face-to-face training which is conducted by a certified CPR instructor);
  3. Continued Basic First Aid for all employees who have contact with people receiving services;
  4. Person-Centered, Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (Mental Health Agency Providers and Substance Use Disorder Agency Providers);
  5. Person-Centered Planning (Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Agency Providers);
  6. Concepts of Wraparound Service Delivery (Children/ Youth Mental Health Agency Providers);
  7. Accurate gathering, documentation and reporting of data elements outlined in the current version of the DMH Manual of Uniform Data Standards for employees responsible for data collection and entry;
  8. Positive behavior support concepts (as applicable to the population being served); and,
  9. At least two (2) hours in the area of cultural competency and at least two (2) hours in the area of ethics.

- B. All employees are required to participate in orientations, service/position specific training, employee development opportunities, and other meetings as required by DMH for their position specification.
- C. Documentation of training that employees have received must be included in employee training and/or personnel records. This documentation can include certificates of completion for DMH approved on-line learning. If training is provided in person or through other means, the documentation must include:
  - 1. Name of training;
  - 2. Instructor's name and credentials;
  - 3. Date of training;
  - 4. Length of time spent in training; and,
  - 5. Topics covered.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 12.5 Skills and Competencies**

- A. For employees working with people receiving services, orientation, training and continuing education must focus on skills and competencies directed towards the intellectual, developmental, behavioral and health needs of the people being served.
- B. All employees who have contact with people receiving the following services must be trained and certified in a nationally recognized and DMH approved technique for managing aggressive or risk-to-self behaviors to include verbal and physical de-escalation (i.e., MANDT© or CPI), prior to contact with people receiving services and/or service delivery.
  - 1. All IDD Services
  - 2. Mobile Crisis Response
  - 3. Crisis Residential Units (both Adult and Children/Youth)
  - 4. Acute Partial Hospitalization
  - 5. Day Treatment Services
  - 6. Therapeutic Group Homes (TGH) for Children/Youth with SED
  - 7. Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team
  - 8. Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services
  - 9. Programs of Assertive Community Treatment
  - 10. Supervised Living for Serious Mental Illness
  - 11. Senior Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services
  - 12. Drop-In Center
  - 13. Primary Residential Treatment
  - 14. Transitional Residential Treatment

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*



## **Part 2: Chapter 13: Health and Safety**

### **Rule 13.1 Compliance**

All DMH-certified agency providers, regardless of type, must follow the rules and standards outlined in this chapter. Shared Supported Living, Supervised Living and Supported Living service locations that are not owned or controlled by a certified agency provider are exempt from some or all of the procedures and standards outlined in this part as noted. Additionally, Therapeutic Foster Care Services and Therapeutic Group Homes licensed by the MS Department of Child Protection Services, schools licensed by the MS Department of Education and nursing homes licensed by the MS State Department of Health are exempt from the rules outlined in this chapter.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 13.2 Local Fire, Health and Safety Codes**

- A. All service locations must meet state and local fire, health, and safety codes with documentation maintained at each site, as follows:
  1. Each service location must be inspected and approved by appropriate local and/or state fire, health and safety agencies at least annually (within the anniversary month of the last inspection), and there must be written records at each location of fire and health inspections. (Exclusion: Supported Living and Shared Supported Living service locations that are not owned or controlled by a certified agency provider and Host Homes.) MS State Department of Health inspections are not required for all service locations; only service locations outlined in Rule 13.2.A.10.
  2. Safety inspections conducted by reputable fire safety agencies are permissible only for community living service locations in lieu of local or state inspection(s). Documentation of these inspections must be maintained at the service location. (Exclusion: Supported Living and Shared Supported Living service locations that are not owned or controlled by a certified agency provider and Host Homes.)
  3. Documentation by appropriate fire and health authorities that noted citations have been corrected must be maintained at each location. (Exclusion: Supported Living and Shared Supported Living service locations that are not owned or controlled by a certified agency provider and Host Homes.)
  4. Service locations with an existing sprinkler system must have an annual inspection by a licensed company. This documentation must be maintained at the service location. (Exclusion: Supported Living and Shared Supported Living service locations that are not owned or controlled by a certified agency provider and Host Homes.)
  5. Each service location must have an established method of scheduled fire equipment inspection that includes: (Exclusion: Supported Living and Shared Supported Living

service location that are not owned or controlled by a certified agency provider and Host Homes.)

- (a) An annual inspection by an outside source (i.e., fire marshal, fire department representative, fire/safety company) that results in a dated tag on each fire extinguisher.
6. Each service location must provide operable 2A-10B, C multi-purpose fire extinguishers in fixed locations that are readily accessible for use in the facility/home and document that all fire extinguishers are properly maintained and serviced. Facilities/homes must have evidence that fire extinguishers are being recharged or replaced, as needed, but at a minimum every six (6) years. Fire extinguishers that cannot be recharged for whatever reason must be replaced immediately.
7. Each service location must have, at a minimum, operable fire extinguishers and alarms/detectors located throughout the location in all areas where conditions warrant (i.e., flammable storage areas, kitchens, laundry areas, garages, gas water heater locations) and must be mounted in a secure manner.
8. Each service location must have, at a minimum, operable carbon monoxide detectors located in any building where natural gas or any other source of carbon monoxide emission is used or where there is an open flame (e.g., gas heater, gas water heater, etc.). One (1) carbon monoxide detector must be located in every one thousand (1,000) square foot area or less.
9. Each service location must provide evidence and documentation of a systematic pest control program. This documentation must be maintained at each location. For apartment settings, the agency provider must show documentation that the apartment complex provides pest control. (Exclusion: Supported Living and Shared Supported Living service locations that are not owned or controlled by a certified agency provider and Host Homes.)
10. Crisis Residential Units and Primary Substance Use Rehabilitation and Treatment Services with certified capacities of sixteen (16) or more participants shall obtain a Food Service Permit from the MS State Department of Health.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 13.3 Exits**

- A. Diagrams of escape routes must be easy to read from a short distance and posted in highly visible locations throughout the environment, clearly indicating where a person is located in relation to the nearest exit(s). In lieu of posted escape routes, agency providers of Supervised Living, Supported Living, Shared Supported Living, and Host Home Services, must document training that prepares a person to exit the location in the event of an emergency. Training must take place upon admission and at least quarterly thereafter. This

documentation must be maintained at the service location. Every exit shall be clearly visible, or the route to reach every exit shall be conspicuously indicated. Each means of egress, in its entirety, shall be arranged or marked so that the way to a place of safety is indicated in a clear manner. (Exclusion: Supervised Living, Supported Living and Shared Supported Living service locations that are not owned or controlled by a certified agency provider and Host Homes.)

- B. Two (2) means of egress per service area must be provided which are readily accessible at all times, remote from each other, and so arranged and constructed to minimize any possibility that both may be blocked by fire or other emergency condition. (Exclusion: Supported Living and Shared Supported Living service locations that are not owned or controlled by a certified agency provider, and Host Homes.) A service area is defined as the total certified, usable square footage in a building in which a specific service is provided. (Exception: Any single room with an area greater than six hundred [600] square feet must have at least two [2] means of egress.)
- C. Exits must be marked by a lighted sign with lettering, at a minimum, six (6) inches in height on a contrasting background in plain lettering that is readily visible from any direction of exit access (Exclusion: Supervised Living, Shared Supported Living, Supported Living, and Host Homes). The signs must be lighted at all times. The illuminated lights must have battery backup in order to be readily visible in the event of electrical failure (facilities with backup generator systems are excluded from the battery backup requirement).
- D. Any accessible window(s) must be operable from the inside without the use of tools and must provide a clear opening of not fewer than twenty (20) inches in width and twenty-four (24) inches in height (Exclusion: Crisis Residential Units, Shared Supported Living, and Supported Living service locations that are not owned or controlled by a certified agency provider and Host Homes).
- E. No door in any path of exit, or the exit door itself, may be locked when the building is occupied unless an emergency system is in place that will allow the door to unlock in an emergency (Exclusion: Supporting Living, Supervised Living, Shared Supported Living, and Host Homes).
- F. Exterior doors identified/utilized as a means of egress shall not be permitted to have key-operated locks from the egress side.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 13.4 Safe and Sanitary Conditions**

- A. The interior and exterior of each service location must be maintained in a safe and sanitary manner. Furnishings must be kept clean, well-kept and in good repair.
- B. All service locations must have operable hot water. The water temperature in all water heaters in facilities providing services directly to people enrolled in DMH services must be

set at no higher than one hundred twenty (120) degrees Fahrenheit and no lower than one hundred (100) degrees Fahrenheit.

- C. Emergency lighting systems (appropriate to the setting) must be located in corridors and/or hallways and must provide the required illumination automatically in the event of any interruption of normal lighting such as failure of public utility or other outside power supply, opening of a circuit breaker or fuse, or any manual act which disrupts the power supply. (Exception: Supervised Living, Shared Supported Living and Supported Living service locations that are not owned or controlled by a certified agency provider, and Host Homes.) Supervised Living, Shared Supported Living, Supported Living and Host Homes must have alternative lighting such as battery operated flashlights, lanterns or generators.
- D. All DMH certified service locations must conduct a Safety Review of the premises on a monthly basis. A Safety Review Log must be completed and kept at the service location. Employees must date and initial when each item on the Safety Review Log has been checked. (Exception: Supervised Living, Supported Living, Shared Supported Living service locations that are not owned or controlled by a certified agency provider, and Host Homes.) The Safety Review Log must include:
  - 1. All fire extinguishers. Employees are to verify each extinguisher is properly charged and mounted. Each extinguisher must be listed separately by location in the facility. Fire extinguishers mounted in agency provider vehicles are to be included in the review.
  - 2. All fire/smoke detectors. Employees are to verify each detector is working properly by testing the audible signal. Each detector is to be listed separately by location in the facility.
  - 3. All carbon monoxide detectors (if applicable.) Employees are to verify each detector is working properly by testing the audible signal. Each detector is to be listed separately by location in the facility.
  - 4. Lighted exit signs. Employees are to verify each sign is working properly by interrupting the power supply to the sign. Each sign is to be listed separately by location in the facility. (Exception: All Supervised Living, Supported Living, Shared Supported Living service locations and Host Homes.)
  - 5. Hot water fixtures. Employees are to verify the hot water at each fixture in the facility measures between one hundred (100) degrees Fahrenheit and one hundred twenty (120) degrees Fahrenheit. Each fixture is to be listed separately by location in the facility and the temperature recorded at each fixture tested.
  - 6. Emergency lights. Employees are to verify each emergency light is working properly by interrupting the power supply to the light for at least thirty (30) seconds. Each emergency light is to be listed separately by location in the facility.

7. Safe and sanitary conditions. Employees are to verify the service location's environment is safe and sanitary through visual inspection.
- E. Any service location that has a kitchen used by people receiving services must be designed and equipped to facilitate preparing and serving meals in a clean and orderly fashion. At a minimum, the following equipment must be provided: (Exception: Supervised Living, Shared Supported Living and Supported Living service locations that are not owned or controlled by a certified agency provider, and Host Homes.)
    1. Two (2)-compartment sink or an automatic dishwasher and single sink (Except in single occupancy living situations, in which case a single compartment sink is acceptable);
    2. Adequate supply of dishes, cooking utensils, etc.;
    3. Adequate refrigeration facilities;
    4. Adequate space for the storage of food supplies (No food supplies may be stored on the floor.); and,
    5. Approved fire extinguishing equipment and alarms/smoke detectors placed strategically to allow detection of smoke/fire in the kitchen.
  - F. Restroom door locks must be designed to permit the opening of the locked door from the outside.
  - G. All supplies, including flammable liquids and other harmful materials, must be stored to provide for the safety of the people receiving services and the employees working in the service location.
  - H. Any service location that has a clothes dryer must ensure that the clothes dryer has an exterior ventilation system free from excessive lint and dust accumulation.
  - I. Each service location must provide floor space for the lounge/dining/visitation area(s) that is easily accessed/exited in case of emergency.
  - J. All service locations must have operational utilities (water/sewer, air conditioning/heat, electricity).
  - K. No stove or combustion heater may be so located as to block escape in case of fire arising from a malfunction of the stove or heater.
  - L. No portable heaters are allowed in service areas or bedrooms.
  - M. DMH may require additional square footage in any service location in order to accommodate the needs of the people in the service.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 13.5 Accessibility**

- A. All service locations and services must be in compliance with Section 504 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended*, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (P.L. 101-336).
- B. For Supervised Living, Supported Living, Shared Supported Living, and Host Homes, and based on the needs of the people served in each residence, the agency provider must make necessary modifications as outlined in Rules 13.5.B-I and 13.6. Services cannot be denied based on the need for modifications. (Exclusion: Supported Living service locations that are not owned or controlled by a certified agency provider).
- C. New construction of service locations or renovation of existing locations must be in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.
- D. The clear width of doorways when the door is in the full open position must not be fewer than thirty-two (32) inches.
- E. At least one (1) restroom at the location must be accessible to people with physical disabilities with either one (1) accessible restroom for each sex or one (1) accessible unisex restroom being acceptable. Additionally, day service locations serving people with intellectual/developmental disabilities must have adequate private changing facilities.
- F. The accessible restroom stall must have grab bars behind and beside the toilet. Additionally, a grab bar must be installed on the wall nearest the lavatory/sink if any person receiving services needs this accommodation.
- G. All faucets, soap and other dispensers, and hand dryers (if present) must be within reach of someone using a wheelchair and usable with one closed fist.
- H. All doors, including stall doors in the restroom, must be operable with a closed fist from the inside (Exclusion: Crisis Residential Units).
- I. Any service location that has drinking fountains must have at least one (1) fountain that is Americans with Disabilities Act accessible.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 13.6 Stairs**

- A. Doors opening onto stairs must have a landing, at a minimum, the width of the door.
- B. Minimum head room on stairs and ramps to clear all obstructions must be six feet and eight inches (6' 8").

- C. Stairs in the service locations, must have the following dimensions:
  - 1. Stair width must be at least thirty-two (32) inches;
  - 2. Minimum tread depth of each step of the stairs must be at least eleven (11) inches; and,
  - 3. Maximum height of risers in each step must not exceed seven (7) inches.
- D. Guards and handrails must be provided on both sides of all stairs and ramps rising more than thirty (30) inches above the floor or grade.
  - 1. Guards and handrails must continue for the full length of the ramp or stairs.
  - 2. Handrails must provide at least one and one-half (1.5) inches between the inner side of the rail and support wall.
  - 3. Handrails must be located between thirty-four (34) inches to thirty-eight (38) inches above the tread of the step or ramp surfaces.
- E. Steps, ramps, platforms and landing(s) associated with them must be:
  - 1. Designed for at least one hundred (100) pounds per square foot; and,
  - 2. Have a slip-resistant surface.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 13.7 Transportation of People Receiving Services**

The interior and exterior of each vehicle must be maintained in a safe and sanitary manner. Vehicles must be kept clean, well-kept and in good repair. Agency providers providing transportation in agency provider vehicles to people receiving services must meet the following criteria:

- A. All vehicles and drivers must comply with the applicable laws of Mississippi regarding motor vehicle operation, licensure, maintenance, and be kept in good repair.
- B. When transporting people receiving services, the following employee to person ratios apply only for the stated populations below:
  - 1. When transporting children age zero to six (0-6) years, the employee ratio in addition to the driver must be one (1) employee to five (5) children and one (1) employee to three (3) children when more than three (3) are infants or toddlers (0-24 months).
  - 2. When transporting people with intellectual/developmental disabilities, there must be adequate personnel to meet the needs of people being transported.
- C. The vehicle must have a securely mounted/fixed fire extinguisher with proof of annual inspection, flares or reflectors, a flashlight, and first aid kit which contains the following: gloves, adhesive bandages, gauze, first aid tape, sterile pads, antiseptic wipes, and a first aid booklet. All items must be current.

- D. All vehicles must have liability insurance unless otherwise authorized by state law. Proof of insurance must be kept in the vehicle.
- E. All vehicles must be equipped with a secure, operable seat belt for each passenger transported. Children must be seated in approved safety seats with proper restraint in accordance with state law.
- F. Agency providers that provide transportation must have policies and procedures in place to protect the safety and well-being of people being transported. Policies and procedures must address, at a minimum:
  - 1. Accessibility based on the person's needs and reasonable requests.
  - 2. Accounting of people entering and exiting the agency provider/service vehicle. This must be made available for review.
  - 3. Availability of communication devices (i.e., cell phones, two (2)-way radios, etc.)
  - 4. Availability of a vehicle maintenance log for all vehicles used to provide transportation.
  - 5. Course of action when employees are unable to leave people at home or an alternate service location as specified by family/legal representative that ensures the safety of people at all times.
  - 6. Availability of additional employees to assist with transportation if the needs of the people being transported warrant additional employee assistance.
- G. For IDD Services, transportation provided in private vehicles must adhere to Rule 13.7.F with the exclusion of Rule 13.7.F.2 accounting of people entering and exiting vehicle and Rule 13.7.F.4 in regard to maintenance log.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 13.8 Medication and First Aid Kits**

- A. Agency providers must have written policies and procedures and documentation of their implementation pertaining to medication control which assures that:
  - 1. The administration of all prescription drugs and/or other medical procedures must be directed and supervised by a licensed physician or a licensed nurse in accordance with the MS Nursing Practice Law and Rules and Regulations.
  - 2. All medications must be clearly labeled. Labeling of prescription medications must also include the name of the person for whom it was prescribed.
  - 3. Medication prescribed for a specific person must be discarded when no longer used by said person and according to a written procedure to do so.



4. Adequate space is provided for storage of drugs that is well lighted and kept securely locked. (Exception: Supported Living service locations not owned or controlled by an agency provider).
  5. Medication stored in a refrigerator which contains items other than drugs will be kept in a separate locked compartment or container with proper labeling. (Exception: Supported Living service locations not owned or controlled by an agency provider).
  6. Drugs for external and internal use will be stored in separate cabinets or on separate shelves which are plainly labeled according to such use. (Exception: Supported Living service locations not owned or controlled by an agency provider).
  7. Prescription drugs will be stored in a separate cabinet or compartment utilized only for that purpose. Prescription drugs must not be stored with nonprescription drugs. All drugs must be stored in a location utilized only for storage of prescription and nonprescription drugs. (Exception: Supported Living service locations not owned or controlled by an agency provider).
  8. Transportation and delivery of medications must follow any rules, regulations, guidelines, and statutes set forth by governing bodies authorized to do such.
  9. Practices for the self-administration of medication by people served in a service location are developed with consultation of the medical personnel of the agency provider or the person's treating medical provider(s).
- B. Each service location must have a first aid kit. The kit must contain gloves, adhesive bandages, gauze, first aid tape, sterile pads, antiseptic wipes, and a first aid booklet. For buildings housing more than one service, a single first aid kit may be used by all services, if readily/easily accessible for all people in the building. All items must be current.
- C. In addition to Rules 13.8.A-B, ID/DD agency providers must have written policies and procedures and documentation of their implementation pertaining to medication with the following guidelines:
1. Assistance with medication usage by non-licensed personnel  
The following procedures are considered assisting a person with their medications and do not require a nurse to perform:
    - (a) Opening a dose packet of pills that is packaged by the pharmacy
    - (b) Opening a pill bottle labeled for the person and pulling a medication out for the person to take
    - (c) Assisting the person in putting medications in his/her mouth
    - (d) Documenting that the person took the medication(s)
    - (e) Crushing a medication that can be crushed (with the order from the prescriber stating that this can be done)

- (f) Putting medication in food or drink (e.g., applesauce, pudding) and giving that mixture to a person to take orally (with the order from the prescriber stating that this can be done)
- (g) Applying a topical cream
- (h) Applying an eye drop
- (i) Applying an ear drop
- (j) Applying a nasal mist
- (k) Applying a non-narcotic skin patch (e.g., clonidine, estrogen)
- (l) Giving a routinely ordered unit dose nebulizer treatment (e.g., Albuterol, atrovent)
- (m) Assisting a person to use a routinely ordered metered dose inhaler (for asthma or Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease)
- (n) Placing rectal suppository that is routinely ordered
- (o) Taking vital signs

In order for a non-licensed person to assist with medication usage, there must be no clinical decision making needed. Clinical decision making is required to determine if a person should be given a PRN or “as needed” medication and therefore requires a licensed nurse.

2. The administration of all prescription drugs and/or other medical procedures other than listed in Rule 13.8.A.1 must be directed and supervised by a licensed physician or a licensed nurse in accordance with the MS Nursing Practice Law and Rules and Regulations. This includes but is not limited to the following: (See Rules 12.1.B.6 and 12.3.A.7 for training requirement)
  - (a) Administering medication in a PEG tube
  - (b) Administering insulin via a subcutaneous injection
  - (c) Administering an over the counter medication that is “as needed” (PRN) (e.g., Tylenol for complaint of a headache)
  - (d) Administering an “as needed” prescribed medication

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 13.9 Disaster Preparedness and Response**

- A. An Emergency/Disaster Response Plan must be developed and maintained for each location. Information may be similar to other locations, but specific location information is required. A Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) must be developed for each agency provider and a copy maintained at each location.
- B. Agency providers must develop and maintain an Emergency/Disaster Response Plan for each facility/service location that is specific to each certified service location, approved by the governing body, for responding to natural disasters and manmade disasters (fires, bomb threats, utility failures and other threatening situations, such as workplace violence). The

plan should identify which events are most likely to affect the facility/service location. This plan must address at a minimum:

1. Lines of authority and Incident Command;
2. Identification of a Disaster Coordinator;
3. Notification and plan activation;
4. Coordination of planning and response activities with local and state emergency management authorities;
5. Assurances that employees will be available to respond during an emergency/disaster;
6. Communication with people receiving services, employees, governing authorities, and accrediting and/or licensing entities;
7. Accounting for all people involved (employees and people receiving services);
8. Conditions for evacuation;
9. Procedures for evacuation;
10. Conditions for agency provider closure;
11. Procedures for agency provider closure;
12. Schedules of drills for the plan;
13. The location of all fire extinguishing equipment, carbon monoxide detectors (if gas or any other means of carbon monoxide emission is used in facility) and alarms/smoke detectors;
14. The identified or established method of annual fire equipment inspection;
15. Escape routes and procedures that are specific to location/site and the type of disaster(s) for which they apply; and,
16. Procedures for post event conditions (i.e., loss of power, telephone service, ability to communicate).

C. Agency providers must develop and maintain a Continuity of Operations Plan, approved by the governing body, for responding to natural disasters, manmade disasters, fires, bomb threats, utility failures and other threatening situations, such as workplace violence. This plan must address at a minimum:

1. Identification of agency provider's essential functions in the event of emergency/disaster;
2. Identification of necessary staffing to carry out essential functions;
3. Delegations of authority;
4. Alternate work sites in the event of location/site closure;
5. Identification of vital records and their locations; and,
6. Identification of systems to maintain security of and access to vital records.

D. Copies of the Emergency/Disaster Response Plan and the Continuity of Operations Plan must be maintained on-site for each facility/service location and at the agency provider's administrative offices.

E. All agency providers must document implementation of the written plans for emergency/disaster response that are specific to that location/site and continuity of operations. This documentation of implementation must include, but is not limited to the

following: (Exception: Supported Living and Shared Supported Living that are not owned or controlled by a certified agency provider, and Host Homes.)

1. Quarterly fire drills for each facility and service location.
  2. Monthly fire drills for Supervised Living and/or Residential Treatment service locations, conducted on a rotating schedule per shift.
  3. Quarterly disaster drills, rotating the nature of the event for the drill based on the Emergency/Disaster Plan, for each facility and service location.
  4. Annual drill of Continuity of Operations Plan for the agency provider with documentation maintained at the main office.
- F. All Supervised Living, residential treatment service locations, and/or Crisis Residential Units must maintain current emergency/disaster preparedness kits to support people receiving services and employees for a minimum of seventy-two (72) hours post-event. At a minimum, these supplies must be kept in one (1) place and include the following:
1. Non-perishable foods;
  2. Manual can opener;
  3. Water (one [1] gallon per person per day);
  4. Flashlights and batteries;
  5. Plastic sheeting and duct tape;
  6. Battery powered AM/FM radio; and,
  7. Personal hygiene items.
- G. All Supervised Living, residential treatment service locations, and/or Crisis Residential Units must have policies and procedures that can be implemented in the event of an emergency that ensure medication, prescription and nonprescription, based on the needs of the people in the service and guidance of appropriate medical personnel are available for up to seventy-two (72) hours post-event.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Part 2: Chapter 14: Rights of People Receiving Services**

### **Rule 14.1 Rights of People Receiving Services**

- A. There must be written and implemented policies and procedures and written documentation in the person's record that each person receiving services and/or parent(s)/legal representative(s) is informed of his/her rights while receiving services, at intake and at least annually thereafter if he/she continues to receive services. These rights are applicable to all people receiving services except for people that have been civilly committed or people who are confined to a correctional facility. The person receiving services and/or parent(s)/legal representative(s) must also be given a written copy of these rights, which at a minimum, must include:
1. The services available regardless of cultural barriers and limited English proficiency;
  2. The right to access services that support a person to live, work and participate in the community to the fullest extent of the person's capability;
  3. The right to services and choices, along with service rules and regulations, that support recovery/resiliency and person-centered services and supports;
  4. The right to be referred to other agency provider services and supports in the event the agency provider is unequipped or unable to serve the person;
  5. The right to refuse treatment/services;
  6. The right to ethical treatment including but not limited to the following:
    - (a) The right not to be subjected to corporal punishment
    - (b) The right to be free from all forms of abuse or harassment
    - (c) The right to be free from restraints of any form that are not medically necessary or that are used as a means of coercion, discipline, convenience or retaliation by employees
    - (d) The right to considerate, respectful treatment from all employees and volunteers of the agency provider.
  7. The right to voice opinions, recommendations, and to file a written grievance which will result in agency provider review and response without retribution;
  8. The right to personal privacy, including privacy with respect to visitors in day services and community living service locations as much as physically possible;
  9. The right to not be discriminated against based on HIV or AIDS status;
  10. The right to have reasonable access to the clergy and advocates and access to legal counsel at all times;
  11. The right of the person being served to review his/her records, except as restricted by law;
  12. The right to participate in and receive a copy of the individual plan (as defined in Rule 17.1) including, but not limited to, the following:
    - (a) The right to make informed decisions regarding his/her care and services, including being informed of his/her health status (when applicable), being involved in care/service planning and treatment and being able to request or refuse treatment/service(s). This right must not be construed as a mechanism to demand the provision of treatment or services deemed medically unnecessary or inappropriate.

- (b) The right to access information contained in his/her record within a reasonable time frame. (A reasonable time frame is within five [5] days; if it takes longer, the reason for the delay must be communicated). The agency provider must not frustrate the legitimate efforts of people being served to gain access to their own records and must actively seek to meet these requests as quickly as its record keeping system permits. MCA 41-21-102 (7) does allow for restriction to access people's records in certain circumstances where it is medically contraindicated.
  - (c) The right to be informed of any hazardous side effects of medication prescribed by medical personnel.
- 13. The ability to retain all Constitutional rights, except as restricted by due process and resulting court order;
  - 14. The right to have a family member/representative of his/her choice notified promptly (within no more than four [4] hours) of his/her admission to a hospital;
  - 15. The right to receive care in a safe setting and in an environment that promotes recovery;
  - 16. The right to involve or not involve family and/or others is recognized and respected;
  - 17. The right to engage in planning, development, delivery and the evaluation of the services a person is receiving;
  - 18. The right to have visitors of his/her choosing at any time, to the greatest extent possible. Visitation rights cannot be withheld as punishment or in any other manner that unreasonably infringes on the person's stated rights;
  - 19. The right to daily private communication (phone, mail, email, etc.) without hindrance; unless clinically contraindicated; and,
  - 20. The right to information about individual rights in a manner that is understandable to people receiving services who have challenges with vision, hearing, or cognition.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 14.2 Employees Roles in Protecting Rights of People Receiving Services**

- A. The agency provider must define each employee's responsibility in maintaining a person's rights, as well as the ability to explain these rights to the person receiving services or their family member(s)/legal representative(s) in a manner that is clearly understood.
- B. The agency provider's policies and procedures must be written in such a way that employee roles in maintaining or explaining these rights are clearly defined.
- C. The policies and procedures must also clearly explain how the agency provider will train employees to develop and retain the skills needed to uphold this role. This includes specific training regarding each right and how to explain it in a manner that is understandable to the person and/or family member(s)/legal representative(s). Training must focus on the population being served, but can include other related areas for broadened understanding.
- D. A person receiving services cannot be required to do work which would otherwise require payment to agency provider employees or contractual employees. For work done, wages must be in accordance with local, state, and federal requirements (such as the provision of

Peer Support Services by a Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional) or the agency provider must have a policy that the people do not work for the agency provider.

- E. A record of any person for whom the agency provider is the legal representative or a representative payee must be on file with supporting documentation.
- F. For agency providers serving as conservator or representative payee, the following action must be taken for each person:
  - 1. A record of sums of money received for/from each person and all expenditures of such money must be kept up-to-date and available for inspection by DMH personnel; and,
  - 2. The person and/or his/her legal representative(s) must be furnished a receipt, signed by the lawful agent(s) of the agency provider, for all sums of money received and expended at least quarterly or more often if requested.
- G. When planning and implementing services that offer people the opportunity for community participation, agency providers shall recognize that:
  - 1. People retain the right to assume informed risk. The assumption of risk is required to consider and balance the person's ability to assume responsibility for that risk and a reasonable assurance of health and safety;
  - 2. People make choices during the course of the day about their everyday life, including daily routines and schedules;
  - 3. People have the opportunity to develop self-advocacy skills including but not limited to registering to vote; and,
  - 4. People must be afforded the same access to the community as people who do not have a mental illness, intellectual/ developmental disability or substance use disorder.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 14.3 Ethical Conduct**

- A. In addition to complying with ethical standards set forth by any relevant licensing or professional organizations, the governing authority and all employees and volunteers (regardless of whether they hold a professional license) must adhere to the highest ethical and moral conduct in their interactions with the people and family members they serve, as well as in their use of agency provider funds and grants.
- B. Breaches of ethical or moral conduct toward people, their families, or other vulnerable people, include but are not limited to, the following situations from which an agency provider is prohibited from engaging:
  - 1. Borrowing money or property;
  - 2. Accepting gifts of monetary value;
  - 3. Sexual (or other inappropriate) contact;

4. Entering into business transactions or arrangement, (an exception can be made by the Executive Director of the certified agency provider. The Executive Director of the certified agency provider is responsible for ensuring that there are no ethical concerns associated with the hiring and supervision practices);
5. Physical, mental or emotional abuse;
6. Theft, embezzlement, fraud, or other actions involving deception or deceit, or the commission of acts constituting a violation of laws regarding vulnerable adults, violent crimes or moral turpitude, whether or not the employee or volunteer is criminally prosecuted and whether or not directed at people or the people's families;
7. Exploitation;
8. Failure to maintain proper professional and emotional boundaries;
9. Aiding, encouraging or inciting the performance of illegal or immoral acts;
10. Making reasonable treatment-related needs of the people secondary or subservient to the needs of the employee or volunteer;
11. Failure to report knowledge of unethical or immoral conduct or giving false statements during inquiries to such conduct;
12. Action or inaction, which indicates a clear failure to act in an ethical, moral, legal, and professional manner;
13. Breach of and/or misuse of confidential information; and,
14. Failure to report suspected or confirmed abuse, neglect or exploitation of a person receiving services in accordance with state reporting laws to include (but not limited to) the Vulnerable Persons Act and Child Abuse or Neglect Reporting requirements.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*.

#### **Rule 14.4 Limited English Proficiency Services and Cultural Competency**

- A. Language assistance services, including bilingual employees and interpreter services, must be offered at no cost to people with limited English proficiency. These services must be offered at all points of contact with the person while he/she is receiving services. A detailed description of when and how these services will be provided must be clearly explained in the agency provider's policies and procedures.
- B. All agency providers must develop and implement policies and procedures that address Culturally and Linguistically Appropriately Services (CLAS) federal guidelines developed by the Office of Minority Health (OMH), which is part of the US Department of Health and Human Services in order to improve access to care for limited English proficient people through the elimination of language and cultural barriers. All policies and procedures must include:
  1. The process for offering language assistance to people who have limited English proficiency and/or other communication needs, at no cost to them, to facilitate timely access to all services.
  2. How the agency provider informs people of the availability of language assistance services clearly and in their preferred language, verbally and in writing.



3. Ensure the competence of people providing language assistance, recognizing that the use of untrained people and/or minors as interpreters should be avoided.
  4. Provide easy-to-understand print and multimedia materials and signage in the languages commonly used by the population in the service area.
- C. Cultural competence describes the ability of an agency provider to provide services to people with diverse values, beliefs, and behaviors, including tailoring service delivery to meet the person's social, cultural and linguistic needs. Policies and procedures manuals must reflect the agency provider's efforts to integrate values, attitudes and beliefs of the people served into the services provided.
- D. Services and plan development must reflect cultural considerations of the person and be conducted by providing information in a plain language and in a manner that is accessible to people who have limited English proficiency.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 14.5 Local Grievance Policies and Procedures**

- A. There must be written policies and procedures for implementation of a process through which people's grievances can be reported and addressed at the local service location/center level. These policies and procedures, minimally, must ensure the following:
1. People receiving services from the agency provider have access to a fair and impartial process for reporting and resolving grievances;
  2. People are informed and provided a copy of the local procedure for filing a grievance with the agency provider and of the procedure and timelines for resolution of grievances upon admission and annually thereafter;
  3. People receiving services and/or parent(s)/legal representative(s) are informed of the procedures for reporting/filing a grievance with DMH, including the availability of the toll-free telephone number upon admission and annually thereafter;
  4. People receiving services and/or parent(s)/legal representative(s) are informed of the procedures for reporting suspicions of abuse, exploitation or neglect in accordance with state reporting laws to include (but not limited) to the Vulnerable Persons Act and Child Abuse or Neglect Reporting requirements upon admission and annually thereafter; and,
  5. The agency provider will post in a prominent public area the DMH Office of Consumer Support informational poster containing procedures for filing a grievance with DMH. The information provided by DMH Office of Consumer Support must be posted at each service location.
- B. The policies and procedures for resolution of grievances at the agency provider level, minimally, must include:
1. Definition of grievances: a written or verbal statement made by a person receiving services alleging a violation of rights or policy;

2. Statement that grievances can be expressed without retribution;
  3. The opportunity to appeal to the executive officer of the agency provider, as well as the governing board of the agency provider;
  4. Timelines for resolution of grievances; and,
  5. The toll-free number for filing a grievance with the DMH Office of Consumer Support.
- C. There must be written documentation in the person's record that each person and/or parent(s)/legal representative(s) is informed of and given a copy of the procedures for reporting/filing a grievance described above, upon admission and annually thereafter if he/she continues to receive services from the agency provider.
- D. The policies and procedures must also include a statement that the DMH-certified agency provider will comply with timelines issued by DMH Office of Consumer Support in resolving grievances initially filed with DMH.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 14.6 Use of Restraints**

- A. All agency providers are prohibited from the use of mechanical restraints, chemical restraints, physical restraints, and time-out.
- B. Agency providers are prohibited from the use of seclusion except for certified Crisis Residential Services. (See Rules 19.6.P–R) Seclusion means a behavior control technique involving locked isolation.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 14.7 Search and Seizure**

- A. Agency providers must develop policies and procedures regarding the search of the person's room, person and/or possessions (Exception: Unannounced searches may not be conducted in Supported Living, Shared Supported Living and Host Home settings unless there is reason to believe that a crime has been committed), to include but not limited to:
1. Circumstances in which a search may occur;
  2. Employees designated to authorize searches;
  3. Documentation of searches; and,
  4. Consequences of discovery of prohibited items.
- B. Policy regarding screening for prohibited/illegal substances (Exception: Employees may not screen for prohibited/illegal substances in Supported Living, Shared Supported Living and Host Home settings unless there is reason to believe that a crime has been committed;

in which case, law enforcement should be contacted immediately), to include but not limited to:

1. Circumstances in which screens may occur;
2. Employees designated to authorize screening;
3. Documentation of screening;
4. Consequences of positive screening of prohibited substances;
5. Consequences of refusing to submit to a screening; and,
6. Process for people to report confidentially the use of prohibited substances prior to being screened.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## Part 2: Chapter 15: Incident Reporting

### **Rule 15.1 Incident Reporting Process**

- A. Providers must report incidents in a system designated by DMH, according to the process outlined by DMH.
- B. Reporting to DMH does not replace other legally mandated reporting.
- C. Incidents must be reported to the DMH Office of Incident Management within required timelines (see below). Additional information may be requested based on the circumstances. The report must address initial information known about the incident to include, but not limited to:
  - 1. Name of Agency Provider;
  - 2. Date;
  - 3. Time;
  - 4. Physical location;
  - 5. Who was involved;
  - 6. What led to the incident;
  - 7. A description of the incident;
  - 8. Consequences of incident;
  - 9. Witnesses; and,
  - 10. Notifications.
- D. For IDD Home and Community-Based Services, incidents must be reported to Support Coordination or Targeted Case Management.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 15.2 Incidents to Report to DMH Within Eight (8) Hours of Discovery or Notification of Incident**

- A. Incidents that must be reported to the DMH Office of Incident Management within eight (8) hours of discovery or notification of the incident include:
  - 1. Death of a person on agency provider property, participating in an agency provider-sponsored event, being served through a certified community living service, Crisis Residential Unit, Primary Residential Treatment, and Transitional Residential Treatment;
  - 2. Death of a person receiving IDD Services;
  - 3. Unexplained absences from any of the previously mentioned services or Alzheimer's Day Services locations; and,

4. Suspicions of abuse, neglect or exploitation of a person receiving services while on agency provider property, at an agency provider-sponsored event, or being transported by a DMH-certified agency provider.
- B. Verbal notification of the above listed incidents must be made to the Office of Incident Management within eight (8) hours to be followed by the Incident Report within twenty-four (24) hours as outlined in Rule 15.1.C. Reporting to DMH does not replace other legally mandated reporting.
- C. For IDD Home and Community-Based Services, incidents must be reported to Support Coordination or Targeted Case Management.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 15.3 Incidents to Report to DMH Within Twenty-Four (24) Hours of Incident**

- A. The following are examples (not an exhaustive list) of types of incidents that must be reported to the DMH Office of Incident Management and other appropriate authorities within twenty-four (24) hours, as specified below:
  1. Suicide attempts on agency provider property, at an agency provider-sponsored event, or by a person being served through a community living service;
  2. Unexplained or unanticipated absence of a person receiving services of any length of time from any DMH-certified service location of any type;
  3. Incidents involving injury of a person receiving services while on agency provider property, at an agency provider-sponsored event, or being transported by a DMH-certified agency provider;
  4. Emergency hospitalization or emergency treatment of a person receiving services;
  5. Accidents which require hospitalization that may be related to abuse, neglect or exploitation, or in which the cause is unknown or unusual;
  6. Disasters, such as fires, floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, blizzards, etc.;
  7. Any type of mandatory evacuation by local authorities that affects the service location/facility; and,
  8. Use of seclusion or restraint that was not part of a person's treatment Behavior Management Plan or that was planned but not implemented properly, or resulted in discomfort or injury for the person.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 15.4 Policies and Procedures for Incident Reporting**

The agency provider must have written and implemented policies and procedures in place regarding incidents that include:

- A. Description of what constitutes an incident;
- B. Prevention of incidents;
- C. Remedial actions;
- D. Reporting of incidents;
- E. Documentation of incidents;
- F. Training and documentation that employees have received, and acknowledged, information on required reporting of abuse, neglect and/or exploitation of a vulnerable person;
- G. Maintenance of documentation related to incidents;
- H. Assurance of cooperation with DMH for follow-up to incidents;
- I. Analysis of all incidents; and,
- J. Employees responsible for analysis of incidents.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 15.5 Written Analyses of All Reportable Incidents**

- A. The governing authority or a committee designated by the governing authority must review all incidents and conduct a written analysis of all incidents at least quarterly. Written analysis must be made available to DMH for review upon request.
- B. If a committee is designated by the governing authority, that committee must include representatives of multiple disciplines and positions within the agency. For example, medical personnel, administrative personnel, human resources, clinical personnel, etc.
- C. The written analysis must address the following:
  - 1. A determination of the cause of each incident;
  - 2. Identification of any trends in incidents; and,
  - 3. Remedial actions to be taken to prevent similar future events.
- D. Remedial actions must be communicated to employees affected by the required actions.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## Part 2: Chapter 16: Service Organization

### **Rule 16.1 Determinations of Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED), Serious Mental Illness (SMI), and/or Intellectual/Developmental Disability (IDD)**

- A. All of the following information must be documented to support a determination of serious emotional disturbance:
  - 1. Child/youth has at least one (1) of the eligible diagnosable mental disorders defined in the most current version of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM).
  - 2. Child/youth with serious emotional disturbance are birth up to twenty-one (21) years.
  - 3. The identified disorder must have resulted in functional impairment in basic living skills, instrumental living skills, or social skills, as indicated by an assessment instrument/approach approved by DMH.
- B. All of the following information must be documented to support a determination of serious mental illness and/or substance use disorder:
  - 1. A person who meets the criteria for one (1) of the eligible diagnostic categories defined in the most current version of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.
  - 2. Adults with serious mental illness and/or substance use disorders are age eighteen (18) and over.
  - 3. The identified disorder must have resulted in functional impairment in basic living skills, instrumental skills or social skills, as indicated by an assessment instrument/approach approved by DMH.
- C. All of the following must be documented to determine eligibility and support admission to IDD services:
  - 1. All people interested in IDD Services must first be determined eligible through an evaluation by the Diagnostic and Evaluation Team at one of the State's ICF/IID Regional Programs.
  - 2. For ID/DD Waiver Services, the person:
    - (a) Meets the criteria for the level of care found in an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities (ICF/IID);
    - (b) Has an intellectual disability, developmental disability, and/or Autism Spectrum Disorder as defined in the approved waiver application; and,
    - (c) Is eligible for Medicaid through one (1) of the categories specified in the federally approved ID/DD Waiver application.
  - 3. For IDD Community Support Program (CSP), the person:
    - (a) Has an intellectual disability, developmental disability, and/or Autism Spectrum Disorder
    - (b) Meets the Needs-Based Criteria established in the 1915(i) Medicaid State Plan Amendment and

- (c) Is eligible for Full Medicaid Benefits and
  - (d) Is eighteen (18) years of age or older and no longer attends school; and/or,
  - (e) Eligibility for IDD Targeted Case Management is the same as IDD Community Support Program but may be provided to people of all ages.
4. Other IDD Services: Meets the requirements for a Certificate of Developmental Disability as defined in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance Act.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 16.2 Admission to Services**

- A. Written policies and procedures must address admission to services and must at a minimum:
1. Describe the process for admission and readmission to service(s).
  2. Define the criteria for admission or readmission to service(s), including:
    - (a) Description of the population to be served (age[s], eligibility criteria, any special populations, etc.);
    - (b) Process for determination of appropriateness of services to address the needs of the person seeking services;
    - (c) Number of people to be served (agency providers of community living services only);
    - (d) Expected results/outcomes; and,
    - (e) Methodology for evaluating expected results/outcomes.
  3. Assure equal access to treatment and services and non-discrimination based on ability to pay, race, sex, age, creed, national origin, or disability for people who meet eligibility criteria.
  4. Describe the process or requirements for intake/initial assessment, including the process for requesting appropriate consent to obtain relevant records of people receiving services from other agency providers.
  5. Describe the procedure for people who are ordered into behavioral healthcare treatment by the court system.
  6. Describe written materials provided to people upon admission, including materials that may be included in an orientation packet, etc.
  7. Describe the process for informing people, children/youth (if age appropriate) and children/youth's parent(s)/legal representative(s) of their rights and responsibilities (including any applicable service rules) prior to or at the time of admission.

8. Describe the process to be followed when admission or readmission to service(s) offered by the agency provider is not appropriate for the person, including referral to other agency providers and follow-up, as appropriate. Such referral(s) and follow-up contacts must be documented.
  9. Describe procedures for maintaining and addressing a waiting list for admission or readmission to service(s) available by the agency provider.
  10. Assure equal access to treatment and services for HIV-positive people who are otherwise eligible.
  11. Describe procedures for providing a schedule to people and their families for each service and/or service location that includes the hours of daily operation, number of days per year the service/ service location is available, and the scheduled dates of closure/unavailability and reasons.
  12. Describe procedures for disbursing funds on behalf of people receiving services.
- B. The agency provider must implement written policies and procedures for providing appointments for people being discharged from inpatient care that:
1. Provide a phone number where contact can be made to arrange for an appointment; and,
  2. Assure the person requesting services only has to make one (1) call to arrange an appointment.
- C. The requirements for admission of people under ID/DD Waiver or IDD Community Support Program include the following:
1. Support Coordination/Targeted Case Management/Transition Coordination meets with the person and his/her legal representative(s) to offer choice of services and agency providers.
  2. The Support Coordinator/Targeted Case Manager/Transition Coordination contacts the IDD agency provider to determine if the agency provider has the capacity to enroll the person. An agency provider cannot refuse to admit a person solely on the basis of his/her support needs.
  3. A Plan of Services and Supports is developed (See Rule 17.2.C).
  4. Once the Division of Medicaid makes the overall decision of eligibility, the Support Coordinator/Targeted Case Manager sends the IDD agency provider a Service Authorization and other documentation as required by the DMH Record Guide.
  5. The IDD agency provider admits the person according to its written policies and procedures (Rule 16.2.A).

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 16.3 Discharge and Termination**

- A. Discharge and termination are two (2) unique terms and actions.
- B. Termination is the action utilized and documented to discontinue a service and/or service location within a DMH-certified agency provider. For people receiving ID/DD Waiver or IDD Community Support Program, the Support Coordinator/Targeted Case Manager will send a Service Authorization with termination date.
- C. Discharge is the action utilized and documented to signify that a person is no longer receiving services through that particular DMH-certified agency provider.
- D. All agency providers must implement policies and procedures for discharge or termination from the service/agency provider which must, at a minimum, address the following:
  - 1. Reason(s) for discharge\termination;
  - 2. Assessment of progress toward objectives contained in the individual plan;
  - 3. Discharge instructions given to the person who received services or his/her authorized representative, parent(s)/legal representative(s), including referrals made; and,
  - 4. Any other information deemed appropriate to address the needs of the person being discharged from the service/agency provider.
- E. In addition to Rule 16.3.D, all agency providers of community living services for children/youth in the custody of MS Department of Child Protection Services must adhere to the following regarding discharge:
  - 1. The MS Department of Child Protection Services' social worker from the county of residence of the child/youth is provided the opportunity to be involved in the discharge/placement plans if the child/youth is in the custody of MS Department of Child Protection Services.
  - 2. Children/youth in the custody of the MS Department of Child Protection Services are provided an opportunity for one (1) pre-placement visit by their MS Department of Child Protection Services' social worker prior to discharge.
  - 3. Documentation that an appointment has been scheduled with the Community Mental Health Center responsible for services in the county where the child/youth will reside upon discharge.
- F. People living in community settings cannot be discharged or terminated from the service in a manner that is not in full compliance with the terms of the signed lease/rental/residential fee agreement. In addition, the community living service provider must ensure that alternative living arrangements are made that are appropriate for the person. Those arrangements should be designed to mitigate the likelihood that the person will be homeless as a result of being discharged or terminated from the community living service.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 16.4 Service Location Postings**

- A. Service rules (if applicable) for any service/service location must be posted in a location highly visible to the people served and/or made readily available to those people.  
(Exception: IDD Services.)
- B. IDD Services must use person-centered practices and not impede on rights of people based on blanket rules. Policies and procedures should be readily available to the people being supported.
- C. For day service locations of all types, emergency contact number(s) posted in a conspicuous location. Service postings in community living settings should not conflict with the efforts to provide a home-like environment for the people living in the setting.
- D. For day service locations of all types, community living services of all types, and Crisis Residential Units, the following contact information should be kept securely at the service location and available to all employees:
  - 1. Family member(s)/legal representative(s) or other contacts (if appropriate and consent is on file)
  - 2. Targeted Case Manager, Community Support Specialist, Therapist, and/or Support Coordinator for people (if applicable).

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 16.5 Service and Service Location Design**

- A. Activities must be designed to address objectives/outcomes in the individual plan directing treatment/support for the person. At a minimum, individual plan objectives/outcomes must reflect individual strengths, needs, preferences and behavioral issues of people and/or family member(s)/legal representative(s) (as appropriate) served by the service location or through the service as reflected by intake/assessments and/or progress notes.
- B. Services and service locations must be designed to provide a Person-Centered and/or Recovery Oriented system of services with a framework of supports that are self-directed, individualized, culturally responsive, trauma informed, holistic, strength-based, and that provide for community participation opportunities. Services should be measurable and individualized for each person receiving services.
- C. IDD Services must be designed to provide Person-Centered Practices that support individual rights and provide opportunity for inclusion in the greater community. Agency providers must comply with the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Final Rule and develop quality measures to ensure ongoing compliance. Any restriction or limitation

to any requirement of the HCBS Final Rule must be applied to a person and must be based on the person's specific assessed needs and documented in the person's Plan of Services and Supports.

- D. Services and service locations must be designed to promote and allow independent decision making by the person and encourage independent living, without compromising the health and safety of the people being served (Dignity of Risk).
- E. Agency providers must present information in a manner understandable to the person so that he/she can make informed choices regarding service delivery and design, available agency providers and activities which comprise a meaningful day for him/her.
- F. Services and service locations must provide persons with activities and experiences to develop the skills they need to support a successful transition to a more integrated setting, level of service, or level of care (Dignity of Risk).
- G. The services provided as specified in the individual plan must be based on the requirements of what is important to and important for the person rather than on the availability of services and/or employees.
- H. All efforts must be implemented to design a service environment that is safe and conducive to positive learning and life experiences. People served in the service or service location whose behaviors are significantly disruptive to others in the same environment must be afforded the opportunity and assistance to change those behaviors through a systematic support plan. People receiving services may not be discharged from a service or service location due to disruptive behaviors unless they pose a risk for harm to other people receiving the service. The disruptive behaviors and interventions implemented to keep a person enrolled in the service or service location must be included in the plan and documented in the person's record.
- I. For people enrolled in ID/DD Waiver, service providers must collaborate with the Support Coordinator and any other agency providers to determine a need for Behavior Support/ Crisis Support/ Crisis Intervention Services before a decision is finalized to discharge a person from the service.
- J. The agency provider must initiate and maintain the standardized Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) (including a confidentiality statement), signed by the Executive Officer of the mental health agency provider and the superintendent of each school district in the region served by the agency provider.
- K. Within twenty-four (24) hours prior to the release or discharge of any civilly committed person from community service providers, other than a temporary pass or because of absence due to sickness or death in the person's family, the Service Director or Executive Director must give or cause to be given notice of such release or discharge to one (1) member of the person's immediate family, provided the person is eighteen (18) years or older, has signed an appropriate consent to release such discharge information and has

provided in writing a current address and telephone number, if applicable, to the director for such purpose.

- L. For IDD Services, required employees must participate in the development of each person's Plan of Services and Supports and the Activity Support Plan.
- M. DMH will not approve any new IDD Home and Community-Based Settings that are:
  - 1. Located in or near nursing homes, hospitals, institutions for mental illness, or Intermediate Care Facility for People with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID);
  - 2. Publicly or privately-owned facilities providing inpatient treatment; and,
  - 3. Isolating or have the effect of isolating people from the broader community of people not receiving Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 16.6 Confidentiality**

- A. Personnel must maintain the confidentiality rights of people they serve at all times across situations and locations, such as in waiting areas to which the public has access, while speaking on the telephone, or in conversing with colleagues.
- B. The agency provider must have written policies and procedures and related documentation pertaining to the compilation, storage, and dissemination of people's records that assures a person's right to privacy and maintains the confidentiality of people's records and information.
- C. Compilation, storage and dissemination of people's records, including related documentation, must be in accordance with these policies and procedures, which at a minimum must include:
  - 1. Designated person(s) to distribute people's records to employees;
  - 2. Specific procedures to assure that people's records are secure in all locations;
  - 3. Procedures to limit access to people's records to only those who have been determined to have specific need for the person's record, including written documentation listing those people;
  - 4. Procedures for release of information that are in accordance with all applicable state and federal laws. Generally, this means people's records and information shall not be released except upon prior written authorization of the person receiving services or his/her legally authorized representative; upon order of a court of competent jurisdiction; upon request by medical personnel in a medical emergency; or, when

- necessary for the continued treatment or continued benefits of the person. These procedures at a minimum must:
- (a) Describe the process for releasing information about people receiving services only upon written consent, including the identification of the employee responsible for processing inquiries or requests for information regarding people receiving services.
  - (b) Describe the process for releasing information about a person receiving services without prior written consent, that is, in cases of a medical emergency or upon receipt of a court order.
  - (c) Provide that written consent to release information is not combined with any other consents or releases by the person receiving services.
- 5. Procedures prohibiting the disclosure that a person answering to a particular description, name, or other identification has or has not been attending the service without prior written consent of the person specifically authorizing such disclosure;
  - 6. Procedures prohibiting re-disclosure of information obtained by the agency provider and released by the agency provider without specific prior written consent of the person to whom it pertains;
  - 7. Procedures requiring written consent of the person receiving services or his/her legal representative(s), when appropriate, prior to disclosing identifying information to third-party payer; and,
  - 8. Procedures addressing the release of information regarding people receiving Substance Use Services, in accordance with applicable federal regulations.
- D. Records containing any information pertaining to people receiving services must be kept in a secure room or in a locked file cabinet or other similar container when not in use;
- E. All paper records must be marked "confidential" or bear a similar cautionary statement; all electronic health records or digital filing must be privacy protected and contain a statement of confidentiality or similar cautionary statement; and,
- F. No agency provider shall release records of people receiving services for review to a state or federal reviewer other than DMH personnel without a written statement indicating:
- 1. The purpose of the review;
  - 2. Employee to conduct the review;
  - 3. That reviewer(s) are bound by applicable regulations regarding confidentiality and all others that apply; and,
  - 4. Reviewer(s) signature(s) and the date signed.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*



### **Rule 16.7 Record Management**

- A. A single record must be maintained for each person receiving services (Exception: Substance Use Prevention Services, Consultation and Education Services and Family Support and Education Services) from the agency provider. In lieu of access to people's records, employees may utilize an on-site working record that contains information from the person's record that is utilized to provide services at that location (e.g., individual plans, emergency contact information, and medication profile).
- B. The agency provider must maintain an indexing or referencing system that allows for locating particular people's records whenever they are removed from the central file area.
- C. Records of people served must be readily accessible to authorized personnel and there must be written procedures assuring accessibility to people's records by emergency personnel after hours.
- D. All entries in people's records must be in a permanent form (i.e., ink), accurate, legible, dated, signed, and include the credentials of employees making the entry. Corrections in the original information entered in the record(s) of people receiving services must be made by marking a single line through the changed information. Changes must be initialed and dated by the person making the change. The correct information should be entered in the next available space. Correction fluid, erasing, or totally marking out original information is not permissible.
- E. Late entries to the person's record should be avoided. However, late entries must also be documented. Late entries should be documented as soon as possible. Late entries should be identified as a "late entry." The date and time when the entry is actually being made must be included. Events described in the late entry must include the actual date and time (if available) that the event(s) occurred.
- F. No information in a person's record shall contain the whole name or other identifiable information of another person receiving services.
- G. For substance use service records, the case must be closed when no contacts are recorded for ninety (90) days.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 16.8 Assessment**

- A. For all people receiving mental health services and/or substance use services, the initial assessment and subsequent assessments are the face-to-face securing of information from the person receiving services and/or collateral contact, of the person's family background, educational/vocational achievement, needs, problem history, history of previous treatment,

medical history, current medication(s), source of referral and other pertinent information in order to determine the nature of the person's or family's needs, barriers, strengths, and the most appropriate course of treatment for the person and/or family.

- B. The initial assessment and subsequent assessments must be completed by a DMH Credentialed Mental Health Therapist, DMH Credentialed IDD Therapist, DMH Credentialed Addictions Therapist or professionally licensed individual.
- C. The following priority groups of people with serious mental illness, children/youth with serious emotional disturbance and people with an intellectual/developmental disability must receive an initial assessment within fourteen (14) days of the date that services are sought and/or the date the referral is made.
  - 1. People discharged from an inpatient psychiatric facility
  - 2. People discharged from an institution
  - 3. People discharged or transferred from Crisis Residential Services
  - 4. People referred from Crisis Response Services.
- D. For people in need of Psychiatric/Physician Services, an appointment for these services must be made and documented during the initial assessment.
- E. For adults receiving Outpatient Mental Health Services, a DMH-approved functional assessment must be conducted within thirty (30) days of initial assessment and at least every twelve (12) months thereafter.
- F. For children/youth receiving mental health services, a DMH-approved functional assessment must be conducted within (30) days of initial assessment and at least every six (6) months thereafter.
  - 1. If a child/youth has been evaluated by the school district or other approved examiner to determine the need/eligibility for special education services, the mental health service provider must document their request and/or receipt of such evaluation results, provided that appropriate written consent was obtained from the parent(s)/legal representative(s) to do so. Copies of the request(s) for the release of information and any special education evaluation results received must be maintained in the person's record.
- G. People with intellectual/developmental disabilities must be evaluated by one (1) of the Diagnostic and Evaluation Teams located at the IDD Regional Programs, to determine the need for/eligibility for ICF/ IID level of care, ID/DD Waiver, IDD Community Support Program and/or other IDD Services. People's records must include documentation of a Certificate of Developmental Disability (if applicable), the psychological, and social summary.
- H. For people receiving substance use services, a DMH-approved functional assessment must be conducted within timelines according to the service(s) received.

- I. For substance use services, all people receiving substance use treatment services must receive the TB and HIV/AIDS Risk Assessment at the time of the intake/initial assessment except under the following circumstances:
  - 1. For Transitional Residential Services - The Assessment/Educational Activities Documentation Form (or a copy) is in the person's record verifying the assessment(s) was administered, with documentation of follow-up results if applicable, in primary treatment services completed within the last thirty (30) days.
  - 2. For Recovery Support Services - The Assessment/Educational Activities Documentation Form (or a copy) is in the person's record verifying that both risk assessment(s) were administered with documentation of follow-up and results, if applicable, during substance use treatment services completed within the last thirty (30) days.
- J. In addition to the initial assessment, a Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Diagnostic Assessment for people in the DUI services for second and subsequent offenders must contain the following information:
  - 1. A motor vehicle report (or evidence of a written request) which is obtained by the service provider from the Department of Public Safety. This person's record must contain: Previous DUIs and Moving Violations.
  - 2. The results and interpretations of the Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory (SASSI) or other DMH-approved diagnostic instrument. The approval must be obtained in writing.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## **Part 2: Chapter 17: Individual Planning of Treatment, Services and Supports**

### **Rule 17.1 Individual Plans**

- A. The individual plan is the overall plan that directs the treatment and support of the person receiving services. The individual plan should be designed to increase or support independence and community participation. The individual plan may be referred to as the Treatment Plan, Plan of Services and Supports, Individual Service Plan, Wraparound Plan or Person-Centered Plan. The name of the plan is dependent upon the population being served and the process utilized to develop the plan.
- B. The plan must be based on the strengths, challenges, desired outcomes, and activities to support outcomes of the person receiving services and his/her parent(s)/legal representative(s) (if applicable). Outcomes should be identified by the person, parent(s)/legal representative(s), and/or natural supports (if applicable).
- C. Adults with a serious mental illness and children/youth with serious emotional disturbance must be seen in person or by telemedicine and evaluated by a licensed physician, licensed psychologist, psychiatric/mental health nurse practitioner, physician assistant, licensed professional counselor (LPC), licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT), or licensed certified (clinical) social worker to certify that the services planned are medically/therapeutically necessary for the treatment of the person. These professionals must see the person face-to-face or by telemedicine annually (or more often if medically indicated) to certify the same information in the person's record.
- D. Certification and recertification must be documented as part of the individual plan directing treatment/support.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 17.2 Development of Individual Plans**

- A. Agency providers must utilize planning approaches that are considered to be best practices or evidence-based by their respective areas of focus (i.e., adults with serious mental illness, children/youth with serious emotional disturbance, people with co-occurring disorders, people with substance use disorders and people with intellectual/developmental disabilities, the elderly, etc.). Planning approaches must be documented and implemented through the development of policies and procedures specific to this process and the population being served.
- B. Planning approaches must address the following, at a minimum:

1. The development of an individualized treatment/support team that includes the person, service providers and other supports (as appropriate) that may be identified and utilized by the person or team members;
2. A focus on recovery/resiliency and/or person-centeredness, depending on the population;
3. A focus on individual strengths and how to build upon strengths to achieve positive outcomes; and,
4. Proactive crisis planning, depending on the person receiving services.

C. The Plan of Services and Supports for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities:

1. Each person has only one (1) Plan of Services and Supports across all IDD Services (regardless of funding source). The Plan of Services and Supports is developed by Support Coordination or Transition Coordination for people enrolled in ID/DD Waiver. Targeted Case Management develops the Plan of Services and Supports for people enrolled in IDD Community Support Program. If a person receives an IDD Service and is not enrolled in ID/DD Waiver or IDD Community Support Program, the IDD agency provider must develop the Plan of Services and Supports.
2. The person will lead the person-centered planning process where possible. The person's legal representative(s) should have a participatory role, as needed and as defined by the person. The meeting:
  - (a) Includes people chosen by the person.
  - (b) Provides necessary information and support to ensure the person directs the process to the maximum extent possible and is enabled to make informed choices and decisions.
  - (c) Is timely and occurs at times and places convenient to the person.
  - (d) Reflects the cultural considerations of the person.
  - (e) Includes strategies for resolving conflict or disagreement within the process including clear conflict-of-interest guidelines for all planning participants.
  - (f) Offers informed choices to the person regarding the services and supports they receive and from whom.
  - (g) Includes a method for the person to request updates to the plan as needed.
  - (h) Records the alternative home and community-based settings that were considered by the person.
3. The Plan of Services and Supports must:
  - (a) Reflect the services and supports that are important to the person to meet needs identified through an assessment of functional need as well as what is important for him/her with regard to preferences for the delivery of such services and supports.
  - (b) Reflect that the setting in which the person resides is chosen by the person. The setting must be integrated in and support full access to the greater community, including opportunities to seek employment and work in competitive integrated settings, engage in community life, control personal resources, and receive services in the community to the same degree of access as a person not receiving IDD services.

- (c) Reflect the person's strengths and preferences.
- (d) Reflect clinical and support needs as identified through the functional assessment.
- (e) Include individually identified outcomes for services.
- (f) Reflect the services and supports (paid and unpaid) that will assist the person to achieve identified outcomes and the agency providers of those services and supports, including natural supports.
- (g) Reflect risk factors and measures in place to minimize them, including individual back-up plans and strategies when needed.
- (h) Be understandable to the person receiving services and supports, and the people important in supporting him/her. At a minimum, for the Plan of Services and Supports to be understandable, it must be written in plain language and in a manner that is accessible to people with disabilities and people who have limited English language proficiency.
- (i) Identify the person and/or entity responsible for monitoring the Plan of Services and Supports.
- (j) Be finalized and agreed to, with the informed consent of the person in writing, and be signed by all people and service providers responsible for its implementation.
- (k) Be distributed to the person and others involved in implementing the Plan of Services and Supports.
- (l) Prevent the provision of unnecessary or inappropriate services and supports.
- (m) Document that any modifications made to a person's ability to access the community or make choices about his/her daily life:
  - (1) Identify a specific and individualized assessed need.
  - (2) Have documentation of the positive behavior interventions and supports used prior to any modification of the person-centeredness of the Plan of Services and Supports.
  - (3) Have documentation that less intrusive methods have been tried and did not work.
  - (4) Include a clear description of the condition that is directly proportionate to the specific assessed need.
  - (5) Include regular collection and review of data to measure the ongoing effectiveness of the modification.
  - (6) Include established time limits for periodic reviews to determine if the modification is still necessary or can be terminated.
  - (7) Include the informed consent of the person.
  - (8) Include an assurance that interventions and supports will cause no harm to the person.
- (n) Be reviewed and revised upon reassessment of the functional need, at least annually, when the individual circumstances or needs change significantly, or at the request of the person.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## **Part 2: Chapter 18: Mental Health Targeted Case Management Services**

### **Rule 18.1 Mental Health Targeted Case Management Activities**

- A. Targeted Case Management Services are defined as services that provide information/referral and resource coordination for a person and/or his/her family, or other supports. Targeted Case Management Services are directed towards helping the person maintain his/her highest possible level of independence. Case managers monitor the individual service plan and ensure team members complete tasks that are assigned to them, that follow-up and follow-through occur and help identify when the person's team may need to review the service plan for updates if the established plan is not working.
- B. Targeted Case Management may be provided face-to-face or via telephone. Targeted Case Management is not designed to be a mobile service, but there is no prohibition on services being provided in a location other than a community mental health center or IDD Regional Program.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 18.2 Provision of Mental Health Targeted Case Management Services**

- A. Targeted Case Management must be included in the person's plan.
- B. The frequency of Targeted Case Management Services will be determined by the complexity of the situation and the need of the person receiving services, but shall not occur less than once monthly.
- C. The employee caseload for Mental Health Targeted Case Management Services must not exceed one hundred (100) people. Caseload sizes must be based on the complexity of the needs of the person and whether or not the employee has additional responsibilities.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## Part 2: Chapter 19: Crisis Services

### **Rule 19.1 Crisis Response Services**

- A. Crisis Response is an intensive therapeutic service which allows for the assessment of and intervention in a mental health crisis. Crisis Response Services are provided to children/youth and adults who are experiencing a significant emotional/behavioral crisis in which the person's mental health and/or behavioral health needs exceed the person's resources (in the opinion of the mental health professional assessing the situation.) Trained Crisis Response personnel provide crisis stabilization directed toward preventing hospitalization. Employees must be able to triage and make appropriate clinical decisions, including assessing the need for inpatient services or less restrictive alternatives. Without Crisis Response intervention, the person experiencing the crisis may be inappropriately and unnecessarily placed in a jail, holding facility, hospital or inpatient treatment facility. (Crisis Response Services do not include the Crisis Intervention/Crisis Support Services provided through the ID/DD Waiver.)
- B. Crisis Response Services must be made available to the general public in every county/area served by agency providers certified by DMH to provide Crisis Response Services.
- C. Crisis Response Services must be available twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, three hundred sixty-five (365) days a year. Crisis Response Services must have the capability to respond to multiple crisis calls at a time. Services include:
  - 1. Designated crisis telephone numbers which covers the agency provider's entire catchment area.
  - 2. "Walk-in" Crisis Response capability at all DMH-certified service locations in the agency provider's catchment area.
- D. The "on-call" Crisis Response personnel answering the designated crisis telephone numbers must:
  - 1. Ensure that a mental health representative is available to speak with a person in crisis and/or family member(s)/legal representative(s) of the person at all times.
  - 2. Ensure people or family member(s)/legal representative(s) of the person in crisis should only have to call a single time to the designated crisis numbers to request and receive assistance.
- E. Crisis Response Services must coordinate with DMH Office of Consumer Support and respond to crisis call referrals from DMH Office of Consumer Support generated from the DMH Help Line (1-877-210-8513) or any agency provider DMH contracts with to provide after-hours Help Line coverage.
- F. The agency provider must:

1. Ensure Crisis Response Services availability is publicized, including a listing in the telephone directories for each county served by the agency provider and on the homepage of the agency provider's website.
  2. Ensure the person speaks with a trained professional if an answering service is used after typical work hours (which are permissible). Automated answering devices are not permissible.
  3. Ensure the agency provider's toll-free number is provided to DMH Office of Consumer Support (1-877-210-8513).
- G. Complete an assessment of the person's risk and acuity using an assessment tool as required by DMH. The assessment will include, but not be limited to, current risk level related to suicide/homicide, substance use, mental status, current and past mental health diagnoses and treatment, coping skills and medical condition.
- H. Policies and procedures must be in place which detail how "walk-in" crisis situations will be handled by Crisis Response Services. The policies and procedures must be specific to each DMH-certified location in the agency provider's catchment area.
- I. Crisis Response Services must have access to medical and psychiatric support as needed twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, three hundred sixty-five (365) days a year. Medical and psychiatric support can be provided through the use of telemedicine (i.e., computer tablet, laptop, etc.)
- J. Crisis Response Services must facilitate and verify formal initial assessment and therapy appointments, when the crisis situation subsides, with the mental health provider of the person's choice (if the person is able to remain in the community) utilizing the "warm handoff" method. A "warm handoff" is an approach to care transitions in which health care providers directly link people with typical service providers, using face-to-face or phone transfer. "Warm handoff" achieves very high rates of treatment enrollment for this vulnerable group.
- K. Crisis Response Services must follow-up daily and provide any necessary services to the person between the initial stabilization of the crisis and the initiation of typical therapeutic and psychiatric care.
- L. Recipients of Crisis Response Services do not have to be currently or previously enrolled in any of the services provided by the agency provider. Crisis Response Services may be provided to a person before he/she participates in the initial assessment that is part of the intake/admission process.
- M. All employees providing Crisis Response Services must obtain and maintain certification in a professionally recognized method of crisis intervention and de-escalation (Example: CPI, MANDT or Nonviolent Crisis Intervention).

- N. All Community Support Specialists and Peer Support Specialists providing Crisis Response Services must obtain nationally recognized training for specialized mental health crisis response/intervention training (i.e., Mental Health First Aid).
- O. All employees providing Crisis Response Services must obtain nationally recognized training for suicide prevention (i.e., Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training).
- P. Crisis Response Services will provide training to all clinical co-workers regarding the development and implementation of Crisis Support Plans.
- Q. Crisis Response Coordinator must request to be a member of all adult and children's Multi-Disciplinary Assessment and Planning (Making A Plan) Teams in the agency provider's catchment area and attend meetings regularly. If there is no local adult or children's Making A Plan Team, the Crisis Coordinator is required to initiate the development of Making A Plan Teams within their catchment area.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 19.2 Crisis Response Services Documentation Requirements:**

- A. Crisis Response Services must maintain written documentation (i.e., crisis log or list) of all crisis response contacts (face-to-face and telephone contacts), including, at a minimum:
  - 1. Identification of the person in crisis;
  - 2. Time and date contact was made;
  - 3. Type of contact (face-to-face contact and/or telephone contact);
  - 4. The location of contact, if it was face-to-face; and,
  - 5. Name of the employee(s) addressing the emergency/crisis.
- B. A Crisis Contact Summary as described in the DMH Record Guide must be completed for each person in which Crisis Response Services are provided.
- C. Crisis Response Services will submit data as determined and required by DMH.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 19.3 Mobile Crisis Response Teams**

- A. Mobile Crisis Response Teams provide community -based crisis services that deliver solution-focused and recovery-oriented behavioral health assessments and stabilization of crisis in the location where the individual is experiencing the crisis. Teams consist of mental health professionals who can provide support to people experiencing a mental health, alcohol and drug, or intellectual and developmental disabilities crisis. The teams ensure an individual has a follow-up appointment with their preferred provider and monitor

the individual until the appointment takes place.

- B. Agency providers of Mobile Crisis Response Teams must also meet the Standards in Rules 19.1 – 19.2.
- C. Mobile Crisis Response Services must be available twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, three hundred sixty-five (365) days a year. Mobile Crisis Response Services must have the capability to respond to multiple crisis calls at a time.
- D. Mobile Crisis Response Services must include a single toll-free telephone number which covers the agency provider's entire catchment area for crisis calls.
- E. Mental Health Professional(s) on the Mobile Crisis Response Teams must:
  - 1. Be able to respond within one (1) hour of initial time of contact if in an urban setting and within two (2) hours of initial time of contact if in a rural setting.
  - 2. Designate a strategic, publicized location where the person in crisis can meet with a mental health professional. The professional is not required to see the person in the person's home, but this is permissible and recommended.
  - 3. Complete an assessment of the person's risk and acuity using an assessment tool as required by DMH. The assessment will include, but not be limited to, current risk level related to suicide/homicide, substance use, mental status, current and past mental health diagnoses and treatment, coping skills and medical condition.
  - 4. Utilize a team approach to Mobile Crisis Response if warranted to adequately address the crisis situation. Law enforcement should accompany the Mobile Crisis Response Team member if safety is a concern.
  - 5. Work to immediately stabilize the person's crisis situation using solution- focused and recovery-oriented interventions designed to avoid unnecessary hospitalization, incarceration or placement in a more segregated setting.
  - 6. Assess current natural supports and make a determination if the person can safely remain in the community.
  - 7. Transport or arrange transportation to the most appropriate treatment setting if the person is determined to be a danger to self or others.
  - 8. Provide for the level of service the person requires, mitigate the crisis situation and if known, support his/her long-term recovery goals (Example: Crisis Support Plan, Advanced Directive.)
- F. Crisis Response Services must have access to medical and psychiatric support as needed twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, three hundred sixty-five (365) days a year. Medical and psychiatric support can be provided through the use of telemedicine (i.e., computer tablet, laptop, etc.)
- G. Crisis Response Coordinator must request to be a member of all adult and children's Multi-Disciplinary Assessment and Planning (Making A Plan) Teams in the agency provider's catchment area and attend meetings regularly. If there is no local adult or children's Making

A Plan Team, the Crisis Coordinator is required to initiate the development of Making A Plan Teams within their catchment area.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 19.4 Mobile Crisis Response Team Staffing Requirements**

- A. Crisis Response Services must consist, at a minimum, of the following employees:
  - 1. A Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional with specific roles and responsibilities as a member of the team;
  - 2. A Licensed and/or Credentialed Master's Level Therapist with experience and training in crisis response (Provisionally Licensed and/or Credentialed Therapists are excluded);
  - 3. A Community Support Specialist with experience and training in crisis response;
  - 4. A Crisis Response Coordinator for the agency provider's catchment area. Coordinator must be a Licensed and/or Credentialed Master's Level Therapist with a minimum of two (2) years' experience and training in crisis response; and,
  - 5. At least one (1) employee must have experience and training in crisis response to each population served by the agency provider (MH, IDD, and/or SUD).
- B. There must be documentation that all employees assigned to Crisis Response Services are trained in the policies and procedures required for Pre-Evaluation Screening and Civil Commitment Examinations. Master's level employees must be certified to complete the Pre-Evaluation Screening for Civil Commitment.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 19.5 Mobile Crisis Response Services Coordination**

- A. Mobile Crisis Response Services must provide crisis assessment and crisis support when requested by entities providing services to the following:
  - 1. People held in a Certified Mental Health Holding Facility who are waiting for bed availability after an inpatient commitment.
  - 2. People held in a local jail with a mental health emergency.
  - 3. People presenting in local emergency rooms with a mental health emergency.
- B. Mobile Crisis Response Services must be offered to all licensed hospitals with emergency departments in the catchment area:
  - 1. Training of emergency room personnel in handling mental health emergencies.
  - 2. Consultation in the care of people who are admitted to the hospital for medical treatment of suicide attempts or other mental health emergencies.

- C. Mobile Crisis Response Services must provide assessment and arrange transportation twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week to DMH Certified Crisis Residential Services (Crisis Residential Unit) designated for the agency provider's catchment area for people in need of Crisis Residential Services.
- D. Mobile Crisis Response Services must attempt to develop a close working relationship with law enforcement (i.e., city police, county sheriff, campus police, county jails, youth detention centers, etc.) in the agency provider's catchment area and request appointment of officers to the agency provider's Mobile Crisis Response Team. The Crisis Response Coordinator must maintain documentation of contacts with these agencies.
- E. Mobile Crisis Response Services will offer and provide mental health crisis response/intervention training to law enforcement agencies. The Crisis Response Coordinator must maintain documentation of the request, response and training provided.
- F. Mobile Crisis Response Services will attempt to develop a close working relationship with all Chancery Courts and Clerks in the agency provider's catchment area. The Crisis Response Coordinator must maintain documentation of contacts with these agencies.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 19.6 Crisis Residential Services – Crisis Residential Units**

- A. Crisis Residential Services are time-limited residential treatment services provided in a Crisis Residential Unit which provides psychiatric supervision, nursing services, structured therapeutic activities and intensive psychotherapy (individual, family and/or group) to people who are experiencing a period of acute psychiatric distress which severely impairs their ability to cope with normal life circumstances. Crisis Residential Services must be designed to prevent civil commitment and/or longer term inpatient psychiatric hospitalization by addressing acute symptoms, distress and further decomposition. Crisis Residential Services content may vary based on each person's needs but must include close observation/supervision and intensive support with a focus on the reduction/elimination of acute symptoms.
- B. Crisis Residential Services may be provided to children/youth with serious emotional/behavioral disturbance or adults with a serious and persistent mental illness.
- C. Children/youth receiving Crisis Residential Services must be a minimum of six (6) years of age. Children/youth up to age eighteen (18) cannot be served in the same facility as adults. DMH may require a higher minimum age in order to increase accessibility for other youth and/or to improve the therapeutic environment.
- D. Crisis Residential Services must be designed to accept admissions (voluntary and involuntary) twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week.



- E. Crisis Residential Services must provide the following within twenty-four (24) hours of admission to determine the need for Crisis Residential Services and to rule out the presence of mental symptoms that are judged to be the direct physiological consequence of a general medical condition and/or illicit substance/medication use:
  - 1. Initial assessment;
  - 2. Medical screening;
  - 3. Drug toxicology screening; and,
  - 4. Psychiatric consultation.
- F. Crisis Residential Services must consist of:
  - 1. Evaluation;
  - 2. Observation;
  - 3. Supportive counseling;
  - 4. Substance use counseling;
  - 5. Individual, Group and Family Therapy;
  - 6. Targeted Case Management and/or Community Support Services;
  - 7. Family Education; and,
  - 8. Therapeutic Activities (i.e., recreational, psycho-educational, social/interpersonal).
- G. Direct services (i.e., supportive counseling, therapy, recreational, psycho-education, social/interpersonal activities) can be provided seven (7) days per week but must at a minimum be:
  - 1. Provided five (5) days per week;
  - 2. Provided five (5) hours per day; and,
  - 3. Provided two (2) hours per day for children/youth if attending school.
- H. A daily schedule must be maintained and posted in a prominent location. The schedule must show the entire day (24 hours).
- I. Crisis Residential Services must also provide adequate nursing and psychiatric services to all people served. At a minimum, these services must be provided every seven (7) days (or more often if clinically indicated).
- J. An initial individual therapy session must be provided to each person admitted within the first seventy-two (72) hours of his/her admission.
- K. Prior to discharge from Crisis Residential Services, an appointment must be made for the person to begin or continue services from the local Community Mental Health Center or other mental health provider.
- L. Crisis Residential Services must have a full-time (forty [40] hours per week) on-site director.

- M. Crisis Residential Services must have a full-time (forty [40] hours per week) on-site Mental Health Therapist.
- N. Crisis Residential Services must maintain at least one (1) direct service personnel to four (4) people ratio twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week. A registered nurse must be on-site during all shifts and may be counted in the required staffing ratio.
- O. All Crisis Residential Services personnel must successfully complete training and hold certification in a nationally recognized or DMH approved program for managing aggressive or risk-to-self behavior.
- P. DMH only allows seclusion to be used in Crisis Residential Services with people over the age of eighteen (18). Time-out may be utilized for people under the age of eighteen (18).
- Q. If a service location uses a room for seclusion(s), the service location must be inspected by DMH and written approval for the use of such room obtained from the DMH Review Committee prior to its use for seclusion. A room must meet the following minimum specifications in order to be considered for approval by DMH for use in seclusion:
1. Be constructed and located to allow visual and auditory supervision of the person;
  2. Have room dimensions of at least forty-eight (48) square feet; and,
  3. Be suicide resistant and have break resistant glass (if any is utilized in the room or door to the room).
- R. Crisis Residential Unit providers utilizing seclusion must establish and implement written policies and procedures specifying appropriate use of seclusion. The policies and procedures must include, at a minimum:
1. A clear definition of seclusion and the appropriate conditions and documentation associated with its use. Seclusion is defined as a behavioral control technique involving locked isolation. This does not include a time-out.
  2. A requirement that seclusion is used only in emergencies to protect the person from injuring him/herself or others. "Emergency" is defined as a situation where the person's behavior is violent or aggressive and where the behavior presents an immediate and serious danger to the safety of the person being served, other people served by the service location, employees, or others.
  3. A requirement that seclusion is used only when all other less restrictive alternatives have been determined to be ineffective to protect the person or others from harm and a requirement of documentation in the person's record.
  4. A requirement that seclusion is used only in accordance with the order of a physician or other licensed independent practitioner, as permitted by state licensure rules/regulations governing the scope of practice of the independent practitioner and the provider. This order must be documented in the person's record. The following

- requirements must be addressed in the policies and procedures regarding the use and implementation of seclusion (as applicable) and be documented in the person's record:
- (a) Orders for the use of seclusion must never be written as a standing order or on an as needed basis (that is, PRN).
  - (b) The treating physician must be consulted as soon as possible, if the seclusion is not ordered by the person's treating physician.
  - (c) A physician or other licensed independent practitioner must see and evaluate the need for seclusion within one (1) hour after the initiation of seclusion.
  - (d) Each written order for seclusion must be limited to four (4) hours. After the original order expires, a physician or licensed independent practitioner (as permitted by state licensure rules/regulations governing scope of practice of the independent practitioner and the provider) must see and assess the person in seclusion before issuing a new order.
  - (e) Seclusion must be in accordance with a written modification to the Individual Service Plan of the person being served.
  - (f) Seclusion must be implemented in the least restrictive manner possible.
  - (g) Seclusion must be in accordance with safe, appropriate techniques.
  - (h) Seclusion must be ended at the earliest possible time.
- 5. Requirements that seclusion is not used as a form of punishment, coercion, or for the employee's convenience.
  - 6. Requirements that all employees who have direct contact with people being served must have ongoing education and training in the proper, safe use of seclusion.
  - 7. Requirements that trained employees (as described above) observe the person and record such observation at intervals of fifteen (15) minutes or less and that they record the observation in a behavior management log that is maintained in the record of the person being served.
  - 8. Requirements that the original authorization order of the seclusion may only be renewed for up to a total of twenty-four (24) hours by a licensed physician or licensed independent practitioner, if less restrictive measures have failed.
- S. DMH states, "Providers are prohibited from the use of chemical restraints." A chemical restraint incapacitates a person rendering them unable to function as a result of the medication. However, a therapeutic agent may be used to treat behavioral symptoms during a crisis. The therapeutic agent can be used to calm agitation, to help the person concentrate, and make him/her more accessible to interpersonal intervention. Regardless of indication, medication administration during a crisis must be preceded by an appropriate clinical assessment, and documentation of the assessment must be maintained in the person's record.
- T. An "as needed," prescription for a therapeutic agent at admission for all people is prohibited. If the clinical assessment at admission indicates the need for a therapeutic agent then it may be administered. A verbal approval for the use of a therapeutic agent by the

psychiatrist or psychiatric nurse practitioner must be documented in the person's record as soon as possible.

- U. Smoking is not permitted within ten (10) feet of the entrance of a Crisis Residential Unit.
- V. All Crisis Residential Service providers must conduct an assessment, at least annually, of the following;
  - 1. Evaluation of the level of observation that is required for all people receiving services at the Crisis Residential Unit. Policy and procedures should allow for assessment upon admission and at regular intervals during the course of treatment. If the assessment or clinical judgement indicates a greater frequency of observation is necessary, policies and procedures should reflect those practices. Policies and procedures should identify who is responsible for conducting the assessment(s).
  - 2. Review of the physical environment of care to assess for potential risks and/or access to lethal means. Mitigation efforts must be put into place when risks are identified.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 19.7 Environment and Safety for Crisis Residential Units**

- A. This rule applies to environmental and safety requirements that are in addition to or more stringent than the requirements in Chapter 13 and are specific to Crisis Residential Units. Crisis Residential Units must have procedures in place to access routinely for access to potential lethal means and to eliminate such risks.
- B. The provider must assign, maintain and document on-site employee coverage twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week with an employee designated as responsible for the agency provider at all times and male/female employee coverage when necessary.
- C. All service providers must ensure that service locations have furnishings that are safe, comfortable, appropriate, and adequate.
- D. All service locations must ensure adequate visiting areas are provided for people and visitors.
- E. All service locations must ensure the laundry room has an exterior ventilation system for the clothes dryer free from excessive lint and dust accumulation.
- F. All service locations must have separate storage areas for:
  - 1. Sanitary linen;
  - 2. Food (Food supplies cannot be stored on the floor); and,
  - 3. Cleaning supplies.

- G. All service locations must ensure an adequate, operable heating and cooling system is provided to maintain temperature between sixty-eight (68) degrees and seventy-eight (78) degrees Fahrenheit.
- H. All Crisis Residential Units of two (2) stories or more in height where people are housed above the ground floor must be protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system and a fire alarm and detection system.
- I. Auditory smoke/fire alarms with a noise level loud enough to awaken people must be located in each bedroom, hallways and/or corridors, and common areas.
- J. Crisis Residential Units using fuel burning equipment and/or appliances (i.e., gas heater, gas water heater, gas/diesel engines, etc.) must have carbon monoxide alarms/detectors placed in a central location outside of sleeping areas.
- K. People must not have to travel through any room not under their control (i.e., subject to locking) to reach designated exit, visiting area, dining room, kitchen, or bathroom.
- L. Two (2) means of egress per common area must be provided and must be readily accessible at all times, remote from each other, and so arranged and constructed to minimize any possibility that both may be blocked by fire or other emergency condition.
- M. Crisis Residential Units must have the capacity to monitor unauthorized entrance, egress, or movement through the facility.
- N. Crisis Residential Units must have emergency exit doors operated by a magnetic/electronic (or similar) release system. This system must be in place for all doors with signage identifying the door as an emergency exit. The system must be in a readily accessible and secure location that only employees can access.
- O. Crisis Residential Unit bedrooms must have an outside exposure at ground level or above. Windows must not be over forty-four (44) inches off the floor.
- P. Crisis Residential Unit bedrooms must meet the following dimension requirements:
  - 1. Single room occupancy - at least one hundred (100) square feet; and,
  - 2. Multiple occupancy - at least eighty (80) square feet for each person.
- Q. Crisis Residential Unit bedrooms must house no more than two (2) people each.
- R. Crisis Residential Unit bedrooms must be located so as to minimize the entrance of unpleasant odors, excessive noise, or other nuisances.
- S. Crisis Residential Unit bedrooms must be appropriately furnished with a minimum of a single bed per person, and adequate storage must be provided for each person's belongings.

- T. Beds must be provided with a good grade of mattress which is at least four (4) inches thick on a raised bed frame. Cots or roll-away beds may not be used.
- U. Each bed must be equipped with a minimum of one (1) pillow and case, two (2) sheets, spread, and blanket(s). An adequate supply of linens must be available to change linens at least once a week or sooner if they become soiled.
- V. All Crisis Residential Units must have a bathroom with at least one (1) operable toilet, one (1) operable lavatory/sink and one (1) operable shower or tub for every six (6) people.
- W. All Crisis Residential Units must ensure bathtubs and showers are equipped with suicide resistant:
  - 1. Soap dishes;
  - 2. Towel racks;
  - 3. Shower curtains or doors; and,
  - 4. Grab bars (as needed by people).
- X. Providers must develop policies regarding pets and animals on the premises and must address, at a minimum, the following:
  - 1. Documentation of vaccinations against rabies and all other diseases communicable to humans must be maintained at the service location;
  - 2. Procedures to ensure pets will be maintained in a sanitary manner (no fleas, ticks, unpleasant odors, etc.);
  - 3. Procedures to ensure pets will be kept away from food preparation sites and eating areas; and,
  - 4. Procedures for controlling pets to prevent injury to people receiving services as well as visitors and employees (e.g., animal in crate, put outside, put in a secure room, etc.).

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 19.8 Crisis Residential Unit Orientation**

- A. In addition to information contained in the agency provider's policies and procedures manual, providers of Crisis Residential Services must develop an orientation package which includes policies and procedures for the provision of Crisis Residential Services. The orientation package is to be provided to the person/parent(s)/legal representative(s) during orientation. Orientation may need to be delayed until the person is stable enough to comprehend the information being provided.
- B. All agency providers of Crisis Residential Services must document that each person (and/or parent[s]/legal representative[s]) being served is provided with an orientation as soon as it is appropriate based on the functioning of the person.

- C. The service and site-specific orientation package must be written in a person-first, person-friendly manner that can be readily understood by the person/parent(s)/legal representative(s).
- D. Crisis Residential Service providers must have a written plan for providing the orientation package information in a person's language of choice when necessary.
- E. The Crisis Residential Services orientation package must not simply be a book of rules. The orientation package must include the expectations of Crisis Residential Services and how the person can be successful in the service.
- F. At a minimum, the Crisis Residential Services orientation package must address the following:
  - 1. A person-friendly, person-first definition and description of the service being provided;
  - 2. The philosophy, purpose and overall goals of the service;
  - 3. A description of how Crisis Residential Services addresses the following items, to include but not limited to:
    - (a) Visitation guidelines (as applied to family, significant others, friends and other visitors).
      - (1) People's right to define their family and support systems for visitation purposes unless clinically/socially contraindicated.
      - (2) All actions regarding visitors (restrictions, defining person and family support systems, etc.) must be documented in the person's record.
      - (3) Visitation rights must not be withheld as punishment and may not be limited in ways that unreasonably infringe on the person's stated rights.
    - (b) Daily private communication (phone, mail, email, etc.) without hindrance unless clinically contraindicated.
      - (1) Any restrictions on private telephone use must be reviewed daily.
      - (2) All actions regarding restrictions of outside communication must be documented in the person's record.
      - (3) Communication rights must not be withheld as punishment and may not be limited in ways that unreasonably infringe on the person's stated rights.
    - (c) Dating
    - (d) Off-site activities
    - (e) Housekeeping tasks
    - (f) Use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs
    - (g) Respecting the rights of other people's privacy, safety, health and choices.
  - 4. Policy regarding the search of the person's room, person and/or possessions to include but not limited to:
    - (a) Circumstances in which a search may occur;
    - (b) Employees designated to authorize searches;
    - (c) Documentation of searches; and,

- (d) Consequences of discovery of prohibited items.
- 5. Policy regarding screening for prohibited/illegal substances to include but not limited to:
  - (a) Circumstances in which screens may occur;
  - (b) Employees designated to authorize screening;
  - (c) Documentation of screening;
  - (d) Consequences of positive screening of prohibited substances;
  - (e) Consequences of refusing to submit to a screening; and,
  - (f) Process for people to report confidentially the use of prohibited substances prior to being screened.
- G. Methods for assisting people in arranging and accessing emergency medical and dental care:
  - 1. Agreements with local physicians, hospitals and dentists to provide emergency care; and,
  - 2. Process for gaining permission from parent(s)/legal representative(s), if necessary.
- H. Description of the employee's responsibility for implementing the protection of the person and his/her personal property and rights.
- I. Determination of the need for and development, implementation and supervision of behavior change/management services.
- J. Description of how risks to health and safety of people in the services are assessed and the mitigation strategies put in place as a result of assessment.
- K. Criteria for termination/discharge from Crisis Residential Services.
- L. Providers of Crisis Residential Services must also address:
  - 1. A description of the meals, which must be provided at least three (3) times per day, and snacks to be provided. This must include development of a menu that includes varied, nutritious meals and snacks and a description of how/when meals and snacks will be prepared;
  - 2. Personal hygiene care and grooming, including any assistance that might be needed;
  - 3. Medication management (including storing and dispensing); and,
  - 4. Prevention of and protection from infection, including communicable diseases.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 19.9 ID/DD Waiver Crisis Intervention Services**

- A. Crisis Intervention Services provide immediate therapeutic intervention, available to a



person on a twenty-four (24) hour basis, to address personal, social, and/or behavioral problems which otherwise are likely to threaten the health and safety of the person or others and/or may result in the person's removal from his/her current living arrangement.

- B. Crisis Intervention Services are used in situations in which the need is immediate and exceeds the scope of Behavior Support Services.
- C. This service is provided on a one-to-one (1:1) employee to person ratio.
- D. There are three (3) models and primary service locations: 1) Crisis Intervention in the person's home; 2) Crisis Intervention provided in an alternate community living setting; or, 3) Crisis Intervention provided in the person's usual day setting.
  - 1. Person's home- The agency provider will provide or coordinate support services with the person's community living and day services provider(s). These services will, to the greatest extent possible, allow the person to continue to follow his/her daily routine in the service setting, with accommodations consistent with the Crisis Intervention Plan and the person's current behaviors. The Crisis Intervention Plan indicates any adaptations/changes needed in the environments in which the person typically spends his/her days.
  - 2. Alternate residential setting- In the event a person needs to receive Crisis Intervention Services in a setting away from his/her primary residence, the agency provider must have pre-arranged for such a setting to be available. This may be an apartment, motel or a bedroom at a different DMH-certified residence. The Crisis Intervention personnel, to the greatest extent possible, maintain the person's daily routine and follow the Crisis Intervention Plan to transition the person back to his/her primary residence. The Crisis Intervention Plan indicates any adaptations/changes needed in the environments in which the person typically spends his/her days.
  - 3. Person's usual day setting- Crisis Intervention personnel will deliver services in such a way as to maintain the person's normal routine to the maximum extent possible, including direct support during Day Services-Adult, Prevocational Services, or Supported Employment.
- E. The agency provider must develop policies and procedures for re-locating someone to an alternate residential setting(s). This includes the type of location, whether people will be alone or with others, and plans for transporting people. The policies and procedures must include a primary and secondary means for providing an alternate residential setting(s). These settings must be equipped with all items necessary to create a home-like environment for the person.
- F. The agency provider must have an on-call system that operates twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days per week to ensure there are sufficient employees available to respond to crises.

- G. Agency providers of Crisis Intervention shall consist of a team (see Rule 11.4.B for qualifications) which must include:
1. Licensed Psychologist;
  2. Service Director;
  3. Qualified Intellectual/ Disabilities Professional; and,
  4. Direct service personnel.
- H. Crisis Intervention Services may be indicated on a person's Plan of Services and Supports prior to a crisis event when there is a reasonable expectation, based on past occurrences or immediate situational circumstances in which the person is at risk of causing physical harm to him/herself, causing physical harm to others, damaging property, eloping, or being unable to control him/herself in a manner that allows participation in usual activities of daily life. The agency provider will be chosen at the time the service is approved on the Plan of Services and Supports; therefore, if a crisis arises, the agency provider can be dispatched immediately.
- I. Upon receiving information that someone is in need of Crisis Intervention, the agency provider immediately sends trained personnel to the person to assess the situation and provide direct intensive support when a person is physically aggressive or there is concern that the person may take actions that threaten the health and safety of self and others.
- J. As soon as is feasible, the person must be evaluated by medical personnel to determine if there are any physical/medication factors affecting his/her behavior.
- K. When the immediate crisis is stabilized, appropriately qualified personnel:
1. Continue analyzing the psychological, social and ecological components of the extreme dysfunctional behavior or other factors contributing to the crisis;
  2. Assess which components are the most effective targets of intervention for the short-term amelioration of the crisis;
  3. Develop and write a Crisis Intervention Plan;
  4. Consult and, in some cases, negotiate with those connected to the crisis in order to implement planned interventions, and follow-up to ensure positive outcomes from interventions or to make adjustments to interventions;
  5. Continue providing intensive direct supervision/support;
  6. Assist the person with self-care when the primary caregiver is unable to do so because of the nature of the person's crisis situation;
  7. Directly counsel or develop alternative positive experiences for people while planning for the phase out of Crisis Intervention Services and return of the person to his/her living arrangement, if applicable; and,
  8. Train employees and other caregivers who normally support the person in order to remediate the current crisis as well as to support the person long-term once the crisis has stabilized in order to prevent a reoccurrence.
- L. Crisis Intervention personnel may remain with the person twenty-four (24) hours a day,

seven (7) days a week until the crisis is resolved. Crisis Intervention is authorized for up to twenty-four (24) hours per day in seven (7) day segments with the goal being a phase out of services in a manner which ensures the health and welfare of the person and those around him/her. Additional seven (7) day segments can be authorized by the Bureau of Intellectual/ Developmental Disabilities (BIDD), depending on a person's need and situational circumstances.

- M. Episodic Crisis Intervention is provided in short-term (less than 24 hours) segments and is intended to address crises such as elopement, immediate harm to self or others, damage to property, etc., that can be managed through less intensive measures than daily Crisis Intervention. The maximum amount that can be approved is one hundred sixty-eight (168) hours. Additional hours can be authorized by the Bureau of Intellectual/ Developmental Disabilities, depending on the person's need and situational circumstances.
- N. If a person requires a higher level of supervision/support than can be safely provided through Crisis Intervention Services, he/she will be appropriately referred to other more intensive services.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 19.10 ID/DD Waiver Crisis Support Services**

- A. Crisis Support is provided in an ICF/IID and is used when a person's behavior or family/primary caregiver situation becomes such that there is a need for immediate specialized services that exceed the capacity of Crisis Intervention or Behavior Support Services. (Crisis Intervention and/or Behavior Support is not a pre-requisite for Crisis Support Services.) Such situations involve:
  - 1. Behavioral Issues
    - (a) People who have exhibited high risk behavior, placing themselves and others in danger of being harmed
    - (b) Directly causes serious injury of such intensity as to be life threatening or demonstrates the propensity to cause serious injury to self, others or animals
    - (c) Sexually offensive behaviors
    - (d) Less intrusive methods have been tried and failed
    - (e) Criminal behavior
    - (f) Serious and repeated property destruction
  - 2. Family/other Issues
    - (a) The primary caregiver becomes unexpectedly incapacitated, and the person's support needs cannot adequately be met by other ID/DD Waiver Services.
    - (b) The primary caregiver passes away, and the person's support needs cannot adequately be met by other ID/DD Waiver Services.
    - (c) The person is in need of short-term services in order to recover from a medical condition that can be treated in an ICF/IID rather than a nursing facility.
    - (d) The primary caregiver is in need of relief that cannot be met by other ID/DD Waiver Services.

B. Crisis Support Services include:

1. Medical Care;
2. Nutritional Services;
3. Personal Care;
4. Behavioral Services;
5. Social Services; and,
6. Leisure Activities as deemed appropriate.

- C. The Support Coordinator must be notified of a person's need for Crisis Support. Approval from the Bureau of Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities at DMH is required for admission to an ICF/IID for Crisis Support Services.
- D. Crisis Support is time-limited in nature. Crisis Support is provided a maximum of thirty (30) days. Additional days must be authorized by the Bureau of Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities at DMH prior to the end of the authorized date.
- E. The designated ICF/IID personnel will contact the person's parent(s)/legal representative(s)/supported decision maker or community living provider within twenty-four (24) hours of admission to obtain necessary information to provide Crisis Support Services.
- F. People may attend the ICF/IID day services, activities and events with people receiving ICF/IID services and attend community services accompanied by an employee providing Crisis Support.
- G. People served in Crisis Support who are prescribed psychotropic medications will continue their current regimen unless a change is determined by a physician. The ICF/IID consulting psychiatrist or physician will have the opportunity to evaluate the person and review the person's record to make appropriate recommendations and/or adjustments to the medication regimen. This assessment will be maintained in the person's record.
- H. If a person has a Behavior Support Plan upon admission, all employees working with the person should be trained and a copy placed in the person's record. If the Behavior Support Plan is implemented, employees should document the incident and place it in the person's record. The use of restraints is not allowed in the ID/DD Waiver.
- I. If a person does not have a Behavior Support Plan, behavior instructions may be developed as deemed appropriate by the Crisis Support Team to provide specific procedures for consistent interactions for anyone supporting the person. The use of restraints is not allowed in the ID/DD Waiver.
- J. A transition/discharge planning meeting is required with the person, legal representative(s)/ supported decision maker, Crisis Support Team, Support Coordinator, community service provider personnel and any others the person chooses to attend. All efforts must be made to include all parties involved in the transition process including audio participation from remote locations. The meeting must occur within five (5) working days

of discharge. The purpose of the transition/discharge planning meeting is to discuss changes or updates to the Plan of Services and Supports including risk factors, current medications, and referral to community resources such as community mental health centers, medical services and any other support services needed to ensure a person's successful transition back to the community. The Support Coordinator must conduct a face-to-face follow-up visit within seven (7) calendar days following discharge to determine any additional needs the person may have.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## **Part 2: Chapter 20: Mental Health Community Support Services**

### **Rule 20.1 Mental Health Community Support Services – General**

- A. Community Support Services provide an array of support services delivered by community-based, mobile Community Support Specialists. Community Support Services are only provided by certified DMH/C and DMH/P providers. Community Support Services are directed towards adults, children, adolescents and families and will vary with respect to hours, type and intensity of services, depending on the changing needs of each person. The purpose/intent of a Community Support Specialist is to provide specific, measurable, and individualized services to each person served. Community Support Services should be focused on the person's ability to succeed in the community; to identify and access needed services; and, to show improvement in school, work, family, and community participation (Excludes IDD).
- B. Community Support Services should be person-centered and focus on the person's recovery and ability to succeed in the community; to identify and access needed services; and, to show improvement in home, health, purpose and community. Community Support Services shall include the following:
  - 1. Identification of strengths which will aid the person in his/her recovery and the barriers that will challenge the development of skills necessary for independent functioning in the community;
  - 2. Individual therapeutic interventions with a beneficiary that directly increase the acquisition of skills needed to accomplish the goals set forth in the Individual Service Plan;
  - 3. Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of interventions, as evidenced by symptom reduction and progress toward goals;
  - 4. Psychoeducation on the identification and self-management of prescribed medication regimen and communication with the prescribing provider;
  - 5. Direct interventions in de-escalating situations to prevent crisis;
  - 6. Assisting a person in accessing needed services such as medical, social, educational, transportation, housing, substance use, personal care, employment and other services that may be identified in the Recovery Support Plan as components of Health, Home, Purpose and Community;
  - 7. Assisting the person and natural supports in implementation of therapeutic interventions outlined in the Individual Service Plan;
  - 8. Relapse prevention and disease management strategies;
  - 9. Psychoeducation and training of family, unpaid caregivers, and/or others who have a legitimate role in addressing the needs of the person; and,
  - 10. Facilitation of the Individual Service Plan and/or Recovery Support Plan which includes the active involvement of the beneficiary and the people identified as important in the person's life.
- C. Providers of Community Support Services must, at a minimum:

1. Have a designated Director of Community Support Services to supervise the provision of Community Support Services.
  2. Assign a full-time, DMH Credentialed Community Support Specialist for each person enrolled in the service.
  3. Maintain a list of each Community Support Specialist's caseload that must be available for review by DMH personnel.
  4. Maintain a current, comprehensive file of available formal and informal supports that is readily accessible to all Community Support Specialists.
  5. Electronically maintained resource information is permissible. This resource file must include at a minimum:
    - (a) Name of entity;
    - (b) Eligibility requirements (if applicable);
    - (c) Contact person;
    - (d) Services and supports available; and,
    - (e) Phone number.
- D. The following priority groups of people with serious mental illness, children/youth with serious emotional disturbance and people with an intellectual/developmental disability must be offered Community Support Services within fourteen (14) days of the date of their initial assessment. Community Support Services must be provided within fourteen (14) days of the initial assessment unless the person states, in writing, that he/she does not want to receive the service.
1. People discharged from an inpatient psychiatric facility;
  2. People discharged from an institution;
  3. People discharged or transferred from Crisis Residential Services; and,
  4. People referred from Crisis Response Services.
- E. People with serious mental illness, serious emotional disturbance and/or an intellectual/developmental disability not included in these priority groups should be assessed to determine the need for Community Support Services within thirty (30) days of their initial assessment. Community Support Services must be provided within thirty (30) days of the initial assessment if the assessment indicates a need for such, unless the person states, in writing, that he/she does not want to receive the service.
- F. Caseloads of Community Support Specialists must not exceed eighty (80) people receiving services.
- G. Frequency of the provision of Community Support Services should be based on the needs of the person receiving the service.
- H. The Recovery Support Plan must clearly state and justify the frequency of contact.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*



### **Rule 20.2 Community Supports for Adults with Serious Mental Illness**

Providers of Community Support Services for adults with serious mental illness must also adhere to Rule 20.1.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 20.3 Community Support Services for Children/Youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance**

- A. Providers of Community Support Services for children/youth with serious emotional disturbance must also adhere to Rule 20.1.
- B. Input from the parent(s)/legal representative(s) in the development of the Recovery Support Plan for children/youth must be documented.
- C. The caseload for a single Community Support Specialist providing services to children, youth, and transition-age youth enrolled in federal System of Care grants must not exceed twenty-five (25).

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## Part 2: Chapter 21: Psychiatric/Physician Services

### **Rule 21.1 Psychiatric/Physician Services**

- A. Psychiatric/Physician Services are services of a medical nature provided by medically trained personnel to address medical conditions related to the person's mental illness or emotional disturbance. Medical services include medication evaluation and monitoring, nurse assessment, and medication injection.
- B. If indicated by the initial assessment, the following priority groups of people with serious mental illness, children/youth with serious emotional disturbance and people with an intellectual/developmental disability (if applicable) must be provided Psychiatric/Physician's Services within fourteen (14) days of the date of his/her initial assessment unless the person states, in writing, that he/she does not want to receive the service. Appointment cancellations or "no shows" must be documented in the person's record.
  - 1. People discharged from an inpatient psychiatric facility;
  - 2. People discharged from an institution;
  - 3. People discharged or transferred from Crisis Residential Services; and,
  - 4. People referred from Crisis Response Services.
- C. Medication Evaluation and Monitoring is the intentional face-to-face interaction between a physician or a nurse practitioner and a person for the purpose of: assessing the need for psychotropic medication; prescribing medications; and, regular periodic monitoring of the medications prescribed for therapeutic effect and medical safety.
- D. Nursing assessment takes place between a registered nurse and a person for the purpose of assessing extra-pyramidal symptoms, medication history, medical history, progress on medication, current symptoms, progress or lack thereof since last contact and providing education to the person and the family about the illness and the course of available treatment.
- E. Medication injection is the process of a licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, physician, or nurse practitioner injecting a person with prescribed psychotropic medication for the purpose of restoring, maintaining or improving the person's role performance and/or mental health status.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## **Part 2: Chapter 22: Outpatient Therapy Services**

### **Rule 22.1 Psychotherapeutic Services**

- A. Outpatient Psychotherapeutic Services include initial assessment and individual, family, group, and multi-family group therapies. Outpatient Psychotherapeutic Services are defined as intentional, face-to-face interactions (conversations or non-verbal encounters, such as play therapy) between a Mental Health Therapist, IDD Therapist or Addictions Therapist (as appropriate to the population being served) and a person, family or group where a therapeutic relationship is established to help resolve symptoms of a mental and/or emotional disturbance.
- B. Individual Therapy is defined as one-on-one (1:1) psychotherapy that takes place between a Mental Health Therapist and the person receiving services.
- C. Family Therapy shall consist of psychotherapy that takes place between a Mental Health Therapist and a person's family member(s) with or without the presence of the person. Family Therapy may also include others (MS Department of Child Protection Services personnel, foster family members, etc.) with whom the person lives or has a family-like relationship. This service includes family psychotherapy and psychoeducation provided by a Mental Health Therapist.
- D. Group Therapy shall consist of psychotherapy that takes place between a Mental Health Therapist and at least two (2) but no more than ten (10) children or at least two (2) but not more than twelve (12) adults at the same time. Possibilities include, but are not limited to, groups that focus on relaxation training, anger management and/or conflict resolution, social skills training, and self-esteem enhancement.
- E. Multi-Family Group Therapy shall consist of psychotherapy that takes place between a Mental Health Therapist and family members of at least two (2) different people receiving services, with or without the presence of the person, directed toward the reduction/resolution of identified mental health problems so that the person and/or their families may function more independently and competently in daily life. This service includes psychoeducational and family-to-family training.
- F. Outpatient Psychotherapeutic Services must be available and accessible at appropriate times and places to meet the needs of the population to be served. The provider must establish a regular schedule, with a minimum of three (3) hours weekly for the provision of Outpatient Psychotherapeutic Services during evenings and/or weekends.
- G. Providers utilizing Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) or best practices in the provision of Outpatient Psychotherapeutic Services must show verification that employees utilizing those practices have completed appropriate training or independent study as recommended by the developers of the model/practice for the practices being utilized.

- H. For DMH/C and DMH/P agency providers of Outpatient Psychotherapeutic Services for Children/Youth: Outpatient therapy services must be offered to each school district in the region served by the agency provider. If the school district does not accept the agency provider's offer to provide Outpatient Psychotherapeutic Services, written documentation of the denial (for the current school year) by the school district superintendent must be on file at the agency provider for review by DMH personnel.
- I. There must be written policies and procedures for:
  - 1. Admission;
  - 2. Coordination with other services in which the person is enrolled;
  - 3. Follow-up designed to minimize dropouts and maximize treatment compliance;
  - 4. Therapist assignments;
  - 5. Referral to other appropriate services as needed; and,
  - 6. Discharge planning.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 22.2 Intensive Outpatient Programs for Adults with a Substance Use Disorder**

- A. The ten (10) week Intensive Outpatient Program for Adults with a Substance Use Disorder (IOP-SUD) is a community-based outpatient service which provides an alternative to traditional Residential Treatment Services or hospital settings. The service is directed to adults eighteen (18) years or older who need services more intensive than traditional outpatient services, but who have less severe substance use disorders than those typically addressed in Residential Treatment Services. The Intensive Outpatient Program for Adults with a Substance Use Disorder allows people to continue to fulfill their obligations to family, job, and community while obtaining intensive treatment. An Intensive Outpatient Program for Adults with a Substance Use Disorder may be conducted during the day or at night in order to meet the needs of the people being served.
- B. An Intensive Outpatient Program for Adults with a Substance Use Disorder must be limited to twelve (12) people per session.
- C. An Intensive Outpatient Program for Adults with a Substance Use Disorder must provide the following services:
  - 1. Group therapy for a minimum of three (3) sessions per week for at least ten (10) weeks. Session times may vary but cannot be less than one (1) hour and cannot exceed three (3) hours daily. People must receive and not exceed nine (9) total hours of group therapy per week. Groups may be of the following types: Psychoeducational groups, skills-development groups, drug or alcohol refusal training, relapse prevention techniques, assertiveness training, stress management, support groups (e.g., process-oriented recovery groups), single-interest groups (can include gender issues, sexual

- orientation, criminal offense, and histories of physical and sexual abuse) family or couples groups;
2. Individual therapy at a minimum of one (1) counseling session, for a minimum of one (1) hour, per week; and,
  3. Involvement of family to include no less than two (2) therapeutic family group sessions during the ten (10) week period, offered to meet the needs of the person.
- D. Outpatient services must be located in their own physical space, separated from other substance use services and impermeable to use by other services during hours of service operations.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 22.3 Intensive Outpatient Programs for Adolescents with a Substance Use Disorder**

- A. An Adolescent-Intensive Outpatient Program (A-IOP) is a community-based outpatient service which provides an alternative to traditional Residential Treatment Services or hospital settings. The service is directed to adolescents ages twelve – eighteen (12-18) who need services more intensive than traditional outpatient services, but who have less severe substance use disorders than those typically addressed in Residential Treatment Services. The Adolescent-Intensive Outpatient Program allows people to continue to fulfill their obligations to family, job, school, and community while obtaining treatment. Adolescent-Intensive Outpatient Program is primarily conducted in the evening, but may be offered at varying locations and times to suit the needs of the adolescents being served.
- B. An Adolescent-Intensive Outpatient Program must be limited to twelve (12) people per session.
- C. An Adolescent-Intensive Outpatient Program must provide the following services:
1. Group therapy must be offered over the course of at least ten (10) weeks for six (6) hours per week. Times and locations for groups may vary based on the needs of the adolescents being served. Groups may be of the following types: psychoeducational groups, skills-development groups, drug or alcohol refusal training, relapse prevention techniques, assertiveness training, stress management, support groups (e.g., process-oriented recovery groups), single-interest groups (can include gender issues, sexual orientation, criminal offense, and histories of physical and sexual abuse) family or couples groups.
  2. Individual therapy at a minimum of one (1) counseling session, for a minimum of one (1) hour, per week.
  3. Involvement of family to include no less than two (2) therapeutic family group sessions during the ten (10) week period, offered to meet the needs of the person.

4. Providers utilizing Evidence-Based Practices or best practices in the provision of Adolescent-Intensive Outpatient Program must show verification that employees utilizing those practices have completed appropriate training or independent study as recommended by the developers of the model/practice for the practices being utilized.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*



## **Part 2: Chapter 23: Acute Partial Hospitalization Services for Children/Youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance, Adults with Serious Mental Illness and Partial Hospitalization Programs for Adults or Children/Youth with Substance Use Disorders**

### **Rule 23.1 Acute Partial Hospitalization Services (APH) for Children/Youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance or Adults with Serious Mental Illness or People with Substance Use Disorders**

- A. Acute Partial Hospitalization Services provide medical supervision, nursing services, structured therapeutic activities and intensive psychotherapy (individual, family and/or group) to people who are experiencing a period of such acute distress that their ability to cope with normal life circumstances is severely impaired. Acute Partial Hospitalization Services are designed to provide an alternative to inpatient hospitalization for such people or to serve as a bridge from inpatient to outpatient treatment. Service content may vary based on need but must include close observation/supervision and intensive support with a focus on the reduction/elimination of acute symptoms. Acute Partial Hospitalization Services may be provided to children/youth with serious emotional disturbance or adults with serious and persistent mental illness or people with substance use disorders.
- B. The Acute Partial Hospitalization Services must be a part of a written comprehensive plan of Crisis Stabilization and Community-Based Support Services offered to people participating in the Acute Partial Hospitalization Service that includes, at a minimum, family intervention, Targeted Case Management, medication monitoring, Crisis Response Services and Community Support Services. The Acute Partial Hospitalization Service must be designed to assist people in making the transition from acute inpatient services, and/or serve as an alternative to inpatient care.
- C. There must be written policies and procedures implemented for providing Acute Partial Hospitalization Services that include at a minimum:
  - 1. Admission criteria and procedures. These procedures must require that a physician conduct an admission evaluation and certify that the service is required to reduce or prevent inpatient services.
  - 2. Procedures requiring documented medical supervision and follow along with on-going evaluation of the medical status of the person.
  - 3. Procedures requiring documented support services for families and significant others.
  - 4. Procedures implementing and documenting discharge criteria to include follow-up planning.
- D. The employees for Acute Partial Hospitalization Services must include at each service location a full-time director who plans, coordinates, and evaluates the service.
- E. Acute Partial Hospitalization Services personnel must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. At least one (1) employee with a minimum of a Master's degree in a mental health or related field must be on-site for six (6) or fewer people for which the service is certified to serve. The employee can be the on-site Service Director if he/she is actively engaged in programmatic activities with people during all service hours.
  2. At least one (1) employee with a minimum of a Master's degree in a mental health or related field and at least one (1) employee with a minimum of a Bachelor's degree in a mental health or related field when seven (7) through twelve (12) participants are served.
  3. At least one (1) employee with a minimum of a Master's degree in a mental health or related field, at least one (1) employee with a minimum of a Bachelor's degree in a mental health or related field and at least one (1) support employee when thirteen (13) through eighteen (18) participants are served.
- F. The Acute Partial Hospitalization Service must provide adequate nursing and psychiatric services to all people served. At a minimum, these services must be provided weekly (and more often if clinically indicated). Provision of these services must be documented through an implemented written procedure carried out by the agency provider or through contractual agreement.
- G. Medical supervision and nursing services must be immediately available and accessible to the service during all hours of operation.
- H. The Acute Partial Hospitalization Service can be operated seven (7) days per week, but must at minimum:
1. Operate three (3) days per week;
  2. Operate four (4) hours per day, excluding transportation time; and,
  3. Be available twelve (12) months per year.
- I. The Acute Partial Hospitalization Service must be designed for a maximum number of eighteen (18) people.
- J. The service provider must maintain a daily schedule of therapeutic activities to include individual, group, family, and other activities that are designed to provide intensive support to the people in the service and reduce acute symptomology.
- K. The service location must have sufficient space to accommodate the full range of service activities and services and must provide a minimum of fifty (50) square feet of multipurpose space for each person served.
- L. Acute Partial Hospitalization Services must be located in their own physical space, separated from other substance use services and impermeable to use by other services/service locations during hours of service operation.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Part 2: Chapter 24: Day Programs and Employment Related Services for Adults with Serious Mental Illness**

### **Rule 24.1 Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services**

- A. Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services (PSR) consist of a network of services designed to support, restore and maintain community functioning and well-being of adults with a serious and persistent mental illness. The purpose of the service is to promote recovery, resiliency, and community integration by maintaining the person's optimal level of functioning and preventing psychiatric decompensation, thereby decreasing the risk of unnecessary hospitalization and the need for higher level intensity services such as Program of Assertive Community Treatment (PACT) and Acute Partial Hospitalization. Service activities aim to alleviate current symptomatology and address the person's underlying condition by reducing the negative effects of social isolation, promoting illness education, creating and monitoring wellness action plans, and the development of other coping and independent living skills.
- B. Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services must utilize systematic curriculum based interventions for recovery skills development for participants. The curriculum based interventions must be evidence-based or recognized best-practices in the field of mental health as recognized by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Curriculum based interventions must address the following outcomes for the people participating in Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services:
  - 1. Increased knowledge about mental illnesses;
  - 2. Fewer relapses;
  - 3. Fewer re-hospitalizations;
  - 4. Reduced distress from symptoms;
  - 5. Increased consistent use of medications; and,
  - 6. Increased recovery supports to promote community living.
- C. The Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services systematic and curriculum based interventions must address the following core components:
  - 1. Psychoeducation;
  - 2. Relapse Prevention;
  - 3. Coping Skills Training; and,
  - 4. Utilizing Resources and Supports (inclusive of crisis planning).
- D. The Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services systematic and curriculum based interventions must, at a minimum, include the following topics:
  - 1. Recovery strategies;
  - 2. Facts about mental illnesses;
  - 3. Building social supports;
  - 4. Using medications effectively;

5. Drug and alcohol use;
  6. Reducing relapse;
  7. Coping with stress;
  8. Coping with problems and symptoms of mental illnesses; and,
  9. Self-advocacy.
- E. All people are required to have a Recovery Support Plan. People must participate in setting goals and assessing their own skills and resources related to goal attainment. Goals are set by exploring strengths, knowledge and needs in the person's living, learning, social, and working environments.
- F. Each person must be provided assistance in the development and acquisition of needed skills and resources necessary to achieve stated recovery goals.
- G. Documentation of therapeutic activities must be provided in weekly progress notes.
- H. Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services must be provided in each location a minimum of three (3) days per week for a minimum of four (4) hours per day, excluding travel time.
- I. Psychosocial Rehabilitation Service locations must have sufficient space to accommodate the full range of therapeutic activities and must provide at least fifty (50) square feet of space for each person.
- J. Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services must be located in their own physical space, separate from other mental health center activities or institutional settings and impermeable to use by other services during hours of service operation.
- K. Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services must include, at each service location, a full-time supervisor (see qualifications, Rule 11.3). A director or Mental Health Therapist (see qualifications section) with the responsibility of therapeutic oversight must be on-site a minimum of five (5) hours per week. The service director or Mental Health Therapist must plan, develop and oversee the use of an Evidenced-Based Curriculum implemented to address the needs of people receiving Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services. The chosen Evidence-Based Curriculum must be implemented to fidelity. In addition to the minimum of five (5) hours of on-site supervision, the director or Mental Health Therapist must also participate in clinical staffing and/or Treatment Plan review for the people in the service(s) that he/she directs.
- L. Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services must maintain a minimum of one (1) qualified employee to each twelve (12) or fewer people present in a Senior Psychosocial Rehabilitation Service. The supervisor may be included in this ratio.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Rule 24.2 Senior Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services**

- A. Senior Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services (Senior PSR) are structured activities designed to support and enhance the ability of the elderly to function at the highest possible level of independence in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs. The activities target the specific needs and concerns of the elderly, while aiming to improve reality orientation, social adaptation, physical coordination, daily living skills, time and resource management, task completion and other areas of competence that promote independence in daily life. Activities in the service are designed to alleviate such psychiatric symptoms as confusion, anxiety, disorientation, distraction, preoccupation, isolation, withdrawal, and feelings of low self-worth.
- B. Senior Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services must be designed to serve elderly people with serious mental illness who need assistance in socialization, training for daily living skills, use of leisure time activities, or other structured assistance in activities of life.
- C. No person under fifty (50) years of age can be considered for Senior Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services.
- D. Senior Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services must have an average daily attendance of at least five (5) people.
- E. Each Senior Psychosocial Rehabilitation Service must have a written schedule of daily activities on file, which must include group therapy, socialization activities, activities of daily living, and recreational activities.
- F. Senior Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services must have activities and physical surroundings that are age appropriate.
- G. The service location must have sufficient space to accommodate the full range of service activities and services and must provide at least fifty (50) square feet of usable space for each person.
- H. Employees must be assigned full-time to Senior Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services.
- I. There must be a full-time supervisor at each location (see qualifications, Rule 11.3). A director or Mental Health Therapist (see qualifications section) with the responsibility of therapeutic oversight must be on-site a minimum of five (5) hours per week. The Service Director (see qualifications, Rule 11.3) or Mental Health Therapist must plan, develop and oversee the use of systematic curriculum based interventions implemented to address the needs of people receiving Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services. In addition to the minimum of five (5) hours of on-site supervision, the director or Mental Health Therapist must also participate in clinical staffing and/or Treatment Plan review for the people in the service(s) that he/she directs.

J. In addition to Rule 24.2.I, Senior Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services located in a Community Mental Health Center operated facility must meet the following:

1. There must be at least one (1) employee with minimum of a Bachelor's degree in a mental health or intellectual/developmental disabilities-related field who must be on-site and be actively engaged in service activities during all programmatic hours; this employee can be the on-site supervisor.
2. The employee with a Bachelor's degree (who must be on-site and actively engaged in service activities during all programmatic hours and who may or may not be the on-site supervisor) is required for eight (8) or fewer people.
3. When the service is certified for nine (9) or more people, there must be another employee for every eight (8) people for which the service location is certified to serve.
4. Develop and implement plans to involve people participating in Senior Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services in community activities to the maximum extent possible.
5. Senior Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services must be provided in each service location a minimum of three (3) days per week for a minimum of four (4) hours per day, excluding travel time.

K. In addition to Rule 24.2.I, Senior Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services located in a Licensed Nursing Facility must meet the following:

1. There must be at least one (1) employee with minimum of a Bachelor's degree in a mental health or intellectual/developmental disabilities-related field who must be on-site and be actively engaged in service activities during all programmatic hours; this employee can be the on-site supervisor.
2. The employee with a Bachelor's degree (who must be on-site and actively engaged in service activities during all programmatic hours and who may or may not be the on-site supervisor) is required for eight (8) or fewer people.
3. When the service location is certified for nine (9) or more people, there must be another employee for every eight (8) people for which the service location is certified to serve.
4. DMH will accept verification of licensure from the MS State Department of Health as evidence that service locations are addressing and meeting requirements for environment and safety.
5. Senior Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services must be provided in each service location a minimum of three (3) days per week for a minimum of two (2) hours per day, excluding travel time.
6. People receiving Senior Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services who are also Medicaid beneficiaries must also be authorized through the Pre-admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) Rules.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 24.3 Supported Employment Services for Serious Mental Illness**

- A. Supported Employment Services for serious mental illness are provided to people with severe and persistent mental illnesses who have indicated employment is one (1) of their goals. The activities of Supported Employment help people achieve and sustain recovery. The ultimate goal of the Supported Employment Services is to assist people with serious mental illness in discovering paths of self-sufficiency and recovery rather than disability and dependence.
- B. Supported Employment Services will develop policies and procedures to provide and expand evidence-based Supported Employment Services (such as the Individual Placement and Support [IPS] model), to adults with severe and persistent mental illness as listed in the most current edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of the American Psychiatric Association. All adult people with severe mental disorders are eligible, including dual disorders of substance use and mental illness.
- C. Supported Employment Services must be voluntary.
- D. Supported Employment Services will have no eligibility restrictions such as: job readiness, no substance use, no violent behavior, minimal intellectual functioning, or mild symptoms.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 24.4 Staffing Requirements for Supported Employment for Serious Mental Illness**

- A. Supported Employment Services must be delivered by a full-time Supported Employment Specialist. The Supported Employment Specialist will have at least a Bachelor's degree and will function as a part of a multidisciplinary mental health team.
- B. Supported Employment service locations must have the organizational capacity to provide at least one (1) full-time equivalent Supported Employment Specialist dedicated to employment services. The location may choose to have more than one (1) Supported Employment Specialist, but each position must be full-time employment.
  - 1. A Supported Employment Expansion Site must have the organization to provide at least one (1) full-time equivalent Support Employment Specialist dedicated to Employment Services.
- C. The Supported Employment Specialist must be fully integrated into the treatment team. Progress notes must show collaboration among therapist, community support specialist, Doctor, etc.
- D. The Supported Employment Specialist will have an individual employment caseload not to exceed twenty (20) people for any full-time Supported Employment Specialist.
  - 1. A Serious Mental Illness Supported Employment Expansion Specialist will have an



- individual employment caseload of not less than twenty-five (25) and no more than (40) people. The referrals for the supported expansion project will be sent to Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) for employment. The Supported Employment Expansion Specialist will conduct follow-along services to the people as required by the project.
- E. Supported Employment Specialists must only provide employment services.
  - F. If an agency provider employs multiple Supported Employment Specialists, the provider must have group supervision weekly to share information and help each other with cases. When necessary the Supported Employment Specialists can provide services, backup, and support to another Specialist's caseload.
  - G. Supported Employment Services must have a designated supervisor. If the agency provider has more than ten (10) Supported Employment Specialists, the supervisor must be full-time to the Supported Employment Services.
  - H. The responsibilities of the Supported Employment supervisor must include but are not limited to:
    - 1. Conduct weekly supported employment supervision designed to review people's situations and identify new strategies and ideas to help people in their work lives.
    - 2. Communicate with mental health treatment team leaders to ensure that services are integrated, to problem solve programmatic issues (such as referral process or transfer of follow-along to mental health workers) and to be a champion for the value of work.
    - 3. Attend a meeting for each mental health treatment team on a quarterly basis.
    - 4. Accompany Supported Employment Specialists, who are new or having difficulty with job development, in the field monthly to improve skills by observing, modeling, and giving feedback on skills (e.g., meeting employers for job development).
    - 5. Review current outcomes with Supported Employment Specialists at least quarterly and set treatment goals to improve service performance.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 24.5 Supported Employment for Serious Mental Illness Service Requirements**

- A. Any person who determines that employment is a treatment goal must be referred to the Supported Employment Specialist. The agency provider must develop policies and procedures to design a referral system throughout the agency provider.
- B. Supported Employment Services must:
  - 1. Be individually tailored for each person to address the preferences and identified goals of each person.

2. Be mobile and develop relationships with local businesses to establish employment opportunities.
  3. Be delivered in an ongoing rather than time-limited basis to aid the process of recovery and ensure permanent employment.
- C. Supported Employment Specialists will conduct job discovery with each person served and find and maintain competitive work in the community. The Supported Employment Specialist and other members of the treatment team will offer on-going support to the person to help ensure that employment is maintained.
- D. A vocational assessment and profile will be completed, updated and maintained for each person utilizing the service.
- E. Each service must maintain an active updated Local Employer Inventory for its area which includes:
1. Name;
  2. Type of business;
  3. Business mission;
  4. Hiring practices
  5. Workforce aim;
  6. Location;
  7. Name of Personnel Director; and,
  8. Notes of interest, etc.
- F. Each Supported Employment Specialist carries out all phases of vocational service, including engagement, assessment, job placement, and follow-up before step down to less intensive employment support from another mental health practitioner.
- G. Supported Employment Specialists serve as members of one (1) or two (2) mental health treatment teams from which a Supported Employment Specialist's caseload is comprised.
- H. Supported Employment Specialists will attend mental health treatment team meetings and participate actively in treatment team meetings with shared decision-making. The Supported Employment Specialist should help the team assess employment possibilities for people who have not been referred to Supported Employment Services.
- I. The Supported Employment Specialist's office must be in close proximity to (or shared with) his/her mental health treatment team members.
- J. The Supported Employment Specialist must collaborate with Vocational Rehabilitation counselors on a regular basis for the purpose of discussing shared people and identifying potential referrals.
1. The Serious Mental Illness Supported Employment Expansion Specialist will work directly with the local office of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) to make referrals for employment. The Supported Employment Specialist will assist with any required paper\_work that must

be completed and sent to Vocational Rehabilitation (Vocational Rehabilitation referral form, vocational profile, and requested documentation).

- K. The agency provider's quality assurance process includes an explicit internal review of the Supported Employment Service, or components of the service, at least every six (6) months through the use of the Supported Employment Fidelity Scale or until achieving high fidelity, and at least yearly thereafter by the DMH Fidelity Review Team. The agency provider's quality assurance process uses the results of the fidelity assessment to improve supported employment implementation and sustainability.
- L. Supported Employment Specialists or other mental health practitioners must offer clients assistance in obtaining comprehensive, individualized work incentives planning by a specially trained work incentives planner prior to starting a job. They must also facilitate access to work incentives planning when clients need to make decisions about changes in work hours and pay. People are provided information and assistance about reporting earnings to the Social Security Administration (SSA), housing programs, etc., depending on the person's benefits.
- M. Supported Employment Specialists provide people with accurate information and assist with evaluating their choices to make an informed decision regarding what is revealed to the employer about having a disability. Supported Employment Specialists discuss specific information to be disclosed (e.g., disclose receiving mental health treatment or presence of a psychiatric disability, or difficulty with anxiety, or unemployed for a period of time, etc.) and offers examples of what could be said to employers. Supported Employment Specialists discuss disclosure on more than one (1) occasion (e.g., if people have not found employment after two (2) months or if people report difficulties on the job).
- N. Supported Employment Specialists must complete an initial vocational assessment (which can occur over two - three (2-3) sessions), and information is documented on a vocational profile form which includes preferences, experiences, skills, current adjustment, strengths, personal contacts, etc. The vocational profile form is used to identify job types and work environments. The vocational profile form is updated with each new job experience. The assessment aims at problem solving using environmental assessments and consideration of reasonable accommodations. Sources of information include the person, treatment team, people's records, and with the person's permission, family members and previous employers. Supported Employment Specialists help people learn from each job experience and also work with the treatment team to analyze job loss, job problems and job successes.
- O. The initial employment assessment and first face-to-face employer contact must occur within one (1) month after services begin.
- P. Employer contacts are based on the person's job preferences (relating to what they enjoy and their personal goals) and needs (including experience, ability, symptomatology, and health, etc., and how they affect a good job and setting match) rather than the job market (i.e., what jobs are readily available).
- Q. Each Supported Employment Specialist makes at least six (6) face to-face employer contacts per week on behalf of the person desiring employment. An employer contact is

counted even when a Supported Employment Specialist meets the same employer more than one (1) time in a week, and when the person is present or not present. Person-specific and generic contacts are included. Employment specialists must use a weekly tracking form to document employer contacts that is reviewed by the Supported Employment Supervisor on a weekly basis.

1. Supported Employment Expansion Specialists must conduct employment contacts at least two (2) days per week on behalf of the project for people desiring employment. The Expansion Specialist must follow the tracking method as required for fidelity measurement.
- R. Supported Employment Specialists must build relationships with employers through multiple visits in person to learn the needs of the employer, convey what the Supported Employment Service offers to the employer, and describe people's strengths that are a good match for the employer.
- S. Supported Employment Specialists must assist people in obtaining different types of jobs. Employment Specialists provide job options that are in different settings.
- T. Supported Employment Specialists must assist people in obtaining jobs with different employers.
- U. Supported Employment Specialists must provide competitive job options that have permanent status rather than temporary or time-limited status, (e.g., TEPs). Competitive jobs pay at least minimum wage and are jobs that anyone can apply for and are not set aside for people with disabilities. (Seasonal jobs and jobs from temporary agencies that other community members use are counted as competitive jobs.)
- V. People must receive different types of support that are based on the job, people's preferences, work history, needs, etc. These supports are individualized and ongoing. Employment specialists also provide employer support (e.g., educational information, job accommodations) at people's request. The Employment Specialist helps people move on to more preferable jobs and also helps people with school or certified training programs.
- W. Supported Employment Specialists must have face-to-face contact with people within one (1) week before starting a job, within three (3) days after starting a job, weekly for the first month, and at least monthly for a year or more, as desired by the person. People will be transitioned to step down job supports from a mental health worker following steady employment.
- X. Vocational services such as engagement, job finding and follow-along supports are provided in natural community settings. Supported Employment Specialists must spend seventy percent (70%) or more time in the community.
1. Supported Employment Expansion Specialists must provide follow-along supports (vocational assessment and support service's needs [appointment, medication, etc.]) in the office or community setting as required by the project.

- Y. Assertive engagement and outreach must be implemented by an integrated treatment team. There must be evidence that all six (6) strategies for engagement and outreach are used:
1. Service termination is not based on missed appointments or fixed time limits.
  2. Systematic documentation of outreach attempts.
  3. Engagement and outreach attempts made by integrated team members.
  4. Multiple home/community visits.
  5. Coordinated visits by the Employment Specialist with integrated team members.
  6. Connect with family, when applicable.
- Z. Agency providers should organize and utilize Community Business Advisory Boards as part of their community engagement and outreach efforts. At least one (1) member of the agency provider's executive team must actively participate on the Board. Meetings must occur at least every six (6) months for high fidelity services and at least quarterly for services that have not yet achieved high fidelity.
- AA. Agency providers should adhere to Data and Record Keeping Requirements for Good IPS Fidelity (according to guidelines).

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## **Part 2: Chapter 25: Day Services for People with Alzheimer's and Other Dementia**

### **Rule 25.1 Alzheimer's Day Services**

- A. The key elements of Alzheimer's Day Services are community-based services designed to meet the needs of adults with physical and psychosocial impairments, including memory loss, through individualized care plans. These structured, nonresidential services provide a variety of social and related support services in a safe setting. Alzheimer's Day Services include Alzheimer's Respite Services. Alzheimer's Day Services operate up to eight (8) hours per day, five (5) days per week. Alzheimer's Respite Services operate up to twenty (20) hours per week with operating times to be determined by the agency provider. Alzheimer's Day Services focus on the strengths and abilities of people served by the agency provider and optimizing the health of the people. Alzheimer's Day Services provide a structured environment for people with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia; counseling for family members and/or other caregivers; education and training for people providing services to those with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia and also to family members and/or caregivers; and, respite. By supporting families and caregivers, Alzheimer's Day Services enable people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementia to live in the community.
- B. Alzheimer's Day Services provide services for adults with physical and psychosocial impairments, who require supervision, including:
1. People who have few or inadequate support systems.
  2. People who require assistance with activities of daily living (ADLs).
  3. People with memory loss and other cognitive impairment(s) resulting from Alzheimer's and other dementia that interfere with daily functioning.
  4. People who require assistance in overcoming the isolation associated with functional limitations or disabilities.
  5. People whose families and/or caregivers need respite.
  6. People who, without intervention, are at risk of premature long-term placement outside the home because of memory loss and/or other cognitive impairment(s).

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 25.2 Alzheimer's Day Service Locations**

- A. Alzheimer's Day Service locations must meet the following minimum staffing requirements:
1. A full-time service supervisor with at least a Bachelor's degree in a mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities, or social service-related field and be under the supervision of a person with a Master's degree in a mental health or intellectual/developmental disabilities-related field;

2. A full-time Activities Coordinator with a minimum of a high school diploma or equivalent and at least one (1) year of experience in developing and conducting activities for the population to be served;
  3. A full-time service assistant with a minimum of a high school diploma or equivalent and at least one (1) year of experience in working with adults in a health care or social service setting;
  4. If volunteers are utilized, people who volunteer must demonstrate willingness to work with people with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia, and they must successfully complete agency provider orientation and training. The duties of volunteers must be mutually determined by volunteers and employees. Volunteers' duties, to be performed under the supervision of an employee, can either supplement employees in established activities or provide additional services for which the volunteer has special talents.
- B. In addition to General Orientation, Alzheimer's Day Service personnel must attend training specific to address the needs of people with cognitive impairment including communication techniques, redirection techniques, and activity interventions.
- C. The ratio of employees to people served by the service location must be at least one (1) full-time employee per four (4) people served. The service supervisor may be included in the staffing ratio if he/she is on-site and actively engaged in the service.
- D. The Alzheimer's Day Service must provide a balance of purposeful activities to meet people's interrelated needs and interests (social, intellectual, cultural, economic, emotional, physical, and spiritual). Activities may include, but are not limited to:
1. Personal interaction;
  2. Individualized activities;
  3. Small and large group activities;
  4. Intergenerational experiences;
  5. Outdoor activities, as appropriate;
  6. Self-care activities; and,
  7. Culturally and ethnically relevant celebrations.
- E. People served by the service location should be encouraged to take part in activities, but may choose not to do so or may choose another activity.
- F. People must be allowed time for rest and relaxation and to attend to personal and health care needs.
- G. Activity opportunities must be available whenever the service location is in operation. Activity opportunities are defined as structured opportunities for socialization and interaction that are available in large groups, small groups or individual formats. Opportunities for socialization should be individualized to meet the preferences of the person.



- H. Creative arts activities must be provided to improve or maintain physical, cognitive, and/or social functioning of people served by the service location.
- I. Family education and training must be made available at least monthly to family(ies) and/or caregiver(s) of people served by the agency provider. This training must be designed to improve the well-being and functional level of the people served and/or family(ies)/caregiver(s). Provision of family education and training must be documented in the person's record. A family education log must be kept by the supervisor.
- J. Opportunities for case staffing (including problem-solving as to how to respond to challenging scenarios involving people who receive services) between supervisory and all service personnel must be made on a monthly basis or more frequently if determined necessary by the service supervisor.
- K. The service must provide individualized assistance with and supervision of activities of daily living in a safe and hygienic manner, with recognition of a person's dignity and right to privacy, and in a manner that encourages people's maximum level of independence.
- L. The service will ensure that each person receives a minimum of one (1) mid-morning snack, one (1) nutritious noon meal, and one (1) mid-afternoon snack, as well as adequate liquids throughout the day.
- M. Each Alzheimer's Day Services location must adhere to the following:
  - 1. Must have its own separate, identifiable space for all activities conducted during operational hours. The Alzheimer's Day Service must provide at least fifty (50) square feet of service space for multipurpose use for people served in the service location.
  - 2. A single service location may serve no more than twenty (20) people at a time.
  - 3. The facility must be flexible and adaptable to accommodate variations of activities (group and/or individual) and services and to protect the privacy of people receiving services.
  - 4. Identified space for people and/or family(ies)/caregiver(s) to have private discussions with employees must be available.
  - 5. Restrooms must be located as near the activity area(s) as possible.
  - 6. A rest area for people served in the service location must be available. This area must have a minimum of one (1) reclining chair per six (6) people served in the service location.
  - 7. An operable electronic security system that has the capacity to monitor unauthorized entrance or egress, or other movement through the entrance/exits must be utilized.
  - 8. Outside space that is used for outdoor activities must be safe, accessible to indoor areas, and accessible to people with disabilities and shall include the following:
    - (a) Secure, exterior pathway(s), a minimum of four (4) feet in width;
    - (b) Adequate outside seating; and,
    - (c) Exterior fencing, a minimum of six (6) feet in height, which encloses the outside area(s) where pathways and seating for people served by the service location are provided.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 25.3 Alzheimer's Respite Service**

- A. Each Alzheimer's Respite Service must meet the following minimum staffing requirements:
1. A full-time service supervisor with a Bachelor's degree in a mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities or social service- related field and at least one (1) year of supervisory experience in a mental health, social or health service setting or two (2) years of comparable technical and human services training, with demonstrated competence and experience as a manager in a human services setting; this person can also serve as the Activities Coordinator;
  2. A full-time Activities Coordinator with a minimum of a high school diploma or equivalent and at least one (1) year of experience in developing and conducting activities for the population to be served;
  3. A full-time service assistant with a minimum of a high school diploma or equivalent and at least one (1) year of experience in working with adults in a health care or social service setting; and,
  4. If volunteers are utilized, people who volunteer must demonstrate willingness to work with people with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia, and they must successfully complete agency provider orientation and training. The duties of volunteers must be mutually determined by volunteers and employees. Volunteers' duties, to be performed under the supervision of an employee, can either supplement employees in established activities or provide additional services for which the volunteer has special talents.
- B. In addition to General Orientation, Alzheimer's Respite Service personnel must attend training specific to address the needs of people with cognitive impairment including communication techniques, redirection techniques, and activity interventions.
- C. The ratio of employees to people served by the service location must be at least one (1) full-time employee per four (4) people served. The service supervisor may be included in the staffing ratio if he/she is on-site and actively engaged in the service. Volunteers may be included in the employee ratio provided that at least two (2) service employees are at the service location.
- D. The Alzheimer's Respite Service must provide a balance of purposeful activities to meet people's interrelated needs and interests (social, intellectual, cultural, economic, emotional, physical, and spiritual). Activities may include, but are not limited to:
1. Personal interaction;
  2. Individualized activities;
  3. Small and large group activities;

4. Intergenerational experiences;
  5. Outdoor activities, as appropriate;
  6. Self-care activities; and,
  7. Culturally and ethnically relevant celebrations.
- E. People served by the service location should be encouraged to take part in activities, but may choose not to do so or may choose another activity.
- F. People must be allowed time for rest and relaxation and to attend to personal and health care needs.
- G. Activity opportunities must be available whenever the service location is in operation. Activity opportunities are defined as structured opportunities for socialization and interaction that are available in large groups, small groups or individual formats. Opportunities for socialization should be individualized to meet the preferences of the participants.
- H. Creative arts activities must be provided to improve or maintain physical, cognitive, and/or social functioning of people receiving services.
- I. Family education and training must be made available at least monthly to family(ies) and/or caregiver(s) of people receiving services. This training must be designed to improve the well-being and functional level of the people served and/or family(ies)/caregiver(s). Provision of family education and training must be documented in the person's record. A family education log must be kept by the Service Supervisor.
- J. Opportunities for case staffing (including problem-solving as to how to respond to challenging scenarios involving people who receive services) between supervisory and all service personnel must be made on a monthly basis or more frequently if determined necessary by the service supervisor.
- K. The services must provide individualized assistance with and supervision of activities of daily living in a safe and hygienic manner, with recognition of a person's dignity and right to privacy, and in a manner that encourages people's maximum level of independence.
- L. The service will ensure that each person receives a minimum of one (1) snack and one (1) nutritious noon meal, as well as adequate liquids throughout the day for services that operate four (4) or less hours a day. Services operating more than four (4) hours a day will ensure each person receives a minimum of two (2) snacks and one (1) nutritious noon meal, as well as adequate liquids throughout the day.
- M. Each Alzheimer's Respite Service location must adhere to the following:
1. Must have its own separate, identifiable space for all activities conducted during operational hours. The Alzheimer's Respite Service must provide at least fifty (50)

- square feet of service space for multipurpose use for people served in the service location.
2. A single service may serve no more than twenty (20) people at a time.
  3. The facility must be flexible and adaptable to accommodate variations of activities (group and/or individual) and services and to protect the privacy of people receiving services.
  4. Identified space for people and/or family(ies)/caregiver(s) to have private discussions with employees must be available.
  5. Restrooms must be located as near the activity area(s) as possible.
  6. A rest area for people served in the service location must be available. This area must have a minimum of one (1) reclining chair per ten (10) people served.
  7. An operable electronic security system that has the capacity to monitor unauthorized entrance or egress, or other movement through the entrance/exits must be utilized.
  8. The use of outside space is encouraged but not required. If a service location utilizes outside space, the following guidelines shall be followed:
    - (a) Must have secure, exterior pathway(s), a minimum of four (4) feet in width.
    - (b) Adequate outside seating.
    - (c) Exterior fencing, a minimum of six (6) feet in height, must enclose the outside area(s) where pathways and seating for people receiving services are provided.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Part 2: Chapter 26: Day Programs for Children/Youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance**

### **Rule 26.1 Day Treatment Services-General**

- A. Day Treatment Services are mid-level intensity programs designed to promote successful community living and well-being for children and youth with serious emotional disturbance. The services provide an alternative to the more restrictive community-based services, such as acute partial hospitalization and MYPAC, and serve to prevent the need for residential treatment, unnecessary acute psychiatric hospitalizations and/or minimize disruptions to the child/youth's participation in the regular school setting. Day Treatment Services are based on therapeutic interventions that address the child/youth's underlying condition, as well as the alleviation of current symptomology. Programmatic activities are based on behavior management principles and include, at a minimum, positive feedback, self-esteem building and social skills training. Additional components are determined by the needs of the participants at a particular service location and may include skills training in the areas of impulse control, anger management, problem solving, and/or conflict resolution.
- B. At a minimum, one (1) Children/Youth's Day Treatment Program must be offered to each school district in the region served by each DMH/C or DMH/P agency provider.
- C. Children/youth must have the following in order to receive Day Treatment Services:
  - 1. An eligibility determination for one (1) of the following: Serious Emotional Disturbance or Autism/Asperger's.
  - 2. A justification of the need for Day Treatment Services which must include documentation of the intensity and duration of problems, as part of the initial assessment or as part of a post-intake case staffing and at least annually thereafter.
- D. Children/youth must be between the ages of three and twenty-one (3-21) to be considered for enrollment in Day Treatment Services. Group composition must be both age and developmentally appropriate.
- E. Each individual Day Treatment program must operate at a minimum of two (2) hours per day, two (2) days per week up to a maximum of five (5) hours per day, five (5) days per week. Each child/youth enrolled in Day Treatment Services must receive the service a minimum of four (4) hours per week.
- F. To ensure each child/youth's confidentiality, no children/youth other than those enrolled in Day Treatment Services can be present in the room during the time Day Treatment Services are being provided.
- G. Only one (1) Day Treatment Service program is allowed per room during the same time period.

- H. Each individual Day Treatment Services program must operate under a separate DMH Certificate of Operation.
- I. The Day Treatment Services Director or his/her designee (as approved by DMH) must:
  - 1. Supervise, plan, coordinate, and evaluate Day Treatment Services. Supervision must be provided at least one (1) continuous hour per month. This should include participation in clinical staffing and/or Treatment Plan review for the people in the program(s) that he/she implements or directs.
  - 2. Provide at least thirty (30) continuous minutes of direct observation to each individual Day Treatment Services program at least quarterly. Documentation of the supervision/observation must be maintained for review.
- J. The Day Treatment Specialist must participate in clinical staffing and/or Treatment Plan review for the people in the program that he/she serves as the primary clinical employee.
- K. DMH Division of Certification must be notified immediately of any interruption of service with an individual Day Treatment program extending over thirty (30) days. If operation has been interrupted for sixty (60) calendar days, the DMH Certificate of Operation for that individual program must be returned to the DMH Division of Certification.
- L. Day Treatment Services are intended to operate year-round and cannot be designed to operate solely during the summer months.
- M. Day Treatment Service programs that are unable to provide services during a school's summer vacation will be allowed to hold that individual program Certificate of Operation until it can be reopened the following school year. If the program has not reopened within sixty (60) calendar days from the first day of the school year, the Certificate of Operation must be returned to the DMH Division of Certification.
- N. Individual Day Treatment Service programs that do not meet during summer vacation must offer services (i.e., Community Support Services, outpatient therapy, etc.) for the child/youth to the parent(s)/legal representative(s) for the period Day Treatment Services are temporarily not in operation. Documentation must be maintained in each child/youth's record that availability of other services was explained and offered to the parent(s)/legal representative(s).
- O. Individual Day Treatment programs operated in a school must ensure that Day Treatment Services continue to adhere to all DMH Operational Standards for MH/IDD/SUD Community Service Providers for this service. Day Treatment Services are a separate program from educational programs which must meet applicable MS Department of Education standards and regulations. Day Treatment Services and educational services may not be provided concurrently.
- P. Each Day Treatment program must be designed and conducted as a therapeutic milieu as evidenced by the use of a curriculum approved by DMH and must include, but not be

limited to, such skill areas as functional living skills, socialization or social skills, problem-solving, conflict resolution, self-esteem improvement, anger control and impulse control. The approved curriculum must be kept on-site. All activities and strategies implemented must be therapeutic, age appropriate, developmentally appropriate and directly related to the objectives in each child/youth's Individual Service Plan.

- Q. All Day Treatment Programs must include the involvement of the family or people acting in loco parentis as often as possible, but not less than twice per month, in order to achieve improvement that can be generalized across environments.
- R. Each Day Treatment Program must operate with a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of ten (10) children/youth. A Day Treatment roll/roster cannot exceed ten (10) children/youth per program.
- S. Day Treatment Programs developed and designed to serve primarily children/youth with a diagnosis of Autism shall not include more than four (4) children/youth with a diagnosis of Autism.
- T. In order to participate in the Day Treatment Program, a child/youth must be on the permanent roster for the program. They shall not participate on an intermittent basis.
- U. Each Day Treatment Program must have a monthly Master Schedule on file at each location to include, at a minimum, the specific skill areas being addressed each day and the specific times these skill areas are being addressed. Skill area activities shown on the Master Schedule must be curriculum-specific.
- V. Each Day Treatment Program must comply with the following:
  - 1. A minimum of twenty (20) square feet of usable space per child/youth.
  - 2. In cases of programs located in a school, the mental health provider is responsible for ensuring that the school district provides a location that meets all DMH Health and Safety requirements. Programs that are conducted in space that is currently accredited by the MS Department of Education will be considered as meeting all Environment/Safety standards.
  - 3. Furnishings, equipment, square footage and other aspects of the Day Treatment Program environment must be age-appropriate, developmentally appropriate, and therapeutic in nature.
- W. The ratio of employees to children/youth receiving services in each Day Treatment Program will be maintained at a minimum ratio of two (2) employees on-site for a minimum of four (4) up to a maximum of ten (10) children/youth per program. Each program must be led by a Day Treatment Specialist. Day Treatment Assistants serve as the second needed employee in this ratio.
- X. For all children/youth participating in Day Treatment Programs, there must be documentation of plans for transitioning a child/youth to a less intensive therapeutic

service. This documentation must be a part of each child/youth's Individual Service Plan and/or case staffing. Transition planning should be initiated when the child/youth begins to receive Day Treatment Services and must be documented within one (1) month of the child/youth's start date for the service.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 26.2 Day Treatment Services for Pre-K**

- A. In addition to Rule 26.1, the standards that follow pertain to agency providers of Day Treatment Services for Pre-K that serve children three-five (3-5) years of age who are identified as having a serious emotional disturbance.
- B. All children must be signed in and out of the program by a parent(s)/legal representative(s). If a child is being transported by the program employee, the parent(s)/legal representative(s) must sign when they put the child on and take the child off of the van. The parent(s)/legal representative(s) must sign their full name along with the time. If the child is to be signed in/out by any person other than the parent/legal representative, written permission from the parent/legal representative must be in the child/youth's record. Sign in/out documentation must be available for review.
- C. Chairs and tables used in the room where Day Treatment Services for Pre-K are provided must be appropriate to the size and age of the children. This furniture must be kept clean with frequent disinfection.
- D. Individual hooks or compartments must be provided for each child for hanging or storing outer and/or extra clothing. Individual hooks or compartments must be spaced well apart so that clothes do not touch those of another child. Each child must have an extra change of properly sized and season-appropriate clothes stored at the program at all times.
- E. All children participating in Day Treatment Services for Pre-K must be age-appropriately immunized and must have a MS State Department of Health Certificate of Immunization Compliance on file.
- F. Any child who is suspected of having a contagious condition must be removed from the room where Day Treatment Services are being provided and sent home with his/her parent/legal representative as soon as possible. The child will not be allowed to return to the Day Treatment program until he/she has been certified by a physician as no longer being contagious. Conditions that would require exclusion from the program include fever, diarrhea, vomiting, rash, sore throat if accompanied by a fever, and/or eye discharge.
- G. During the hours the Day Treatment Program for Pre-K is in operation, children must be offered adequate and nutritious meals and snacks. Menus must be available for review.



Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Part 2: Chapter 27: IDD Day and Employment-Related Services**

### **Rule 27.1 Day Services – Adult**

- A. Day Services-Adult is the provision of regularly scheduled, individualized activities in a non-residential setting, separate from the participant's private residence or other residential living arrangements. Group and individual participation in activities that include daily living and other skills that enhance community participation and meaningful days for each person are provided. Personal choice of activities as well as food, community participation, etc., is required and must be documented and maintained in each person's record.
- B. Activities and environments are designed to foster meaningful day activities for the person to include the acquisition and maintenance of skills, building positive group, individual and interpersonal skills, greater independence and personal choice. Services must optimize, not regiment individual initiative, autonomy and independence in making informed life choices including what he/she does during the day and with whom they interact. Opportunities to seek employment, work in competitive integrated settings, and control personal resources must be offered. The setting must be selected by the person from among setting options, including non-disability specific settings. The setting options are identified and documented in the person-centered service plan and are based on the person's needs and preferences.
- C. Day Services-Adult must have a community component that is individualized and based upon the choices of each person.
  - 1. People have the freedom to control their own schedules and activities, with employee support.
  - 2. Community participation activities must allow access to the community to the same degree of access as someone not receiving Home and Community-Based Services.
  - 3. Community participation can be provided individually or in groups of three (3) people.
- D. Community participation activities occur at times and places of a person's choosing. Community opportunities must be offered to each person at least weekly and address at least one (1) of the following:
  - 1. Activities which address daily living skills; and,
  - 2. Activities which address leisure/social/other community activities and events.
- E. People who may require one-on-one (1:1) assistance must be offered the opportunity to participate in all activities, including those offered on-site and in the community.
- F. Transportation must be provided to and from the service location and for community participation activities. Agency providers must provide wheelchair accessible transportation.
- G. Day Services-Adult includes assistance for people who cannot manage their toileting and other personal care needs during the day.

- H. A person's dignity, respect, privacy and freedom from coercion and restraint must be protected at all times. This includes during community outings, at the service location and with regard to personal needs. A private changing/dressing area must be provided at the service location and in the community, when needed to ensure the dignity, respect and privacy of each person.
- I. All supplies and equipment must be appropriate for adults, in good repair, clean and adequate enough in number to meet all needs and allow participation in activities as desired.
- J. The agency must provide equipment (e.g., adaptive seating, adaptive feeding supplies, safety equipment, etc.) which allows people to participate fully in all service activities and events, both at the certified location and in the community.
- K. People must be assisted in using communication and mobility devices when indicated in the individualized Plan of Services and Supports.
- L. Employees must provide people with assistance with eating/drinking as needed and as indicated in each person's Plan of Services and Supports.
- M. The agency provider is responsible for providing the following:
  - 1. A mid-morning snack,
  - 2. A noon meal and
  - 3. An afternoon snack.
- N. People must be allowed to choose when, where and with whom they eat. People must be offered choices about when they eat and drink.
- O. Each person must have an Activity Support Plan that is developed based on his/her Plan of Services and Supports.
- P. People receiving Day Services-Adult may also receive Prevocational, Supported Employment, or Job Discovery Services but not at the same time of the day.
- Q. The service location must be in operation at least five (5) days per week, six (6) hours per day. The number of hours of service is based on the person's approved Plan of Services and Supports.
- R. There must be a minimum of fifty (50) square feet of usable space per person in the service area. Additional square footage may be required based on the needs of a person.
- S. Day Services-Adult activities must be separate from Prevocational Services activities. Community participation activities cannot be comprised of people receiving Day Services-Adult and those receiving Prevocational Services.
- T. The amount of employee supervision someone receives is based on tiered levels of support determined by a person's score on the Inventory for Client and Agency Planning and risk reflected in the Plan of Services and Supports and the Activity Support Plan.

- U. People must be at least eighteen (18) years of age and have documentation in their record to indicate they have received either a diploma, certificate of completion or are no longer receiving educational services if they are under the age of twenty-two (22).
- V. Day Services-Adult does not include services funded under Section 110 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973* or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.).
- W. The service location must be located in the community so as to provide access to the community at large including shopping, eating, parks, etc., to the same degree of access as someone not receiving ID/DD Waiver services.
- X. Employees invited to the Plan of Services and Supports meeting by the person must be allowed to attend and participate in the development and review of the person's Plan of Services and Supports.
- Y. Employees must be trained regarding the person's Plan of Services and Supports and Activity Support Plan prior to beginning work with the person. This training must be documented in the person's record.
- Z. Day Services-Adult setting requirements must comply with Rule 16.5.L. Day Services-Adult must be physically accessible to the person and must:
  - 1. Be integrated in and support full access of people receiving Home and Community-Based Services to the greater community, to the same degree of access as people not receiving Home and Community-Based Services;
  - 2. Be selected by the person from among setting options including non-disability specific settings. The options are identified and documented in the person-centered service plan and are based on the person's needs and preferences;
  - 3. Ensure a person's rights of privacy, dignity and respect, and freedom from coercion and restraint;
  - 4. Optimize, but not regiment, person initiative, autonomy, and independence in making life choices including but not limited to, daily activities, physical environment, and with whom to interact;
  - 5. Facilitate individual choice regarding services and supports, and who provides them; and,
  - 6. Allow persons to have visitors of their choosing at any time they are receiving Day Services-Adult.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 27.2 Community Respite**

- A. Community Respite is provided in a DMH certified community setting that is not a private residence and is designed to provide caregivers an avenue of receiving respite while the person is in a setting other than his/her home.

- B. Community Respite is designed to provide caregivers a break from constant care giving and provide the person with a place to go which has scheduled activities to address individual preferences/requirements.
- C. The Community Respite agency provider must assist the person with toileting and other hygiene needs.
- D. People must be offered and provided choices about snacks and drinks. There must be meals available if Community Respite is provided during a normal mealtime such as breakfast, lunch or dinner.
- E. For every eight (8) people served, there must be at least two (2) employees actively engaged in service activities. One (1) of these employees may be the on-site supervisor.
- F. The amount of supervision someone receives is based on tiered levels of support determined by a person's score on the Inventory for Client and Agency Planning and risk reflected in the Plan of Services and Supports and the Activity Support Plan.
- G. Community Respite cannot be provided overnight.
- H. Community Respite is not used in place of regularly scheduled day activities such as Supported Employment, Day Services-Adult, Prevocational Services, or services provided through the school system.
- I. People who receive Host Home Services, Supervised Living, Shared Supported Living or Supported Living or who live in any type of staffed residence cannot receive Community Respite.
- J. All supplies and equipment must be age appropriate, in good repair, clean and adequate enough in number to meet all needs and allow participation in activities as desired.
- K. The service must provide equipment (e.g., adaptive seating, adaptive feeding supplies, safety equipment, etc.) which allows people to participate fully in all service activities and events.
- L. People must be assisted in using communication and mobility devices when indicated in the individualized Plan of Services and Supports.
- M. Employees must provide people with assistance with eating/drinking as needed and as indicated in each person's Plan of Services and Supports.
- N. Adults (18 and older) and children/youth cannot be served together in the same area of the building. There must be a clear separation of space and employees.

- O. The service location must be located in the community so as to provide access to the community at large including shopping, eating, parks, etc., to the same degree of access as someone not receiving Home and Community-Based Services.
- P. Each person must have an Activity Support Plan that is developed based on his/her Plan of Services and Supports.
- Q. There must be a minimum of fifty (50) square feet of usable space per person in the service area. Additional square footage may be required based on the needs of people served.
- R. Community Respite must be physically accessible to the person and must:
  - 1. Be integrated in and support full access of people receiving Home and Community-Based Services to the greater community, to the same degree of access as people not receiving Home and Community-Based Services;
  - 2. Be selected by the person from among setting options including non-disability specific settings. The options are identified and documented in the person-centered service plan and are based on the person's needs and preferences;
  - 3. Ensure a person's rights of privacy, dignity and respect, and freedom from coercion and restraint;
  - 4. Optimize, but not regiment, person initiative, autonomy, and independence in making life choices including but not limited to, daily activities, physical environment, and with whom to interact;
  - 5. Facilitate individual choice regarding services and supports, and who provides them; and,
  - 6. Allow persons to have visitors of their choosing at any time they are receiving Community Respite.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 27.3 Prevocational Services**

- A. Prevocational Services provide meaningful day activities of learning and work experiences, including volunteer work, where the person can develop general, non-job task specific strengths and skills that contribute to paid employment in integrated community settings.
- B. Prevocational Services are expected to be provided over a defined period of time with specific outcomes to be achieved as determined by the person and his/her team. There must be a written plan that includes job exploration, work assessment and work training. The plan must also include a statement of needed services and the duration of work activities.
- C. People receiving Prevocational Services must have employment related outcomes in their Plan of Services and Supports; the general habilitation activities must be designed to support such employment outcomes.

- D. Prevocational Services must enable each person to attain the highest level of work in an integrated setting with the job matched to the person's interests, strengths, priorities, abilities, and capabilities, while following applicable federal wage guidelines.
- E. Services are intended to develop and teach general skills that are associated with building skills necessary to perform work in competitive, integrated employment. Teaching job specific skills is not the intent of Prevocational Services. Examples include but are not limited to:
  - 1. Ability to communicate effectively with supervisors, coworkers and customers;
  - 2. Generally accepted community workplace conduct and dress;
  - 3. Ability to follow directions; ability to attend to tasks;
  - 4. Workplace problem solving skills and strategies;
  - 5. General workplace safety and mobility training;
  - 6. Attention span;
  - 7. Motor skills; and,
  - 8. Interpersonal relations.
- F. Participation in Prevocational Services is not a prerequisite for Supported Employment. A person receiving Prevocational Services may pursue employment opportunities at any time to enter the general work force.
- G. Prevocational Services may be furnished in a variety of locations in the community and are not limited to fixed service locations.
- H. Community job exploration activities must be offered at least one (1) time per week and based on choices/requests of the people served and may be provided individually or in groups of up to three (3) people. Documentation of the choice to participate must be documented in each person's record. People who require one-on-one (1:1) assistance must be included in community job exploration activities. Community participation activities must be offered to the same degree of access as someone not receiving services.
- I. Transportation must be provided to and from the service location and for community integration/job exploration.
- J. Any person receiving Prevocational Services who is performing productive work as a trial work experience that benefits the organization or that would have to be performed by someone else if not performed by the person must be paid commensurate with members of the general work force doing similar work per wage and hour regulations of the U.S. Department of Labor.
- K. At least annually, agency providers will conduct an orientation informing people about Supported Employment and other competitive employment opportunities in the community. This documentation must be maintained on-site. Representative(s) from the MS Department of Rehabilitation Services must be invited to participate in the orientation.

- L. Personal care assistance from employees must be a component of Prevocational Services. People cannot be denied Prevocational Services because they require assistance from employees with toileting and/or other personal care needs.
- M. Mobile crews, enclaves and entrepreneurial models that do not meet the definition of Supported Employment and that are provided in groups of up to three (3) people can be included in Prevocational Services away from the service location and be documented as part of the individual plan.
- N. There must be a minimum of fifty (50) square feet of usable space per person receiving services in the service area. Additional square footage may be required based on the needs of a person.
- O. The service must be in operation a minimum of five (5) days per week, six (6) hours per day. The number of hours of service is based on a person's approved Plan of Services and Supports.
- P. The agency provider must ensure it will make available lunch and/or snacks for people who do not bring their own.
- Q. People receiving Prevocational Services may also receive Day Services-Adult, or Job Discovery and/or Supported Employment, but not at the same time of day.
- R. People must be at least eighteen (18) years of age and have documentation in their record to indicate they have received either a diploma or certificate of completion or are no longer receiving educational services if they are under the age of twenty-two (22).
- S. Documentation is maintained that the service is not otherwise available under an agency provider funded under the Section 110 *Rehabilitation Act of 1973* or Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) (20 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.).
- T. Prevocational Services activities must be separate from other service activities. Additionally, community participation activities cannot be comprised of people receiving Prevocational Services and people receiving another service.
- U. Services must optimize, not regiment individual initiative, autonomy and independence in making informed life choices, including but not limited to daily activities, physical environment and with whom they interact.
- V. A private changing/dressing area must be provided to ensure the dignity of each person.
- W. People who have completed educational services and are under the age of twenty-two (22) must be referred to the MS Department of Rehabilitation Services and exhaust those Supported Employment benefits before being able to enroll in Prevocational Services. People under the age of twenty-four (24) must be referred to the MS Department of Rehabilitation Services before they enroll in Prevocational Services in a 14C work setting.



- X. The amount of employee supervision someone receives is based on tiered levels of support determined by a person's score on the Inventory for Client and Agency Planning and risk reflected in the Plan of Services and Supports and the Activity Support Plan.
- Y. Each person must have an Activity Support Plan that is developed based on his/her Plan of Services and Supports.
- Z. Prevocational Services must be physically accessible to the person and must:
  - 1. Be integrated in and support full access of people receiving Home and Community-Based Services to the greater community, to the same degree of access as people not receiving Home and Community-Based Services;
  - 2. Be selected by the person from among setting options including non-disability specific settings. The options are identified and documented in the person-centered service plan and are based on the person's needs and preferences;
  - 3. Ensure a person's rights of privacy, dignity and respect, and freedom from coercion and restraint;
  - 4. Optimize, but not regiment, person initiative, autonomy, and independence in making life choices including but not limited to, daily activities, physical environment, and with whom to interact;
  - 5. Facilitate individual choice regarding services and supports, and who provides them; and,
  - 6. Allow persons to have visitors of their choosing at any time they are receiving Pre-Vocational Services.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 27.4 Job Discovery**

- A. Job Discovery includes, but is not limited to, the following types of person-centered services:
  - 1. Face-to-face interviews that include a review of current and previous supports and services;
  - 2. Assisting the person with volunteerism, self-determination and self-advocacy;
  - 3. Identifying support needs;
  - 4. Developing a plan for achieving integrated employment;
  - 5. Job exploration;
  - 6. Job shadowing;
  - 7. Internships;
  - 8. Employment (informational) seeking skills; current labor market;
  - 9. Interviewing skills;
  - 10. Job and task analysis activities;
  - 11. Job negotiation;
  - 12. Employment preparation (i.e., resume development, work procedures, soft skills);

13. Business plan development for self-employment; and,
14. Environmental and work culture assessments.

B. Job Discovery must include:

1. Contact with the Community Work Incentives Coordinators at the MS Department of Rehabilitation Services to determine the impact of income on benefits.
2. Facilitation of a meeting held prior to discovery with the person and family/friends as appropriate, which describes the job discovery process and its ultimate outcome of securing a community job for the job seeker.
3. Referral to MS Department of Rehabilitation Services.
4. Visit(s) to the person's home (if invited; if not, another location) for the purposes of gaining information about routines, hobbies, family supports, activities and other areas related to a person's living situation.
5. Observation of the neighborhood/areas/local community near the person's home to determine nearby employment, services, transportation, sidewalks and other safety concerns.
6. Interviews with two to three (2-3) people, both paid and not paid to deliver services, who know the person well and are generally active in his/her life.
7. Observations of the person as he/she participates in typical life activities outside of his/her home. At least one (1) observation is required.
8. Participation with the person as he/she participates in typical life activities outside the home. At least two (2) activities are required.
9. Participation in a familiar activity in which the person is at his/her best and most competent. At least one (1) activity is required.
10. Participation in a new activity in which the person is interested in participating but has never had the opportunity to do so. At least one (1) activity is required.
11. Review of existing records and documents.
12. Development of discovery notes, Discovery Logs, and photos along with collecting other information that will be useful in development of the individual Discovery Profile.
13. Development of a person-centered, strength-based Discovery Profile.
14. Development of an employment/career plan.

C. Job Discovery is intended to be time-limited; it cannot exceed thirty (30) hours of service over a three (3) month period.

D. Individual employees must receive or participate in Customized Employment training as specified by DMH before providing Job Discovery Services.

E. People who are currently employed or who are receiving Supported Employment Services cannot receive Job Discovery Services.

F. A Person can receive Prevocational Services and Day Services-Adult, but not at the same time of day.

G. People eligible for Job Discovery include:

1. Someone who is an adult (age eighteen [18]) and has never worked.
2. If less than twenty-two (22) years of age must have documentation in their record to indicate they have received either a diploma, certificate of completion, or otherwise not receiving school services.
3. Someone who has previously had two (2) or more unsuccessful employment placements.
4. Someone who has had a significant change in life situation/support needs that directly affects his/her ability to maintain a job.
5. Someone with multiple disabilities who cannot represent him/herself without assistance and who has not been previously successful in obtaining community employment.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 27.5 Supported Employment for IDD**

- A. Before a person enrolled in the ID/DD Waiver/IDD Community Support Program can receive Supported Employment services, he/she must first be referred by his/her Support Coordinator/Targeted Case Manager to the MS Department of Rehabilitation Services to determine his/her eligibility for services from that agency provider. Documentation must be maintained in the record of each person receiving Supported Employment Services that verifies the service is not available under an agency provider funded under Section 110 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973* or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.).
- B. Employment must be in an integrated work setting in the general workforce where a person is compensated at or above the minimum wage but not less than the customary wage and level of benefits paid by the employer for the same or similar work performed by people without disabilities.
- C. Agency providers must work to reduce the number of hours of employee involvement as the person becomes more productive and less dependent on paid supports. This is decided on a personalized basis based on the job. The amount of support is decided with the person and all employees involved as well as the employer, the MS Department of Rehabilitation Services and the person's team.
- D. Supported Employment Services are provided in a work location where people without disabilities are employed; therefore, payment is made only for adaptations, supervision, and training required by people receiving waiver services as a result of their disabilities, but does not include payment for the supervisory activities rendered as a normal part of the business setting.
- E. Other workplace supports may include services not specifically related to job skills training that enable the person to be successful integrating into the job setting (i.e., appropriate attire, social skills, etc.).

- F. Each person must have an Activity Support Plan that is developed based on his/her Plan of Services and Supports.
- G. Agency providers must be able to provide all activities that constitute Supported Employment:
1. Job Seeking/Job Development – Activities that assist a person in determining the best type of job for him/her and then locating a job in the community that meets those stated desires. Job Seeking is limited to ninety (90) hours per certification year. Additional hours may be approved by the DMH Bureau of Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities on an individual basis with appropriate documentation. Job Seeking includes:
    - (a) Completion of IDD Employment Profile
    - (b) Person-Centered Career Planning, conducted by Supported Employment agency provider employees, which is a discussion of specific strategies that will be helpful to assist job seekers with disabilities to plan for job searches
    - (c) Job Development
      - (1) Determining the type of environment in which the person is at his/her best
      - (2) Determining in what environments has the person experienced success
      - (3) Determining what work and social skills does the person bring to the environment
      - (4) Assessing environments in which his/her skills are viewed as an asset
      - (5) Determining what types of work environments should be avoided
    - (d) Employer research
    - (e) Employer needs assessment
      - (1) Tour the employment site to capture the requirements of the job
      - (2) Observe current employees
      - (3) Assess the culture and the potential for natural supports
      - (4) Determine unmet needs
    - (f) Negotiation with prospective employers
      - (1) Employer needs are identified
      - (2) Job developer acts as a representative for the job seeker.
  2. Job Coaching/Job Maintenance – Activities that assist a person to learn and maintain a job in the community. For the ID/DD Waiver, the amount of Job Coaching a person receives is dependent upon individual need, team recommendations, and employer evaluation. For the IDD Community Support Program, the maximum amount of Job Coaching a person may receive is one hundred (100) hours per month. Job Coaching includes:
    - (a) Meeting and getting to know co-workers and supervisors
    - (b) Learning company policies, dress codes, orientation procedures, and company culture
    - (c) Job and task analysis
      - (1) Core work tasks
      - (2) Episodic work tasks
      - (3) Job related tasks

- (4) Physical needs
    - (5) Sensory and communication needs
    - (6) Academic needs
    - (7) Technology needs
  - (d) Systematic instruction
    - (1) Identification and instructional analysis of the goal
    - (2) Analysis of entry behavior and learner characteristics
    - (3) Performance Objectives
    - (4) Instructional strategy
  - (e) Identification of natural supports
    - (1) Personal associations and relationships typically developed in the community that enhance the quality and security of life
    - (2) Focus on natural cues
    - (3) Establish circles of support
  - (f) Ongoing support and monitoring.
- H. If a person moves from one (1) job to another or advances within the current employment site, it is the Supported Employment agency provider's responsibility to update the profile/resume created during the job search.
- I. Transportation will be provided between the person's place of residence for job seeking and job coaching as well as between the location of the person's job or between day service locations as a component part of Supported Employment. Transportation cannot comprise the entirety of the service. If local or other transportation is available, the person may choose to use it but the agency provider is ultimately responsible for ensuring the availability of transportation.
- J. Supported Employment may also include services and supports that assist the person in achieving self-employment through the operation of a business, either home-based or community-based. Such assistance may include:
- 1. Assisting the person to identify potential business opportunities;
  - 2. Assistance in the development of a business plan, including potential sources of business financing and other assistance in developing and starting a business (e.g., internet and telephone service, website development, advertising, incorporation, taxes, etc.);
  - 3. Identification of the supports that are necessary for the person to operate the business;
  - 4. Ongoing assistance, counseling and guidance once the business has been launched;
  - 5. Up to fifty-two (52) hours per month of at-home assistance by a job coach, including business plan development and assistance with tasks related to producing the product, and,
  - 6. Up to thirty-five (35) hours per month for assistance in the community by a job coach.
- K. Payment is not made for any expenses associated with starting up or operating a business. Referrals for assistance in obtaining supplies and equipment for someone desiring to

achieve self-employment should be made to the MS Department of Rehabilitation Services. There must be documentation of the referral in the person's record.

- L. Assistance with toileting and hygiene may be a component part of Supported Employment, but may not comprise the entirety of the service.
- M. People cannot receive Supported Employment during the job discovery process.
- N. Supported employment does not include facility-based or other types of services furnished in a specialized facility that are not part of the general workforce. Supported Employment cannot take place in a facility-based service location.
- O. Supported Employment does not include volunteer work or unpaid internships.
- P. Agency providers are prohibited from making incentive payments to an employer to encourage or subsidize the employer's participation in the Supported Employment Services and/or passing payments through to users of Supported Employment Services.
- Q. People receiving Supported Employment may also receive Prevocational Services or Day Services-Adult services, but not at the same time of day.
- R. People must be at least eighteen (18) years of age to participate in Supported Employment and have documentation in their record to indicate they have received either a diploma or certificate of completion or are not otherwise receiving school services if they are under the age of twenty-two (22).
- S. Each person must have an Activity Support Plan that is developed based on his/her Plan of Services and Supports

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Part 2: Chapter 28: Community Living Services for People with Serious Mental Illness**

### **Rule 28.1 Supervised Living Services for Serious Mental Illness Service Components**

- A. Supervised Living Services provide individually tailored supports which assist with the acquisition, retention, or improvement in skills related to living in the community. Habilitation, learning and instruction are coupled with the elements of support, supervision and engaging participation to reflect the natural flow of learning, practice of skills, and other activities as they occur during the course of a person's day. Activities must support meaningful days for each person. Activities are to be designed to promote independence yet provide necessary support and assistance.
- B. Supervised Living Services may be intensive and time-limited for adults with serious mental illness in order to provide readjustment and transitional living services for people discharged from a psychiatric hospital who have demonstrated mental, physical, social and emotional competency to function more independently in the community. These time-limited services may also be provided for people who need this service as an alternative to a more restrictive treatment setting.
- C. Supervised Living Services must include the following services as appropriate to each person's support needs:
  - 1. Direct personal care assistance activities such as:
    - (a) Grooming;
    - (b) Eating;
    - (c) Bathing;
    - (d) Dressing; and,
    - (e) Personal hygiene.
  - 2. Instrumental activities of daily living which include:
    - (a) Assistance with planning and preparing meals;
    - (b) Cleaning;
    - (c) Transportation;
    - (d) Assistance with ambulation and mobility;
    - (e) Supervision of the person's safety and security;
    - (f) Banking;
    - (g) Shopping;
    - (h) Budgeting;
    - (i) Facilitation of the person's participation in community activities;
    - (j) Use of natural supports and typical community services available to everyone;
    - (k) Social activities;
    - (l) Participation in leisure activities;
    - (m) Development of socially valued behaviors; and,
    - (n) Assistance with scheduling and attending appointments.

3. Methods for assisting people arranging and accessing routine and emergency medical care and monitoring their health and/or physical condition. Documentation of the following must be maintained in each person's record:
    - (a) Assistance with making doctor/dentist/optical appointments;
    - (b) Transporting and accompanying people to such appointments; and,
    - (c) Conversations with the medical professional, if the person gives consent.
  4. Transporting people to and from community activities, other places of the person's choice (within the agency provider's approved geographic region), work, and other sites as documented in the individual plan.
  5. If Supervised Living Services personnel were unable to participate in the development of the person's Plan of Service, employees must be trained regarding the person's plan prior to beginning work with the person. This training must be documented as defined in the Record Guide.
  6. Orientation of the person to Community Living Services, to include but not limited to:
    - (a) Familiarization of the person with the living arrangement and, neighborhood;
    - (b) Introduction to support personnel and other people (if appropriate);
    - (c) Description of the written materials provided upon admission; and,
    - (d) Description of the process for informing people/parent(s)/legal representative(s) of their rights, responsibilities and any service restrictions or limitations prior to or at the time of admission.
- D. Meals must be provided at least three (3) times per day, and snacks must be provided throughout the day. Documentation of meal planning must be available for review, and documentation must include development of a menu with input from people living in the residence that includes varied, nutritious meals and snacks and a description of how/when meals and snacks will be prepared.
1. People must have access to food at any time, unless prohibited by their individual plan.
  2. People must have choices of the food they eat.
  3. People must have choices about when and with whom they eat.
- E. People receiving services are prohibited from having friends, family members, etc., living with them who are not also receiving services as part of the Supervised Living Services.
- F. In living arrangements in which people pay rent and/or room and board to the agency provider, there must be a written financial agreement which addresses, at a minimum, the following:
1. Procedures for setting and collecting fees and/or room and board (in accordance with Part 2: Chapter 10 Fiscal Management)
  2. A detailed description of the basic charges agreed upon (e.g., rent [if applicable], utilities, food, etc.)



3. The time period covered by each charge (must be reviewed at least annually or at any time charges change)
4. The service(s) for which special charge(s) are made (e.g., internet, cable, etc.)
5. The written financial agreement must be explained to and reviewed with the person/legal representative(s) prior to or at the time of admission and at least annually thereafter or whenever fees are changed.
6. A requirement that the person's record contains a copy of the written financial agreement which is signed and dated by the person/legal representative(s) indicating the contents of the agreement were explained to the person and he/she is in agreement with the contents. A signed copy must also be given to the person/legal representative(s) or representative(s).
7. The written financial agreement must include language specifying the conditions, if any, under which a person might be evicted from the living setting that ensures that the agency provider will arrange or coordinate an appropriate replacement living option to prevent the person from becoming homeless as a result of discharge/termination from the community living services.

G. People must be eighteen (18) years or older to participate in Supervised Living.

H. A qualified employee must be designated as responsible for the service location at all times. There must be male/female employee coverage as necessary.

I. Apartment settings with an apartment manager with responsibilities related to collection of fees, maintenance, etc., must also have at least one (1) treatment/support personnel on-site in order to be considered Supervised Living.

J. There must be at least one (1) employee physically on-site when people are present.

K. A maximum of eight (8) people may reside in a single residence for services initially certified after the effective date of these standards.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 28.2 Environment and Safety for Supervised Living Services for Serious Mental Illness**

- A. Supervised Living Services locations must, to the maximum extent possible, duplicate a "home-like" environment.
- B. All locations must have furnishings that are safe, up-to-date, comfortable, appropriate, and adequate. Furnishings, to the greatest extent possible, are chosen by the people currently living in the home.
- C. All agency providers must provide access to a washer and dryer in the home, apartment, or apartment complex and must ensure the laundry room or area has an exterior ventilation system for the clothes dryer free from excessive lint and dust accumulation.

- D. Agency providers must develop policies regarding pets and animals on the premises. Animal/Pet policies must address, at a minimum, the following:
1. Documentation of vaccinations against rabies and all other diseases communicable to humans must be maintained on-site;
  2. Procedures to ensure pets will be maintained in a sanitary manner (no fleas, ticks, unpleasant odors, etc.);
  3. Procedures to ensure pets will be kept away from food preparation sites and eating areas; and,
  4. Procedures for controlling pets to prevent injury to people living in the home as well as visitors and employees (e.g., animal in crate, put outside, put in a secure room, etc.).
- E. Bedrooms must not have windows over forty-four (44) inches off the floor if identified as a means of egress. All windows at all levels must be operable.
- F. Bedrooms must meet the following dimension requirements:
1. Single room occupancy - at least one hundred (100) square feet; and,
  2. Multiple occupancy - at least eighty (80) square feet for each person.
- G. Bedrooms must be appropriately furnished with a minimum of a single bed, chest of drawers, appropriate lighting and adequate storage/closet space for each person.
- H. Bedrooms must be located so as to minimize the entrance of unpleasant odors, excessive noise, or other nuisances.
- I. Beds must be provided with a good grade of mattress which is at least four (4) inches thick on a raised bed frame. Cots or roll-away beds may not be used.
- J. Each bed must be equipped with a minimum of one (1) pillow and case, two (2) sheets, spread, and blanket(s). An adequate supply of linens must be available to change linens at least once a week or sooner if the lines become soiled.
- K. People have the freedom to furnish and decorate their own rooms in compliance with any lease restrictions that may be in place regarding wall color, wall hangings, etc.
- L. All service locations must have a bathroom with at least one (1) operable toilet, one (1) operable lavatory/sink and one (1) operable shower or tub for every six (6) people.
- M. All service locations must ensure bathtubs and showers are equipped with:
1. Soap dishes;
  2. Towel racks;
  3. Shower curtains or doors; and,
  4. Grab bars (as needed by people).

- N. Each person must be provided at least two (2) sets of bath linens, including bath towels, hand towels, and wash cloths.
- O. All Supervised Living Services locations of two (2) stories or more in height where people are housed above the ground floor must be protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system and a fire alarm and detection system.
- P. Auditory smoke/fire alarms with a noise level loud enough to awaken people must be located in each bedroom, hallways and/or corridors, and common areas.
- Q. Residential facilities using fuel burning equipment and/or appliances (i.e., gas heater, gas water heater, etc.) must have carbon monoxide alarms/detectors placed in a central location outside of sleeping areas.
- R. Each bedroom must have at least two (2) means of egress.
- S. The exit door(s) nearest people's bedrooms must not be locked in a manner that prohibits ease of egress.
- T. People must not have to travel through any room not under their control (i.e., subject to locking) to reach designated exit, visiting area, dining room, kitchen, or bathroom.
- U. All agency providers must ensure visiting areas are provided for people and visitors, and each visiting area must have at least two (2) means of egress.
- V. All service locations must have separate storage areas for:
  - 1. Sanitary linen;
  - 2. Food (Food supplies cannot be stored on the floor.); and,
  - 3. Cleaning supplies.
- W. All service locations must ensure an adequate, operable central heating and cooling system is provided to maintain temperature between sixty-eight (68) degrees and seventy-eight (78) degrees Fahrenheit.
- X. The setting is integrated in and supports full access to the community to the same extent as people not receiving Supervised Living Services.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 28.3 Supported Living Services for Serious Mental Illness Service Components**

- A. Supported Living Services is provided to people who reside in their own residences (either owned or leased) for the purposes of increasing and enhancing independent living in the

community. Supported Living Services is for people who need less than twenty-four (24) hour employee support per day. Employees must be on-call 24/7 in order to respond to emergencies via phone call or return to the living site, depending on the type of emergency. Supported Living Services are provided in a home-like setting where people have access to the community at large to the same extent as people who do not have a serious mental illness.

- B. Supported Living Services are for people age eighteen (18) and above with serious mental illness and are provided in residences in the community for six (6) or fewer people.
- C. Supported Living Services provides assistance with the following, depending on each person's support needs:
  - 1. Grooming;
  - 2. Eating;
  - 3. Bathing;
  - 4. Dressing; and,
  - 5. Personal hygiene.
- D. Supported Living Services provides assistance with instrumental activities of daily living which include assistance with:
  - 1. Planning and preparing meals;
  - 2. Transportation or assistance with securing transportation;
  - 3. Assistance with ambulation and mobility;
  - 4. Supervision of the person's safety and security;
  - 5. Banking;
  - 6. Shopping;
  - 7. Budgeting;
  - 8. Facilitation of the person's inclusion participation in community activities; and,
  - 9. Use of natural supports and typical community services available to all people in order to facilitate meaningful days.
- E. Agency providers must develop methods, procedures and activities to provide meaningful days and independent living choices about activities/services/employees for the people served in the community.
- F. Procedures must be in place for people to access any other needed services as well as typical community services available to all people in order to facilitate meaningful days and development of natural supports.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 28.4 Supported Living Services for Serious Mental Illness Environment and Safety**

- A. Each housing unit/house must provide operable 2A-10B, C multi-purpose fire extinguishers in fixed locations that are readily accessible for use in the home, (i.e., kitchens, laundry areas, garages, gas water heater locations) and which must be mounted in a secure manner.
- B. Agency providers must document that all fire extinguishers are properly maintained and serviced. Homes must have evidence that fire extinguishers are being recharged or replaced, as needed, but at a minimum every six (6) years. Fire extinguishers that cannot be recharged for whatever reason must be replaced immediately.
- C. Each housing unit/house must have, at a minimum, operable carbon monoxide detector where natural gas or any other source of carbon monoxide emission is used or where there is an open flame (e.g., gas heater, gas water heater, etc.). One (1) carbon monoxide detector must be located in every one thousand (1,000) square foot area or less.
- D. In lieu of posted escape routes, agency providers must document training that prepares a person to exit his/her housing unit/house in the event of emergency.
- E. At least annually, training must be provided to people receiving Supported Living Services (whether or not the housing unit/house is owned or controlled by the agency provider) which includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  - 1. The PASS (Pull, Aim, Squeeze, Sweep) method of using a fire extinguisher. If necessary, employees must assist in obtaining and mounting the fire extinguisher;
  - 2. Fire, smoke and carbon monoxide safety and the use of detectors. If necessary, employees must assist in obtaining and mounting fire, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors;
  - 3. Hot water safety. If necessary, employees must assist in testing and regulating the hot water temperature, documenting such in a log to be maintained by the agency provider employees; and,
  - 4. Any other health/safety issues based on the needs or identified risk for each person.
- F. All training for Supported Living Services must take place upon admission and at least annually thereafter. Documentation is to be maintained in the person's record.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## **Part 2: Chapter 29: Community Living Services for Children/Youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance**

### **Rule 29.1 All Community Living Services for Children/Youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance**

- A. Each child/youth (ages 5 to 16 years) must be enrolled and attend an appropriate educational service in the local school district or be enrolled in an educational service operated by the agency provider that meets the individualized educational needs of the child/youth and is accredited by the MS Department of Education. The Community Living Handbook must describe how this occurs for the children/youth served.
- B. Agency providers must provide a balance of age-appropriate, goal-oriented activities to meet the individualized needs and build on the strengths of the children/youth served in the service. Areas to be addressed by such services must include the following:
  - 1. Social skills development based on each child/youth's diagnosis and functional assessment;
  - 2. Wellness education;
  - 3. Increasing self-esteem;
  - 4. Leisure activities;
  - 5. Substance use education/counseling;
  - 6. HIV/AIDS education and/or counseling; and,
  - 7. Education and counseling about sexually transmitted diseases.
- C. Agency providers must describe how group and individual activities, as well as routines for the children/youth are planned and how these activities are related to objectives in the Individual Service Plans of children/youth served. Daily and weekly schedule(s) of activities must be maintained on file for at least three (3) months.
- D. Agency providers must obtain written permission from the parent(s)/legal representative(s) for the child/youth to participate in service activities away from the Supervised Living location.
- E. Agency providers must ensure the child/youth has a dental examination within sixty (60) days after admission and annually thereafter or have evidence of a dental examination within twelve (12) months prior to admission to the Supervised Living Services.
- F. Agency providers must place a current, dated photograph of the child/youth in his/her record within thirty (30) days of admission.
- G. Agency providers of services to children/youth under the age of eighteen (18) must have on file an assurance signed by the Executive Director of the Community Living Service provider stating compliance with the provisions of Public Law 103-227 (Pro-Children Act of 1994). Note: Agency providers funded by DMH must have a current "Certification Regarding Environmental Tobacco Smoke."

- H. All environmental and physical safety requirements for foster homes and therapeutic group homes are under the jurisdiction of the MS Department of Child Protection Services. DMH is responsible for certifying and monitoring the therapeutic/clinical components of Therapeutic Foster Care Services and Therapeutic Group Home Services.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 29.2 Therapeutic Foster Care for Children/Youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance**

- A. Agency providers of Therapeutic Foster Care must also meet the requirements in Rule 29.1.
- B. Therapeutic Foster Care Services are intensive community-based services for children/youth with significant developmental, emotional or behavioral needs provided by mental health professional personnel and trained foster parents, resource parents or group home agency providers who provide a therapeutic service for children/youth with serious emotional disturbances living in a resource home licensed by the MS Department of Child Protection Services.
- C. Therapeutic Foster Care agency providers can use only adults with current documentation of foster parent or resource family approval from the MS Department of Child Protection Services.
- D. Each foster home or resource home must have no more than one (1) child/youth with serious emotional disturbance placed in the home at a given time. Agency providers seeking to place more than one (1) child/youth with serious emotional disturbance in a resource home must obtain prior approval from the MS Department of Child Protection Services. Siblings with serious emotional disturbance may be placed together in the same home if all of the following conditions apply:
  - 1. The siblings have never been separated;
  - 2. The siblings are not a danger to others or to each other; and,
  - 3. Therapeutic resource parents asked to place siblings in their home must consent, in advance in writing, to the placement. This documentation must be maintained in the record of each sibling.
- E. Each Therapeutic Foster Care agency provider licensed for a minimum of ten (10) foster homes or resource homes must have a full-time director with overall administrative and supervisory responsibility for the services.
  - 1. If the Therapeutic Foster Care agency provider is certified for fewer than ten (10) homes, the director can have administrative or supervisory responsibility for other services or service locations; however, documentation must be maintained that at least fifty percent (50%) of the director's time is spent in administration and supervision of the Therapeutic Foster Care Services.



- F. Each Therapeutic Foster Care agency provider licensed for ten (10) to thirty (30) foster homes or resource homes must have one (1) full-time Therapeutic Foster Care Specialist whose services target the therapeutic foster parents or resource families. The Therapeutic Foster Care Specialist's specific responsibilities must include at least the following:
1. Recruitment and training of therapeutic foster parents or therapeutic resource parents;
  2. Conducting interviews and other necessary work to place appropriately individual children/youth with prospective Therapeutic Foster Care or resource parents;
  3. Maintenance of regular contacts with Therapeutic Foster Care or resource families and documentation of those contacts in the person's records; and,
  4. Performance of other foster parent or resource family support activities, as needed.
- G. If the Therapeutic Foster Care agency provider is licensed for fewer than ten (10) foster or resource homes, the Therapeutic Foster Care Specialist can have other responsibilities; however, documentation must be maintained that at least ten percent (10%) of his/her time for every one (1) therapeutic foster home or resource home is spent in performing duties of the Therapeutic Foster Care Specialist/Community Support Specialist.
- H. The Therapeutic Foster Care Specialist must have face-to-face contact with each therapeutic foster or resource parent(s) at least two (2) times per month, with at least one (1) of the two (2) contacts made during a home visit. All contacts of the Therapeutic Foster Care Specialist with the therapeutic foster or resource parent(s) must be documented in the record of the therapeutic resource parent(s).
- I. All clinical/mental health therapeutic services for all children receiving Therapeutic Foster Care Services must be provided by an employee who holds a Master's degree and professional license or who is a DMH Certified Mental Health Therapist, DMH Certified Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Therapist or a DMH Certified Addictions Therapist (when appropriate for the person receiving services and the service being provided).
- J. Therapeutic Foster Care services must include individual therapy, family therapy, annual psychiatric evaluation, and twenty-four (24) hours per day and seven (7) days a week emergency services and crisis intervention. Group therapy may also be provided.
- K. Each Therapeutic Foster Care provider must have one (1) full-time professionally licensed or DMH credentialed Mental Health Therapist for every twenty (20) foster children/youth in Therapeutic Foster Care Services. The mental health therapist(s) for the Therapeutic Foster Care Services must serve only in the mental health therapist role (i.e., cannot serve as the director or the Therapeutic Foster Care Specialist).
- L. The mental health therapist is required to have at least one (1) individual therapy session per week with the child/youth. At least one (1) family session per month is required with the resource parent(s).

- M. A licensed psychiatrist with experience working with children/youth, on an employment or contractual basis, must be available for children/youth served by the Therapeutic Foster Care provider.
- N. All foster home or resource parents must complete annual training as required in Part 2: Chapter 12. Topics should be addressed from a family perspective.
- O. In addition to the annual training required in Part 2: Chapter 12, specific training for foster home or resource parents must include verbal de-escalation skills, behavior management techniques, and trauma informed care.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 29.3 Therapeutic Group Homes for Children/Youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance**

- A. Agency providers of Therapeutic Group Homes must also meet the requirements in Rule 29.1.
- B. The maximum bed capacity of each Therapeutic Group Home is ten (10) beds per home for children/youth twelve (12) years of age through age twenty (20) years and (11) eleven months and eight (8) beds for children/youth ages six (6) years through eleven (11) years and eleven (11) months. DMH may require a lower bed capacity than described in this standard, depending on the age, developmental or level of functioning, or intensity of need for intervention and supervision of the population of children/youth served in the individual home.
- C. There may be no more than two (2) children/youth per bedroom in a Therapeutic Group Home. The agency provider must ensure that the employees on-site are of a sufficient number to provide adequate supervision of children/youth in a safe, therapeutic home environment and must meet the following minimum requirements:
  - 1. In Therapeutic Group Homes with five (5) or fewer children/youth, at least one (1) employee (which can be a direct support worker or house parent) with at least a Bachelor's degree in a mental health or related field must be assigned to direct service responsibilities for the children/youth during all hours.
  - 2. For Therapeutic Group Homes with six (6) to ten (10) children/youth, at least two (2) employees must be assigned to direct service responsibilities during all hours children/youth are awake and not in school. One (1) of the two (2) employees can be a direct support worker or house parent and one (1) must be a professional employee with at least a Bachelor's degree in a mental health or related field.
  - 3. Have a full-time director who is on-site at least forty (40) hours per week.
  - 4. Other appropriate professional employees must be available to assist in emergencies, at least on an on-call basis, at all times.
  - 5. DMH may require an employee to youth ratio lower than described above, depending

on the age, developmental or functional level, or intensity of need for intervention and supervision of the population of children/youth served by the individual home.

- D. A licensed psychiatrist and a professionally licensed or DMH credentialed Mental Health Therapist with experience working with children/youth must be available for children/youth served by the Therapeutic Group Home.
- E. Services must provide each child/youth with therapeutic activities and experience in the skills he/she needs to support a successful transition to a less restrictive setting or level of service.
- F. The mental health therapist is required to have at least one (1) individual therapy session per week with the child/youth.
- G. Transition plans must be developed within ninety (90) days prior to completion of a Therapeutic Group Home service and be included in the child/youth's record and shared with community service providers.
- H. Animal/Pet policies must address, at a minimum, the following:
  - 1. Documentation of vaccinations against rabies and all other diseases communicable to humans must be maintained at the service location;
  - 2. Procedures to ensure pets will be maintained in a sanitary manner (no fleas, ticks, unpleasant odors, etc.);
  - 3. Procedures to ensure pets will be kept away from food preparation sites and eating areas; and,
  - 4. Procedures for controlling pets to prevent injury to people living in the home as well as visitors and employees (e.g., animal in crate, put outside, put in a secure room, etc.).

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 29.4 Community Living Handbook**

- A. In addition to information contained in the agency provider's policies and procedures manual, Therapeutic Group Home providers must develop a handbook which includes all policies and procedures for provision of Therapeutic Group Home Services. Handbooks are to be provided to the person/parent(s)/legal representative(s) during orientation. The Community Living Handbook must be readily available for review by employees and must be updated as needed.
- B. All agency providers of Therapeutic Group Home Services must document that each person (and/or parent[s]/legal representative[s]) is provided with a handbook and orientation on the day of admission. The agency provider must document the review of the handbook with the person annually (if applicable to the service).

- C. All Therapeutic Group Home providers must have a written plan for soliciting input from people about all sections of the handbook.
- D. The service and site-specific handbook must be written in a person-first, person-friendly manner that can be readily understood by the person/parent(s)/legal representative(s).
- E. Therapeutic Group Home providers must have a written plan for providing the handbook information in a person's language of choice when necessary if English is not the person's primary language.
- F. The Community Living Handbook may not be a book of rules.
- G. The handbook may not include any rules or restrictions that infringe on or limit the person's ability to live in the least restricted environment possible or that limit or restrict the rights of people receiving services specified in Chapter 14 of these standards.
- H. At a minimum, the Community Living Handbook must address the following:
  - 1. A person-friendly, person-first definition and description of the community living service being provided;
  - 2. The philosophy, purpose and overall goals of the service, to include but are not limited to:
    - (a) Methods for accomplishing stated goals and objectives;
    - (b) Expected results/outcomes; and,
    - (c) Methods to evaluate expected results/outcomes.
  - 3. A description of how the Therapeutic Group Home service addresses the following items, to include but not limited to:
    - (a) Visitation guidelines (applying to family, significant others, friends and other visitors) that are appropriate to Therapeutic Group Home services;
      - (1) Person's right to define his/her family and support systems for visitation purposes unless clinically/socially contraindicated;
      - (2) All actions regarding visitors (restrictions, defining individual and family support systems, etc.) must be documented in the person's record;
      - (3) Any restrictions on visitors must be reviewed whenever there is an identified need or request by the person to change any of the restrictions;
      - (4) Visitation rights must not be withheld as punishment and may not be limited in ways that unreasonably infringe on the person's stated rights; and,
      - (5) To the greatest extent possible, people should have visitors of their choosing at any time.
    - (b) Daily private communication (phone, mail, email, etc.) without hindrance unless clinically contraindicated:
      - (1) Any restrictions on private telephone use must be reviewed daily;
      - (2) All actions regarding restrictions on outside communication must be documented in the person's record; and,

- (3) Communication rights must not be withheld as punishment and may not be limited in ways that unreasonably infringe on the person's stated rights.
  - (c) Dating
  - (d) Off-site activities
  - (e) Household tasks
  - (f) Curfew
  - (g) Respecting the rights of other people's privacy, safety, health and choices.
- 4. Policy regarding the search of the person's room, person and/or possessions, to include but not limited to:
  - (a) Circumstances in which a search may occur;
  - (b) Employees designated to authorize searches;
  - (c) Documentation of searches; and,
  - (d) Consequences of discovery of prohibited items.
- 5. Policy regarding screening for prohibited/illegal substances, to include but not limited to:
  - (a) Circumstances in which screens may occur;
  - (b) Employees designated to authorize screening;
  - (c) Documentation of screening;
  - (d) Consequences of positive screening of prohibited substances;
  - (e) Consequences of refusing to submit to a screening; and,
  - (f) Process for people to report in a confidential manner the use of prohibited substances prior to being screened.
- I. Criteria for termination/discharge from the Therapeutic Group Home Service.
- J. Agency providers must also address:
  - 1. A description of the meals, which must be provided at least three (3) times per day, and snacks to be provided. This must include development of a menu with input from people living in the residence that includes varied, nutritious meals and snacks and a description of how/when meals and snacks will be prepared. People must have access to food at any time, unless prohibited by their individual plan;
  - 2. Personal hygiene care and grooming, including any assistance that might be needed;
  - 3. Medication management (including storing and dispensing); and,
  - 4. Prevention of and protection from infection, including communicable diseases.
- K. Agency providers must develop policies regarding pets and animals on the premises for all Therapeutic Group Homes.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Part 2: Chapter 30: Residential Services for People with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities**

### **Rule 30.1 Supervised Living Services for Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Service Components**

- A. Supervised Living Services provide individually tailored supports which assist with the acquisition, retention, or improvement in skills related to living in the community. Learning and instruction are coupled with the elements of support, supervision and engaging participation to reflect the natural flow of learning, practice of skills, and other activities as they occur during the course of a person's day. Activities must support meaningful days for each person. Activities are to be designed to promote independence yet provide necessary support and assistance. Agency providers should focus on working with the person to gain maximum independence and opportunity in all life activities. Agency providers must ensure each person's rights of privacy, dignity and respect and freedom from coercion. Services must optimize, but not regiment, a person's initiative, autonomy and independence in making life choices, including, but not limited to daily activities, physical environment, and with whom to interact.
- B. Supervised Living Services must include the following supports as appropriate to each person's needs:
  - 1. Direct personal care assistance activities such as:
    - (a) Grooming;
    - (b) Eating;
    - (c) Bathing;
    - (d) Dressing; and,
    - (e) Personal care needs.
  - 2. Instrumental activities of daily living which include:
    - (a) Assistance with planning and preparing meals;
    - (b) Cleaning;
    - (c) Transportation;
    - (d) Assistance with mobility both at home and in the community;
    - (e) Supervision of the person's safety and security;
    - (f) Banking;
    - (g) Shopping;
    - (h) Budgeting;
    - (i) Facilitation of the person's participation in community activities;
    - (j) Use of natural supports and typical community services available to everyone;
    - (k) Social activities;
    - (l) Participation in leisure activities;
    - (m) Development of socially valued behaviors; and,
    - (n) Assistance with scheduling and attending appointments.

3. Methods for assisting people arranging and accessing routine and emergency medical care and monitoring their health and/or physical condition. Documentation of the following must be maintained in each person's record:
    - (a) Assistance with making doctor/dentist/optical appointments;
    - (b) Transporting and accompanying people to such appointments; and,
    - (c) Conversations with the medical professional, if the person gives consent.
  4. Transporting people to and from community activities, other places of the person's choice, work, and other sites as documented in the Activity Support Plan and the Plan of Services and Supports.
  5. Employees the person invites to the Plan of Services and Supports must be allowed to attend.
  6. If Supervised Living Services personnel were unable to participate in the development of the person's Plan of Services and Supports, employees must be trained regarding the person's plan prior to beginning work with the person. This training must be documented as defined in the DMH Record Guide.
  7. Orientation of the person to Supervised Living Services, to include but not limited to:
    - (a) Familiarization of the person with the living arrangement and neighborhood;
    - (b) Introduction to support personnel and other people living in the home (if appropriate);
    - (c) Description of the written materials provided upon admission; and,
    - (d) Description of the process for informing people/parent(s)/legal representative(s) of their rights, responsibilities and any agency provider policies prior to or at the time of admission.
- C. Meals must be provided at least three (3) times per day, and snacks must be provided throughout the day. Documentation of meal planning must be available for review, and documentation must include development of a menu with input from people living in the residence that includes varied, nutritious meals and snacks and a description of how/when meals and snacks will be made available.
1. People must have access to food at any time. Any restrictions must be documented in their Plan of Services and Supports and/or Activity Support Plan.
  2. People must have choices of the food they eat. Any restrictions must be documented in their Plan of Services and Supports and/or Activity Support Plan.
  3. People must have choices about when and with whom they eat.
- D. People receiving services are prohibited from having friends, family members, etc., living with them who are not also receiving services as part of the Supervised Living Services.
- E. In living arrangements in which people pay rent and/or room and board to the agency provider, there must be a written financial agreement which addresses, at a minimum, the following:

1. Procedures for setting and collecting fees and/or room and board (in accordance with Part 2: Chapter 10 Fiscal Management).
  2. A detailed description of the basic charges agreed upon (e.g., rent [if applicable], utilities, food, etc.)
  3. The time period covered by each charge (must be reviewed at least annually or at any time charges change).
  4. The service(s) for which special charge(s) are made (e.g., internet, cable, etc.)
  5. The written financial agreement must be explained to and reviewed with the person/legal representative(s) prior to or at the time of admission and at least annually thereafter or whenever fees are changed.
  6. A requirement that the person's record contains a copy of each written financial agreement which is signed and dated by the person/legal representative(s) indicating the contents of the agreement were explained to him/her and he/she is in agreement with the contents. A signed copy must also be given to the person/legal representative(s).
  7. The written financial agreement must include language specifying the conditions, if any, under which a person might be evicted from the living setting that ensures that the agency provider will arrange or collaborate with Support Coordination to arrange an appropriate replacement living option to prevent the person from becoming homeless as a result of discharge/termination from the Supervised Living Services provider.
  8. People must be afforded the rights outlined in the Landlord/Tenant laws of the State of Mississippi (*Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated* §89-7-1 to 125 and §89-8-1 to 89-8-1 to 89).
- F. People must be eighteen (18) years or older to participate in Supervised Living Services.
- G. There must be at least one (1) employee in the same dwelling as people receiving services at all times who is able to respond immediately to the requests/needs for assistance from the people in the dwelling. Employees must be awake twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week.
- H. Newly certified service locations can have no more than four (4) people residing in the home. Previously certified service locations with more than four (4) persons cannot increase capacity.
- I. The setting is selected by the person from setting options including non-disability specific settings and the option of having a private unit, to the degree allowed by personal finances, in the residential setting. This must be documented in the person's record.
- J. People have freedom and support to control their own schedules and activities.



1. People cannot be made to attend day services if they choose to stay home, would prefer to come home after a job or doctor's appointment in the middle of the day, if they are ill, or otherwise choose to remain at home.
  2. Employees must be available to support a person's choice.
- K. For ID/DD Waiver Supervised Living Services, there must be a Supervised Living Services Supervisor for a maximum of four (4) supervised living homes. The Supervised Living Services Supervisor must meet the qualifications in Rule 11.3.D. Waiver Supervised Living Services Supervisors may be limited to supervise less than four (4) homes if deemed necessary by DMH.
1. The Supervised Living Services Supervisor is responsible for providing weekly supervision and monitoring at all four (4) homes.
  2. Unannounced visits on all shifts, on a rotating basis must take place monthly.
  3. All supervision activities must be documented and available for DMH review. Supervision activities include but are not limited to: review of daily service notes to determine if outcomes identified on a person's Plan of Services and Supports are being met; review of meals, meal plans and food availability; review of purchasing; review of people's finances and budgeting; review of each person's satisfaction with services, employee, environment, etc.
- L. People must have control over their personal resources. Agency providers cannot restrict access to personal resources. Agency providers must offer informed choice of the consequences/risks of unrestricted access to personal resources. There must be documentation in each person's record regarding all income received and expenses incurred.
- M. Nursing services are a component of Supervised Living Services and must be provided in accordance with the MS Nurse Practice Act. Nursing services must be provided on an as-needed basis. Only activities within the scope of the Nurse Practice Act and Regulations can be provided. Examples of activities may include: monitoring vital signs; monitoring blood sugar; administration of medication; weight monitoring; and, accompanying people on medical appointments, etc. (Refer to Rule 13.8)
- N. The amount of employee supervision someone receives is based on tiered levels of support determined by a person's score on the Inventory for Client and Agency Planning and risk reflected in the Plan of Services and Supports and the Activity Support Plan.
- O. Each person must have an Activity Support Plan, developed with the person based on his/her Plan of Services and Supports.
- P. Behavior Support may be provided in the Supervised Living Services home to provide direct services as well as modify the environment and train employees on implementation of the Behavior Support Plan.
- Q. Crisis Intervention Services may be provided in the Supervised Living Services home to intervene in and mitigate an identified crisis situation. Crisis intervention personnel may

remain in the home with the person until the crisis is resolved. This could be in twenty-four (24) hour increments (daily) or less than twenty-four (24) hour increments (episodic), depending on each person's need for support.

- R. Visiting hours cannot be restricted unless associated with an assessed risk and documented in the person's Plan of Services and Supports.
- S. People have choices about housemates and with whom they share a room. Documentation of each person's choice(s) of his/her roommate(s)/housemate(s) must be included in each person's record.
- T. People may share bedrooms based on their choices. Individual rooms are preferred, but no more than two (2) people may share a bedroom.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 30.2 Behavioral Supervised Living**

- A. Behavioral Supervised Living is not a separate service than Supervised Living Services but allows an increased reimbursement rate for persons enrolled in ID/DD Waiver with significant behavioral issues. Additional eligibility requirements for persons who receive this level of support and requirements for Supervised Living Services settings to receive the increased reimbursement rate are outlined in this section. Rule 30.1 Supervised Living Services for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities service components and Rule 30.4 Environment and Safety for Supervised Living Services for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities applies to Behavioral Supervised Living.
- B. Behavioral Supervised Living provides a level of service intended to support people with high frequency disruptive behaviors that pose serious health and safety concerns to self or others, including destructive behaviors that may or will result in physical harm or injury to self or others. To receive Behavioral Supervised Living, there must be a documented history of the behavior(s) listed below that is likely to re-occur without supervision and structure in the person's living arrangement. Behavioral Supervised Living must receive prior approval by the DMH Bureau of Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities and Specialized Needs Committee.
- C. In order to provide Behavioral Supervised Living, a provider must first be approved to do so by the Bureau of Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (BIDD). The following must be submitted through the Division of Certification:
  - 1. Documentation and procedures to ensure the required team members are available to perform required duties. Refer to Rule 11.4.C.
  - 2. Documentation and procedures for how the team will address requirements for each Behavioral Supervised Living site.

3. Documentation and procedures describing that all staff in each approved home have the required training.
  4. Documentation and procedures describing how trained staff coverage for the home, dependent upon the needs of the person/people receiving Behavioral Supervised Living and others who may be living in the home, will be provided.
- D. Documentation supporting that the person requires the level of support offered in Behavioral Supervised Living is gathered by the Supervised Living Services provider and Support Coordinator or Transition Coordinator and submitted to the DMH Specialized Needs Committee for eligibility determination.
- E. Eligibility Criteria for each person include a documented history of behavior(s) listed below that is likely to reoccur without supervision and structure in the person's living arrangement:
1. Acts as a person who may have or have caused great emotional harm to self or others;
  2. Inability of a person to control behaviors to the extent it impedes his/her day-to-day functioning at home, in a community living arrangement and/or at a day service;
  3. The person engages in self-injurious behaviors that cause him/her to harm him/herself because of both internal and external stimuli; and,
  4. One-to-one (1:1) staffing hours are necessary to ensure the health and safety of the person and/or others.
- F. The Behavior Supervised Living provider must consider compatibility with other person(s) living in the home. The person receiving a higher level of support must not pose a threat to others living in the home.
- G. Behavioral Supervised Living Personnel Training
1. All employees who have any direct contact with the person must be MANDT © certified or hold another nationally recognized certification approved by DMH. The certification must be obtained before the employee can begin working with the person.
  2. All employees working with the person must receive timely person-specific training before the person moves into the home. If a person is already living in the supervised living arrangement, the Behavior Consultant and/or Behavior Interventionist will train/re-train employees once the Behavior Support Plan is developed.
  3. Documentation of Employee Training
    - (a) Documentation of MANDT© or other nationally recognized training must be in the personnel record.
    - (b) Documentation of person-specific training must be signed and dated by the employees receiving the training as well as the person providing the training. For people moving from an institution, employees that have been serving the person may provide the training.

4. Documentation Requirements for Behavioral Supervised Living

- (a) The Behavior Consultant must begin the Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) upon notification from the Support Coordinator that Behavioral Supervised Living has been approved for the person. The Functional Behavioral Assessment must be completed within fifteen (15) days of the notification of approval for the person to begin Behavioral Supervised Living. The Behavior Support Plan must be completed within fifteen (15) days of the completion of the Functional Behavioral Assessment. A Ph.D. Psychologist or Licensed Behavior Analyst must review and approve the Functional Behavior Assessment and Behavior Support Plan.
- (b) Service Notes must reflect the person's and the employee's activities throughout the day, with at least one (1) entry every two (2) hours while the person is awake and in the home. Overnight entries can be every four (4) hours. Service Notes must also reflect when and the amount of time a person receives one-to-one (1:1) staffing.
- (c) Data must be collected as directed by the Behavior Consultant.
- (d) There must be quarterly review reports that reflect the supports provided and the amount of progress made during each quarter. Based on data gathered during each quarter, the Behavior Consultant composes a report that reflects target behavior(s), medication changes, information about Behavior Support Plan implementation, and narrative information about baseline data, data from the previous quarterly review report, and narrative information about the current quarter's data.
- (e) The quarterly review report must include the next steps to be taken in implementation of the Behavior Support Plan. Next steps could include actions such as continuing with the Behavior Support Plan as it is written or modifying it to meet any changing needs. Modifications can be made to the intervention, intervention techniques, target behaviors, training needs, timelines, etc.
- (f) A Ph.D. Psychologist or Licensed Behavior Analyst must be available for consultation when adjustments to the Behavior Support Plan are needed.

H. Provider responsibilities for services provided away from the Behavioral Supervised Living Home

- 1. The agency provider must be prepared to send employees with the person to his/her day activities in order to ensure continuity for the person. The Behavior Consultant and/or Interventionist must train employees wherever the person is during the day how to manage behavior(s) that are identified in the Behavior Support Plan. This is true even if the agency provider of Day Services is different than the agency provider of Behavioral Supervised Living. As long as the person is in Behavioral Supervised Living, it is the responsibility of the agency provider to ensure the Behavior Support Plan is implemented where the person goes during the day. This can be done by the Behavior Consultant/Interventionist or direct care personnel, depending on the situation.
- 2. Once employees have been trained and the identified behavior(s) begin to mitigate, the Behavioral Supervised Living personnel can be faded. However, the situation must be monitored. If changes in the person's behavior(s) occur, Behavioral Supervised Living

personnel must return to the setting where the behaviors are occurring and either retrain employees or revise the Behavior Support Plan.

I. Ongoing Review of Need for Behavioral Supervised Living

1. The DMH Specialized Needs Committee will determine the need for ongoing Behavioral Supervised Living at least annually.
2. The following documentation must be submitted to the person's Support Coordinator within ninety (90) days of the end of a person's certification period. The Support Coordinator will submit the documentation to the DMH Specialized Needs Committee within five (5) days of receipt of all required documentation. All documentation must be received by the Support Coordinator at one (1) time; partial submissions of required information will not be accepted.
  - (a) Service Notes (previous three [3] months)
  - (b) Serious Incident reports (previous six [6] months)
  - (c) Behavior reports (previous six [6] months)
  - (d) Functional Behavior Assessment (for 1<sup>st</sup> annual review)
  - (e) Behavior Support Plan (for 1<sup>st</sup> annual review)
  - (f) Quarterly Review reports (previous two [2] quarters)
  - (g) Documentation of employee training MANDT© or other approved training certificates for all employees and as well as person-specific training

J. Use of Other Behavior Services

1. People who receive Behavioral Supervised Living cannot also receive Behavior Support or Crisis Intervention Services. The goal is for the agency provider's Behavioral Supervised Living Team to be able to resolve/mitigate issues/behaviors where the person lives/receives day services. Alternate living arrangements may be used for short-term purposes.
2. If the issue is determined to be a medication issue which requires Medical Intervention, Crisis Support may be considered. There must be adequate supporting documentation, and it must be approved by the Bureau of Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities.
3. Crisis Support should be the last resort.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 30.3 Medical Supervised Living**

- A. Medical Supervised Living is not a separate service from Supervised Living Services but allows an increased reimbursement rate for persons enrolled in ID/DD Waiver with significant medical needs. Additional eligibility requirements for persons who receive this level of support and requirements for Supervised Living settings to receive the increased

reimbursement rate are outlined in this section. Rule 30.1 Supervised Living Services for Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Service Components and Rule 30.4 Environment and Safety for Supervised Living Services for People with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities, applies to Medical Supervised Living.

- B. Medical Supervised Living provides additional support for people with chronic physical or medical condition(s) requiring prolonged dependency on medical treatment for which skilled nursing intervention is necessary. Medical Supervised Living cannot be received unless the person requires frequent nursing oversight to include a minimum of monthly nursing assessments by the registered nurse.
- C. In order to provide Behavioral Supervised Living, a provider must first be approved to do so by the Bureau of Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (BIDD). The following must be submitted through the Division of Certification:
  - 1. Documentation and procedures to ensure a Registered Nurse (RN) will conduct all Nursing Assessments and develop all Nursing Care Plans.
  - 2. Documentation and procedures describing how nursing staff will provide coverage twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week in order to respond to the person's medical needs and requests for assistance/information from staff in the home. Documentation must include a copy of the nurse's current license to provide nursing care.
- D. Documentation supporting that the person requires the level of support offered in Medical Supervised Living is gathered by the Supervised Living Services provider and Support Coordinator or Transition Coordinator and submitted to the DMH Specialized Needs Committee for eligibility determination.
- E. Criteria to support Medical Supervised Living include the following:
  - 1. The person's physical or medical condition may be characterized by one (1) of the following:
    - (a) A condition that requires medical supervision and physician treatment consultation.
    - (b) The need for administration of specialized treatments that are medically necessary such as, injections, wound care for decubitus ulcers, etc.
    - (c) Dependency on medical technology requiring nursing oversight such as enteral (feeding tube) or parenteral (intravenous tube) nutrition support (bolus feedings only) or continuous oxygen.
    - (d) The administration of specialized treatments that are ordered by a physician or nurse practitioner.
    - (e) Other medical support needs that are approved by the DMH Specialized Needs Committee.
  - 2. Medical Supervised Living will not be approved unless the person requesting this service requires frequent nursing oversight to include a minimum of monthly nursing assessments.

F. People living in the home with someone considered medically fragile must be compatible and not pose a threat to the person who has higher medical support needs.

G. Pre-Admission Requirements for Medical Supervised Living

1. For people moving from home or already receiving Supervised Living Services, the agency provider must arrange for a nursing assessment to be conducted by a registered nurse before or the same day the person is admitted to the home. At a minimum, the following systems must be addressed:
  - (a) Integument;
  - (b) Head;
  - (c) Eyes and Vision;
  - (d) Ears and Hearing;
  - (e) Nose and Sinus;
  - (f) Mouth;
  - (g) Neck;
  - (h) Thorax, Lungs and Abdomen;
  - (i) Extremities;
  - (j) Risk for falls; and,
  - (k) Special Diet Requirements.

The nursing assessment by the registered nurse must result in a Nursing Care Plan and must be updated every sixty (60) days or as needed.

2. For people moving from an institution, the agency provider's registered nurse must review the nursing assessment from the institution and develop the Nursing Care Plan. He/she may choose to conduct an on-site nursing assessment.

H. Employee Training

1. Someone already Receiving Supervised Living Services  
If a person is already receiving Supervised Living Services and is approved for Medical Supervised Living, employees must be trained by the provider's registered nurse or licensed practical nurse regarding that person's individual support needs as there must have been a change that necessitated the transition to Medical Supervised Living.
2. Someone Moving to Medical Supervised Living from home/institution  
If a person is moving into a Medical Supervised Living arrangement from home or an institution, employees must be trained about the person's support needs before admission to the home. This can be accomplished by a nurse (RN or LPN), nurse practitioner, or a physician. Others who know the person's support needs well (e.g., family member[s], other caregivers the person has, etc.) may also provide information.
3. Documentation of Training  
Documentation of employee training regardless of if a person is moving into the home or already lives in the home, must be in his/her record. The documentation must be

signed and dated by the person receiving the training as well as the person providing the training.

I. Additional Documentation Requirements for Medical Supervised Living

1. The registered nurse must provide the level of oversight and monitoring necessary to determine the implementation and efficacy of the strategies in the nursing assessment/Nursing Care Plan.
2. There must be at least monthly nursing notes and monthly assessment from a registered nurse that includes:
  - (a) A summary of all visits/contacts related to the person's physical or medical condition(s).
  - (b) A description of the person's current physical medical status.
  - (c) The status of any physician's orders (new orders, discontinued orders, etc.), status of laboratory or diagnostic tests, specialist evaluations, medical appointments, medications, treatment, and/or equipment.
3. The skilled nursing services provided and the person's response to the interventions.

J. Additional Requirements

1. Agency providers of Medical Supervised Living must have a nurse (RN or LPN) on-call twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week (24/7) to respond to requests for assistance/information from employees in the home. If a licensed practical nurse is on call, a registered nurse must be available for consultation or assistance, as needed.
2. Licensed practical nurses can provide daily nursing care.

K. Ongoing Review of Need for Medical Supervised Living

1. The DMH Specialized Needs Committee will review the need for ongoing Medical Supervised Living at least annually, before recertification.
2. All required documentation must be sent as a whole to the Support Coordinator within ninety (90) days of the person's recertification date; partial submissions will not be accepted. The Support Coordinator will submit the information to the DMH Specialized Needs Committee. The following information is required:
  - (a) Nurse's notes from the previous two (2) months;
  - (b) Nursing assessments from the previous two (2) months;
  - (c) Current Nursing Care Plan;
  - (d) Relevant information from other agency providers (home health, day service, etc.); and,
  - (e) Rationale for the need for continued Medical Supervised Living.

L. Short-Term Medical Supervised Living



1. A person can receive Medical Supervised Living on a short-term basis (60 days) in order to recover from an illness or procedure because of the need for more intensive medical care than can be provided in traditional Supervised Living/Shared Supported Living/Supported Living Services.
2. The need for short-term Medical Supervised Living will be evaluated by the DMH Specialized Needs Committee. The following must be submitted to the Support Coordinator for submission to the Bureau of Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities before short-term Medical Supervised Living can be authorized.
  - (a) Physician/Specialty evaluation notes (agency provider/family responsibility)
  - (b) Discharge Plan (agency provider/family responsibility)
  - (c) Other information deemed relevant to support the continued need for the service
3. Short-Term Medical Supervised Living beyond the initial sixty (60) days can be requested. The need will be re-evaluated by the DMH Specialized Needs Committee. The following must be submitted to the Support Coordinator for submission to the Bureau of Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities within two (2) weeks before the end of the first sixty (60) day stay:
  - (a) Estimated number of additional days needed;
  - (b) Justification for the additional days;
  - (c) Nurse's notes since the beginning of the stay;
  - (d) Nursing assessments;
  - (e) Nursing Care Plan; and,
  - (f) Any information from home health, therapists, or other agency providers who may have delivered services to the person.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 30.4 Environment and Safety for Supervised Living Services for Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities**

- A. Supervised Living Services locations must be a "home-like" environment.
- B. All service locations must have furnishings that are safe, up-to-date, comfortable, appropriate, and adequate. Furnishings, to the greatest extent possible, are chosen by the people currently living in the home.
- C. All agency providers must provide access to a washer and dryer in the home, apartment, or apartment complex and must ensure the laundry room or area has an exterior ventilation system for the clothes dryer free from excessive lint and dust accumulation.
- D. Agency providers must develop policies regarding pets and animals on the premises. Animal/Pet policies must address, at a minimum, the following:

1. Documentation of vaccinations against rabies and all other diseases communicable to humans must be maintained on-site;
  2. Procedures to ensure pets will be maintained in a sanitary manner (no fleas, ticks, unpleasant odors, etc.);
  3. Procedures to ensure pets will be kept away from food preparation sites and eating areas; and,
  4. Procedures for controlling pets to prevent injury to people living in the home as well as visitors and employees (e.g., animal in crate, put outside, put in a secure room, etc.).
- E. Bedrooms must not have windows over forty-four (44) inches off the floor if identified as a means of egress. All windows at all levels must be operable.
- F. Bedrooms must meet the following dimension requirements:
1. Single room occupancy - at least one hundred (100) square feet; and,
  2. Multiple occupancy - at least eighty (80) square feet for each person.
- G. Bedrooms must be appropriately furnished with a minimum of a single bed, chest of drawers, appropriate lighting and adequate storage/closet space for each person.
- H. Bedrooms must be located so as to minimize the entrance of unpleasant odors, excessive noise, or other nuisances.
- I. Beds must be provided with a good grade of mattress which is at least four (4) inches thick on a raised bed frame. Cots or roll-away beds may not be used.
- J. Each bed must be equipped with a minimum of one (1) pillow and case, two (2) sheets, spread, and blanket(s). An adequate supply of linens must be available to change linens at least once a week or sooner if the linens become soiled. People must be able to choose their own bedding.
- K. People have the freedom to furnish and decorate their own rooms in compliance with any lease restrictions that may be in place regarding wall color, wall hangings, etc.
- L. All previously certified service locations serving more than four (4) persons must have a bathroom with at least one (1) operable toilet, one (1) operable lavatory/sink and one (1) operable shower or tub for every six (6) persons.
- M. All service locations must ensure bathtubs and showers are equipped with:
1. Soap dishes;
  2. Towel racks;
  3. Shower curtains or doors; and,
  4. Grab bars (as needed by people).
- N. Each person must be provided at least two (2) sets of bath linens, including bath towels, hand towels, and wash cloths.

- O. All Supervised Living Services locations of two (2) stories or more in height where people are housed above the ground floor must be protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system and a fire alarm and detection system.
- P. Auditory smoke/fire alarms with a noise level loud enough to awaken people must be located in each bedroom, hallways and/or corridors, and common areas.
- Q. Supervised Living Services locations using fuel burning equipment and/or appliances (i.e., gas heater, gas water heater, etc.) must have carbon monoxide alarms/detectors placed in a central location outside of sleeping areas.
- R. Each bedroom must have at least two (2) means of egress.
- S. The exit door(s) nearest the person's bedroom must not be locked in a manner that prohibits ease of exit.
- T. People must not have to travel through any room not under their control (i.e., subject to locking) to reach the designated exit, visiting area, dining room, kitchen, or bathroom.
- U. All agency providers must ensure visiting areas are provided for people and visitors, and each visiting area must have at least two (2) means of egress.
- V. All service locations must have separate storage areas for:
  - 1. Sanitary linen;
  - 2. Food (Food supplies cannot be stored on the floor.); and,
  - 3. Cleaning supplies.
- W. All service locations must ensure an adequate, operable central heating and cooling system is provided to maintain temperature between sixty-eight (68) degrees and seventy-eight (78) degrees Fahrenheit.
- X. The setting is integrated in and supports full access to the community to the same extent as people not receiving Supervised Living Services.
- Y. Agency providers must provide furnishings used in common areas (den, dining, and bathrooms) if:
  - 1. The person does not have these items, or
  - 2. These items are not provided through Transition Assistance through the ID/DD Waiver.
- Z. People must have keys to their living unit (e.g., house or apartment) if they so choose, to ensure privacy and dignity. Documentation must be maintained in each person's record upon admission and at least annually thereafter.
- AA. To protect privacy and dignity, bedrooms must have lockable entrances with each person having a key to his/her bedroom, if he/she chooses, with only appropriate personnel having

keys. Documentation must be maintained in each person's record upon admission and at least annually thereafter.

- BB. People may share bedrooms based on their choices. Individual rooms are preferred, but no more than two (2) people may share a bedroom. Each person sharing a bedroom must be provided means to secure his/her belongings, for example lockable closet or lockable footlocker, depending on the needs/desires of each person.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 30.5 ID/DD Waiver Host Homes**

- A. Host Homes are private homes where no more than one (1) person who is at least five (5) years of age lives with a family and receives personal care and supportive services. If the person requesting this service is under five (5) years of age, admission must receive prior approval by the Bureau of Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities' Director.
- B. Host Home families are a stand-alone family living arrangement in which the principal caregiver in the Host Home assumes the direct responsibility for the participant's physical, social, and emotional well-being and growth in a family environment.
- C. Host Home Services include assistance with personal care, leisure activities, social development, family inclusion, community inclusion, and access to medical services. Natural supports are encouraged and supported. Supports are to be consistent with the participant's skill level, goals, and interests.
- D. Host Homes are administered and managed by agency providers that are responsible for all aspects of Host Home Services. Host Home agency providers must:
  - 1. Complete an evaluation of each prospective Host Home family and setting. The evaluation must receive prior approval by the Bureau of Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities;
  - 2. Conduct background checks for all Host Home family members over the age of eighteen (18);
  - 3. Provide training to Host Home service providers that is in compliance with Chapter 12;
  - 4. Ensure each Host Home family member has had a medical examination within twelve (12) months of anyone moving into the Host Home and at least annually thereafter which indicates that they are free from communicable disease(s);
  - 5. Maintain current financial and personal property records for each person served in a Host Home;
  - 6. Conduct at least monthly home visits to each Host Home;
  - 7. Ensure availability, quality and continuity of Host Homes;
  - 8. Take into account compatibility with the Host Home family member(s) including age, support needs, and privacy needs;
  - 9. Ensure each person receiving Host Home Services has his/her own bedroom;
  - 10. Recruit and oversee the Host Home;

11. Have twenty-four (24) hour responsibility for the Host Homes which includes back-up staffing for scheduled and unscheduled absences of the Host Home family; and,
  12. Have plans for when a Host Home family becomes unable to provide the services to someone on an immediate basis. The agency provider must ensure the availability of back-up plans to support the person until another suitable living arrangement can be secured.
- E. Relief staffing may be provided in the person's Host Home by another certified Host Home family or by employees of the Host Home agency provider or in another Host Home family's home.
- F. Host Home family components:
1. The principal caregiver in the Host Home must attend and participate in the meeting to develop the person's Plan of Services and Supports.
  2. The Host Home family must follow all aspects of the person's Plan of Services and Supports and any support/activity plan (e.g., Behavior Support Plan, Nutrition Plan, etc.) the person might have.
  3. The Host Home family must take the person to and assist in attending appointments (i.e., medical, therapy, etc.).
  4. The Host Home family must provide transportation as would a natural family member.
  5. The principal caregiver must maintain required documentation as required in the DMH Record Guide.
  6. The principal caregiver must meet all employee training requirements as outlined in the DMH Operational Standards.
  7. The Host Home family and/or principal caregiver must participate in all training provided by the Host Home agency provider.
- G. Host Home family must provide the following services as appropriate to each person's support needs:
1. Direct personal care assistance activities such as:
    - (a) Grooming;
    - (a) Eating;
    - (b) Bathing;
    - (c) Dressing; and,
    - (d) Personal care needs.
  2. Instrumental activities of daily living which include:
    - (a) Planning and preparing meals;
    - (b) Cleaning;
    - (c) Transportation;
    - (d) Assistance with mobility both at home and in the community;
    - (e) Supervision of the person's safety and security;
    - (f) Banking;
    - (g) Shopping;
    - (h) Budgeting;

- (i) Facilitation of the person's participation in community activities;
  - (j) Use of natural supports and typical community services available to everyone;
  - (k) Social activities;
  - (l) Participation in leisure activities;
  - (m) Development of socially valued behaviors; and,
  - (n) Assistance with scheduling and attending appointments.
- 3. Host Home families must provide meals at least three (3) times a day, and snacks must be provided throughout the day. Providers must adhere to any diets as prescribed by a M.D., Nurse Practitioner, or Licensed Dietician/Nutritionist. Host Homes should document people's preferences and choices when meal planning and have a menu that includes varied, nutritious meals and snacks.
  - (a) People must have access to food at any time, unless prohibited by their individual plan.
  - (b) People must have choices of the food they eat.
  - (c) People must have choices about when and with whom they eat.
- H. The Host Home agency provider is responsible for ensuring the person has basic furnishings in his/her bedroom if those furnishings are not available from another resource such as Transition Assistance through the ID/DD Waiver. Basic furnishings include: bed frame, mattress, box springs if needed, chest of drawers, two (2) sets of bed linens, two (2) sets of towels and appropriate lighting.
- I. People are not to be left home alone or with someone under the age of eighteen (18), for any length of time.
- J. People receiving Host Home Services must have access to the community to the same degree as people not receiving services. This includes access to leisure and other community participation activities.
- K. The host home agency provider must ensure methods are in place to assist people in arranging and accessing routine and emergency medical care and monitoring of their health and/or physical condition. Documentation of the following must be maintained in each person's record:
  - 1. Assistance with making doctor/dentist/optical appointments;
  - 2. Transporting and accompanying people to such appointments; and,
  - 3. Conversations with the medical professional, if the person gives consent.
- L. Each person must have an Activity Support Plan that is developed based on his/her Plan of Services and Supports.
- M. People receiving Host Home Services are not eligible for Home and Community Supports, Shared Supported Living, Supported Living, Supervised Living Services, In-Home Nursing Respite, In-Home Respite or Community Respite Services.

- N. Behavior Support may be provided in the Host Home to provide direct services as well as modify the environment and train staff/family in implementation of the Behavior Support Plan.
- O. Crisis Intervention Services may be provided in the Host Home to intervene and mitigate an identified crisis situation. Crisis Intervention may remain in the home with the person until the crisis is resolved. This could be in twenty-four (24) hour increments (daily) or less than twenty-four (24) hour increments (episodic), depending on each person's need for support.
- P. Family members of any degree cannot provide Host Home services to a person.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 30.6 Supported Living Services for Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Service Components**

- A. Supported Living Services are provided to people who reside in their own residences (either owned or leased by themselves or an agency provider) for the purposes of increasing and enhancing independent living in the community. Supported Living Services are for people who need less than twenty-four (24) hour employee support per day. Employees must be on-call 24/7 in order to respond to emergencies via phone call or return to the living site, depending on the type of emergency.
- B. Supported Living Services are for people age eighteen (18) and above who have intellectual/developmental disabilities. Supported Living Services are provided in a home-like setting where people have access to the community at large to the same extent as people who do not have an intellectual/developmental disability. If Supported Living Services are provided in a provider owned or controlled setting, the setting must have four (4) or fewer people living in the home. The residence can be a Supervised Living Services-certified location, if the person so chooses.
- C. Supported Living Services provide assistance with the following, depending on each person's support needs:
  - 1. Grooming;
  - 2. Eating;
  - 3. Bathing;
  - 4. Dressing; and,
  - 5. Other personal needs.
- D. Supported Living Services provide assistance with instrumental activities of daily living which include assistance with:
  - 1. Planning and preparing meals;

2. Cleaning;
  3. Transportation;
  4. Mobility both at home and in the community;
  5. Supervision of the person's safety and security;
  6. Banking;
  7. Shopping;
  8. Budgeting;
  9. Facilitation of the person's participation in community activities;
  10. Use of natural supports and typical community services available to everyone;
  11. Social activities;
  12. Participation in leisure activities;
  13. Development of socially valued behaviors; and,
  14. Scheduling and attending appointments.
- E. Agency providers facilitate meaningful days and independent living choices.
- F. The amount of service hours are determined by the level of support required for the person. The maximum amount of hours shall not exceed eight (8) hours per twenty-four (24) hour period for the ID/DD Waiver and four (4) hours per twenty-four (24) hour period for IDD Community Support Program.
- G. Supported Living Services personnel must assist the person in participation of community activities. Supported Living Services for community participation activities may be shared by up to three (3) people who may or may not live together and who have a common direct service provider. In these cases, people may share Supported Living Services personnel when agreed to by the people and when the health and welfare can be assured for each person.
- H. People receiving Supported Living Services cannot also receive: Supervised Living Services, Host Home Services, In-Home Nursing Respite, In-Home Respite, Home and Community Supports, Shared Supported Living or Community Respite Services.
- I. Nursing services are a component part of Supported Living Services. These services must be provided as-needed, based on each person's need for nursing services. Examples of activities may include: monitoring vital signs; monitoring blood sugar; administration of medication; weight monitoring; periodic assessment, accompanying people on medical appointments, etc.
- J. All employees the person invites to the Plan of Services and Supports meeting must be allowed to attend and participate in the development and review of the person's Plan of Services and Supports.
- K. Supported Living Services personnel who did not participate in the development of the person's initial Plan of Services and Supports must be trained regarding the person's Plan of Services and Supports and Activity Support Plan prior to beginning work with the person. The training must be documented.



- L. Each person must have an Activity Support Plan, developed with the person, which is based on his/her Plan of Services and Supports.
- M. Behavior Support may be provided during the provision of Supported Living Services to provide direct services as well as modify the environment and train employees in implementation of the Behavior Support Plan.
- N. Crisis Intervention Services may be provided in the home of someone receiving Supported Living Services to intervene in and mitigate and identify a crisis situation. Crisis intervention personnel may remain in the home with the person until the crisis is resolved. This could be in twenty-four (24) hour increments (daily) or less than twenty-four (24) hour increments (episodic), depending on each person's need for support.
- O. In living arrangements in which people pay rent and/or room and board to the agency provider, there must be a written financial agreement which addresses, at a minimum, the following:
  - 1. Procedures for setting and collecting fees and/or room and board (in accordance with Part 2: Chapter 10 Fiscal Management).
  - 2. A detailed description of the basic charges agreed upon (e.g., rent [if applicable], utilities, food, etc.).
  - 3. The time period covered by each charge (must be reviewed at least annually or at any time charges change).
  - 4. The service(s) for which special charge(s) are made (e.g., internet, cable, etc.).
  - 5. The written financial agreement must be explained to and reviewed with the person/legal representative(s) prior to or at the time of admission and at least annually thereafter or whenever fees are changed.
  - 6. A requirement that the person's record contains a copy of the written financial agreement which is signed and dated by the person/legal representative(s) indicating the contents of the agreement were explained to his/her and he/she is in agreement with the contents. A signed copy must also be given to the person/legal representative(s).
  - 7. The written financial agreement must include language specifying the conditions, if any, under which a person might be evicted from the living setting that ensures that the agency provider will arrange or collaborate with Support Coordination/Targeted Case Management to arrange an appropriate replacement living option to prevent the person from becoming homeless as a result of discharge/termination from the community living provider.
  - 8. People receiving ID/DD Waiver Services or IDD Community Support Program Services must be afforded the rights outlined in the Landlord/Tenant laws of the State of Mississippi (*Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated* §89-7-1 to 125 and §89-8-1 to 89-8-1 to 89).
- P. People must have control over their personal resources. Agency providers cannot restrict access to personal resources. Agency providers must offer informed choices of the consequences/risks of unrestricted access to personal resources. There must be

documentation in each person's record regarding all income received and expenses incurred.

- Q. Visiting hours cannot be restricted unless mutually agreed upon by all people living in the dwelling.
- R. The setting is selected by the individual from setting options including non-disability specific settings and the option of having a private unit, to the degree allowed by personal finances, in the residential setting. This must be documented in the person's record.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 30.7 Supported Living Services for Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Environment and Safety**

- A. Agency Providers who own or lease to persons receiving Supported Living Services must meet the following requirements:
  - 1. Each housing unit/house must provide operable 2A-10B, C multi-purpose fire extinguishers in fixed locations that are readily accessible for use in the home, (i.e., kitchens, laundry areas, garages, gas water heater locations) and must be mounted in a secure manner.
  - 2. Agency providers must document that all fire extinguishers are properly maintained and serviced. Each housing unit/home must have evidence that fire extinguishers are being recharged or replaced, as needed, but at a minimum every six (6) years. Fire extinguishers that cannot be recharged for whatever reason must be replaced immediately.
  - 3. Each housing unit/house must have, at a minimum, operable carbon monoxide detectors where natural gas or any other source of carbon monoxide emission is used or where there is an open flame (e.g., gas heater, gas water heater, etc.). One (1) carbon monoxide detector must be located in every one thousand (1,000) square foot area or less.
  - 4. In lieu of posted escape routes, agency providers must document training that prepares a person to exit his/her housing unit/house in the event of emergency.
  - 5. Supported Living Services are provided in home-like settings where people have access to the community at large, to the extent they desire, as documented in the Plan of Services and Supports and Activity Support Plan.
- B. Upon admission and at least annually thereafter, training must be provided to adults receiving Supported Living Services (whether or not the housing unit/house is owned or controlled by the agency provider) which includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. The PASS (Pull, Aim, Squeeze, Sweep) method of using a fire extinguisher. If necessary, employees must assist in obtaining and mounting fire extinguisher(s);
  2. Fire, smoke and carbon monoxide safety and the use of detectors. If necessary, employees must assist in obtaining and mounting fire, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors;
  3. Hot water safety. If necessary, employees must assist in testing and regulating the hot water temperature, documenting such in a log to be maintained by the agency provider employees;
  4. Any other health/safety issues based on the needs or identified risk for each person;
  5. How to contact 911 in an emergency; and,
  6. How to contact agency provider employees in an emergency.
- C. Supported Living Services are provided in home-like settings where people have access to the community at large, to the extent they desire, as documented in the Plan of Services and Supports and Activity Support Plan.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 30.8 Shared Supported Living Services for Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Service Components**

- A. Shared Supported Living Services are for people age eighteen (18) and older who have an intellectual/developmental disability and are provided in compact geographical areas (e.g., an apartment complex) in residences either owned or leased by themselves or an agency provider. Employee supervision is provided at the service location and in the community but does not include direct employee supervision at all times.
1. The amount of employee supervision someone receives is based on tiered levels of support based on a person's support level on the Inventory for Client and Agency Planning.
  2. There must be awake employee(s) twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week when people are present in any of the living units. Employees must be able to respond to requests/need for assistance from people receiving services within five (5) minutes at all times people are present at the service location.
- B. Nursing services are a component part of ID/DD Waiver Shared Supported Living Services. These services must be provided as-needed, based on each person's need for nursing services. Examples of activities may include: monitoring vital signs; monitoring blood sugar; administration of medication; weight monitoring; periodic assessment, accompanying people on medical appointments, etc. (Refer to Rule 13.8)
- C. Shared Supported Living Services provides people assistance with direct personal care activities such as:
1. Grooming;
  2. Eating;

3. Bathing;
4. Dressing; and,
5. Other personal needs.

D. Shared Supported Living Services provides assistance with instrumental activities of daily living which include:

1. Planning and preparing meals;
2. Cleaning;
3. Transportation;
4. Mobility both at home and in the community;
5. Supervision of the person's safety and security;
6. Banking;
7. Shopping;
8. Budgeting;
9. Facilitation of the person's participation in community activities;
10. Use of natural supports and typical community services available to everyone;
11. Social activities;
12. Participation in leisure activities;
13. Development of socially valued behaviors;
14. Scheduling and attending appointments; and,
15. Routine and emergency healthcare.

E. Shared Supported Living Services providers must assist people in arranging and accessing routine and emergency medical care and monitoring their health and/or physical condition. Documentation of the following must be maintained in each person's record:

1. Assistance with making doctor/dentist/optical appointments;
2. Transporting and accompanying people to such appointments; and,
3. Conversations with the medical professional, if the person gives consent.

F. Shared Supported Living Services providers must transport people to and from community activities, work, other places of the person's choice, and other locations chosen by the person as documented in the Activity Support Plan and Plan of Services and Supports.

G. Shared Supported Living Services providers must provide the following for the person:

1. Familiarization with the living arrangement and neighborhood;
2. Introduction to employees and other persons residing in the home;
3. Description of the written materials provided upon admission, and,
4. Description of the process for informing people/parent(s)/legal representative(s) of their rights, responsibilities and any service policies prior to or at the time of admission.

- H. Agency providers must ensure that each person has access to meals at least three (3) times per day and snacks and drinks throughout the day. Documentation of meal planning for each person must be available for review (grocery lists, menus, etc.).
  - 1. People must have access to food at any time. Any restrictions must be documented in their Plan of Services and Supports and/or Activity Support Plan.
  - 2. People must have choices of the food they eat. Any restrictions must be documented in their Plan of Services and Supports and/or Activity Support Plan.
  - 3. People must have choices about when and with whom they eat.
- I. People receiving services are prohibited from having friends, family members, etc., living with them who are not also receiving services as part of the Shared Supported Living Services.
- J. In living arrangements in which people pay rent and/or room and board to the agency provider, there must be a written financial agreement which addresses, at a minimum, the following:
  - 1. Procedures for setting and collecting fees and/or room and board (in accordance with Part 2: Chapter 10 Fiscal Management).
  - 2. A detailed description of the basic charges agreed upon (e.g., rent [if applicable], utilities, food, etc.).
  - 3. The time period covered by each charge (must be reviewed at least annually or at any time charges change).
  - 4. The service(s) for which special charge(s) are made (e.g., internet, cable, etc.).
  - 5. The written financial agreement must be explained to and reviewed with the person/legal representative(s) prior to or at the time of admission and at least annually thereafter or whenever fees are changed and documented in the person's record.
  - 6. A requirement that the person's record contains a copy of the written financial agreement which is signed and dated by the person/legal representative(s) indicating the contents of the agreement were explained to his/her and he/she is in agreement with the contents. A signed copy must also be given to the person/legal representative(s).
  - 7. The written financial agreement must include language specifying the conditions, if any, under which a person might be evicted from the living setting that ensures that the agency provider will arrange or collaborate with Support Coordination to arrange an appropriate replacement living option to prevent the person from becoming homeless as a result of discharge/termination from the Shared Supported Living Services provider.

8. People receiving ID/DD Waiver services must be afforded the rights outlined in the Landlord/Tenant laws of the State of Mississippi (*Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated* §89-7-1 to 125 and §89-8-1 to 89-8-1 to 89).
- K. People must have control over their personal resources. Agency providers cannot restrict access to personal resources. Agency providers must offer informed choice of the consequences/risks of unrestricted access to personal resources. There must be documentation in each person's record regarding all income received and expenses incurred.
- L. People have freedom and support to control their own schedules and activities.
  1. People cannot be made to attend day services if they choose to stay home, would prefer to come home after a job or doctor's appointment in the middle of the day, if they are ill, or otherwise choose to remain at home.
  2. Employees must be available to support individual choice.
- M. All employees the person invites to the Plan of Services and Supports meeting must be allowed to attend and participate in the development and review of the person's Plan of Services and Supports.
- N. If shared supported living personnel were unable to participate in the development of the person's Plan of Services, employees must be trained regarding the person's plan prior to beginning work with the person. This training must be documented as defined in the Record Guide.
- O. Agency providers must develop methods, procedures and activities to provide meaningful days and independent living choices about activities/services/employees for the people served in the community.
- P. Shared Supported Living Services for community participation activities may be shared by up to three (3) people who may or may not live together and who have a common direct agency provider. In these cases, people may share Shared Supported Living Services personnel when agreed to by the people and when the health and welfare can be assured for each person.
- Q. People in Shared Supported Living Services cannot also receive: Supervised Living Services, Host Home Services, In-Home Nursing Respite, In-Home Respite, Home and Community Supports, Supported Living Services or Community Respite Services.
- R. The amount of employee supervision someone receives is based on tiered levels of support determined by a person's support level on the Inventory for Client and Agency Planning and risk reflected in the Plan of Services and Supports and the Activity Support Plan.
- S. Each person must have an Activity Support Plan that is developed based on his/her Plan of Services and Supports.

- T. Visiting hours cannot be restricted unless mutually agreed upon by all people living in the dwelling.
- U. People have choices about housemates and with whom they share a room. Documentation of each person's choice(s) of his/her roommate(s)/housemate(s) must be included in the person's record.
- V. The setting is selected by the individual from setting options including non-disability specific settings and the option of having a private unit, to the degree allowed by personal finances, in the residential setting. This must be documented in the person's record.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 30.9 Shared Supported Living Services for Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Environment and Safety**

- A. Each housing unit/house must provide operable 2A-10B, C multi-purpose fire extinguishers in fixed locations that are readily accessible for use in the home, (i.e., flammable storage areas, kitchens, laundry areas, garages, gas water heater locations) and must be mounted in a secure manner.
- B. Agency providers must document that all fire extinguishers are properly maintained and serviced. Housing units/houses must have evidence that fire extinguishers are being recharged or replaced, as needed, but at a minimum every six (6) years. Fire extinguishers that cannot be recharged for whatever reason must be replaced immediately.
- C. Each housing unit/house must have, at a minimum, operable carbon monoxide detectors located where natural gas or any other source of carbon monoxide emission is used or where there is an open flame (e.g., gas heater, gas water heater, etc.). One (1) carbon monoxide detector must be located in every one thousand (1,000) square foot area or less.
- D. In lieu of posted escape routes, agency providers must document training that prepares a person to exit his/her housing unit/house in the event of emergency.
- E. Training must take place upon admission and at least monthly thereafter. This documentation must be maintained on site, in each person's record.
- F. Upon admission and at least annually thereafter, training must be provided to people receiving Shared Supported Living Services (whether or not the housing unit/house is owned or controlled by the agency provider) which includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  - 1. The PASS (Pull, Aim, Squeeze, Sweep) method of using a fire extinguisher. If necessary, employees must assist in obtaining and mounting fire extinguisher(s);

2. Fire, smoke and carbon monoxide safety and the use of detectors. If necessary, employees must assist in obtaining and mounting fire, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors;
  3. Hot water safety. If necessary, employees must assist in testing and regulating the hot water temperature, documenting such in a log to be maintained by the agency provider employees;
  4. Any other health/safety issues based on the needs or identified risk for each person;
  5. How to contact 911 in an emergency; and,
  6. How to contact agency provider employees in an emergency.
- G. Newly certified service locations can have no more than four (4) people in a single dwelling.
- H. Shared Supported Living Services locations must be a “home-like” environment.
- I. All service locations must have furnishings that are safe, up-to-date, comfortable, appropriate, and adequate. Furnishings, to the greatest extent possible, are chosen by the people currently living in the home.
- J. All agency providers must provide access to a washer and dryer in the home, apartment, or apartment complex and must ensure the laundry room or area has an exterior ventilation system for the clothes dryer free from excessive lint and dust accumulation.
- K. Agency providers must develop policies regarding pets and animals on the premises, if allowed by the landlord. Animal/Pet policies must address, at a minimum, the following:
1. Documentation of vaccinations against rabies and all other diseases communicable to humans must be maintained on-site;
  2. Procedures to ensure pets will be maintained in a sanitary manner (no fleas, ticks, unpleasant odors, etc.);
  3. Procedures to ensure pets will be kept away from food preparation sites and eating areas; and,
  4. Procedures for controlling pets to prevent injury to people living in the home as well as visitors and employees (e.g., animal in crate, put outside, put in a secure room, etc.).
- L. Bedrooms must be appropriately furnished with a minimum of a single bed, chest of drawers, appropriate lighting and adequate storage/closet space for each person.
- M. Beds must be provided with a good grade of mattress which is at least four (4) inches thick on a raised bed frame. Cots or roll away beds may not be used.
- N. Each bed must be equipped with a minimum of one (1) pillow and case, two (2) sheets, spread, and blanket(s). An adequate supply of linens must be available to change linens at least once a week or sooner if the linens become soiled. People must be able to choose their bedding.



- O. People have the freedom to furnish and decorate their own rooms in compliance with any lease restrictions that may be in place regarding wall color, wall hangings, etc.
- P. Each person must be provided at least two (2) sets of bath linens, including bath towels, hand towels, and wash cloths.
- Q. Auditory smoke/fire alarms with a noise level loud enough to awaken the people which must be located in each bedroom, hallways and/or corridors, and common areas.
- R. Shared Supported Living Services units using fuel burning equipment and/or appliances (i.e., gas heater, gas water heater, etc.) must have carbon monoxide alarms/detectors placed in a central location outside of sleeping areas.
- S. People must not have to travel through any room not under their control (i.e., subject to locking) to reach the designated exit, visiting area, dining room, kitchen, or bathroom.
- T. All service locations must have separate storage areas for:
  - 1. Sanitary linen;
  - 2. Food (Food supplies cannot be stored on the floor.); and,
  - 3. Cleaning supplies.
- U. All service locations must ensure an adequate, operable heating and cooling system is provided to maintain temperature between sixty-eight (68) degrees and seventy-eight (78) degrees Fahrenheit.
- V. The setting is integrated in and supports full access to the community to the same extent as people not receiving Shared Supported Living Services.
- W. Agency providers must provide furnishings used in common areas (den, dining, and bathrooms) if:
  - 1. The person does not have these items, or
  - 2. These items are not provided through Transition Assistance through the ID/DD waiver.
- X. People must have keys to their living unit if they so choose, to ensure privacy and dignity. Documentation must be maintained in each person's record upon admission and annually thereafter.
- Y. To protect privacy and dignity, bedrooms must have lockable entrances with each person having a key to his/her bedroom and only appropriate personnel having keys. Documentation must be maintained in each person's record upon admission and annually thereafter.
- Z. People may share bedrooms based on their choices. Individual rooms are preferred, but no more than two (2) people may share a bedroom. Each person sharing a bedroom must

be provided means to secure their belongings, for example lockable closet or lockable footlocker, depending on the needs/desires of each person.

AA. Each bedroom must have at least two (2) means of egress.

BB. The exit door(s) nearest the person's bedroom must not be locked in a manner that prohibits ease of exit.

CC. All agency providers must ensure visiting areas are provided for people and visitors, and each visiting area must have at least two (2) means of egress.

DD. The person's bedroom must not have windows over forty-four (44) inches off the floor if identified as a means of egress. All windows at all levels must be operable.

EE. The person's bedroom must meet the following dimension requirements:

1. Single occupancy at least one hundred (100) square feet
2. Multiple occupancy at least eighty (80) square feet for each person.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Part 2: Chapter 31: Community Living Services for People with Substance Use Disorders**

### **Rule 31.1 General Community Living for People with Substance Use Disorders**

- A. Substance Use Disorder Residential Treatment Services support people as they develop the skills and abilities necessary to improve their health and wellness, live self-directed lives, and strive to reach their full potential in a life of recovery. Services are offered in a community-based treatment setting. The residential continuum of care includes both Primary Residential Services and Transitional Residential Services for people with a substance use disorder.
- B. Staffing must be sufficient to meet service requirements. Male and female (as appropriate) employees must be on-site and available twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week.
- C. Residential Services accommodating children/youth must adhere to the following:
  - 1. Provide an adequate, secure, and supervised play space.
  - 2. Prohibit any form of corporal punishment by personnel or people receiving services. Employees must provide people with information regarding positive approaches to management of children/youth's behavior.
  - 3. Safety measures in place to prohibit access by any child perpetrators/offenders. This includes potential residents or visitors.
- D. Services serving children/youth must also comply with Part 2: Chapter 29.
- E. Caseloads for residential services must have no more than twelve (12) adults or eight (8) adolescents assigned to a single therapist or counselor.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 31.2 Substance Use Disorders Community Living Handbook**

- A. In addition to information contained in the agency provider's policies and procedures manual, agency providers of Substance Use Disorder Residential Treatment Services must develop a handbook which includes all applicable policies and procedures. Handbooks are to be provided to the person/parent(s)/legal representative(s) during orientation. The Community Living Handbook must be readily available for review by employees and must be updated as needed.
- B. All agency providers must document that each person (and/or parent[s]/legal representative[s]) served is provided with a handbook during orientation on the day of admission. The agency provider must document the review of the handbook with the person/parent(s)/legal representative(s) annually (if applicable to the service).

- C. The service and site-specific handbook must be written in a person-first, person-friendly manner that can be readily understood by the person/parent(s)/legal representative(s).
- D. Agency providers must have a written plan for providing the handbook information in a person's language of choice when necessary if English is not the person's primary language.
- E. At a minimum, the handbook must address the following:
  - 1. A person-friendly, person-first definition and description of the service being provided
  - 2. The philosophy, purpose and overall goals of the service, including but not limited to:
    - (a) Methods for accomplishing stated goals and objectives;
    - (b) Expected results/outcomes; and,
    - (c) Methods to evaluate expected results/outcomes.
  - 3. A description of how the service addresses the following items:
    - (a) Visitation guidelines;
    - (b) External communication guidelines (phone, mail, email, etc.);
    - (c) Dating;
    - (d) Off-site activities;
    - (e) Household tasks;
    - (f) Curfew;
    - (g) Use of items for personal consumption (i.e., tobacco, dietary supplements, over-the-counter medications, food or drink items, etc.); and,
    - (h) Respecting the rights of other people's privacy, safety, health and choices.
  - 4. A description of the meal schedule is to be provided. Meals must be provided at least three (3) times per day, and a snack must be provided throughout the day. Documentation of the meal planning must be available for review, and documentation must include development of a menu with input from the person living in the residence that includes varied, nutritious meals and snacks and description of how/when meals and snacks will be prepared.
  - 5. Personal hygiene care and grooming expectations, including assistance available
  - 6. Medication schedule
  - 7. Guidelines for prevention of and protection from infection, including communicable diseases
  - 8. Policy regarding the search of the person's room, person and/or possessions including:
    - (a) Circumstances in which a search may occur;
    - (b) Employees designated to authorize searches;
    - (c) Documentation of searches; and,
    - (d) Consequences of discovery of prohibited items.

9. Policy regarding urine drug screening for prohibited/illegal substances including:
  - (a) Circumstances in which screens may occur;
  - (b) Employees designated to authorize screening;
  - (c) Documentation of screening;
  - (d) Consequences of positive screening of prohibited substances;
  - (e) Consequences of refusing to submit to a screening; and,
  - (f) Process for people to report in a confidential manner the use of prohibited substances prior to being screened.

10. Description of the employee's responsibility for implementing the protection of the person and his/her personal property and rights.

F. Orientation of the person to the service including:

1. Familiarization of the person with the living arrangement and neighborhood;
2. Introduction to support personnel and other people (if appropriate);
3. Description of the written materials provided upon admission (i.e., handbook, etc.); and,
4. Description of the process for informing people/parent(s)/legal representative(s) of their rights, responsibilities and any service restrictions or limitations prior to or at the time of admission.

G. Methods for assisting people in arranging and accessing routine and emergency medical and dental care including:

1. Agreements with local physicians and dentists to provide routine care;
2. Agreements with local physicians, hospitals and dentists to provide emergency care; and,
3. Process for gaining permission from parent(s)/legal representative(s), if necessary.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 31.3 Animals/Pets on the Premises**

- A. Agency providers must develop policies regarding pets and animals on the premises for all community living service locations.
- B. Animal/Pet policies must address, at a minimum, the following:
  1. Documentation of vaccinations against rabies and all other diseases communicable to humans must be maintained on-site;
  2. Procedures to ensure pets will be maintained in a sanitary manner (no fleas, ticks, unpleasant odors, etc.);

3. Procedures to ensure pets will be kept away from food preparation sites and eating areas; and,
4. Procedures for controlling pets to prevent injury to people living in the home as well as visitors and employees (e.g., animal in crate, put outside, put in a secure room, etc.).

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 31.4 Transitional Residential Services**

- A. Transitional Residential Services are provided in a safe and stable group living environment which promotes recovery while encouraging the pursuit of vocational or related opportunities.
- B. A person must have successfully completed a primary residential substance use disorder treatment service in order to be eligible for admission to transitional residential services. The person may transition from a primary residential substance use disorder treatment service to a secondary treatment service when deemed appropriate by the clinical staff and attending physician according to the *American Society of Addiction Medicine* © (ASAM) Criteria.
- C. The program components include at a minimum:
  1. At least one (1) hour of individual therapy per week with each person.
  2. A minimum attendance of at least two (2) hours of group therapy per week. Group therapy must be offered at times that accommodate the schedules of the people.
  3. Family therapy must be offered and available as needed. Documentation of attendance or refusal is required.
  4. Psychoeducational groups individualized to the people. Topics to be addressed may include, but are not limited to, vocation, education, employment, recovery, or related skills.
  5. Therapeutic and leisure/recreational/physical exercise activities (with physician's approval).
- D. A written master schedule of activities that documents the provision of the following services:
  1. Group therapy;
  2. Psychoeducational groups; and,
  3. Therapeutic and leisure/recreational/physical exercise activities.
- E. Employment for people in Transitional Residential Services must be community-based and not part of the service location.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 31.5 Primary Residential Services**

- A. Primary Residential Service is the highest community-based level of care for the treatment of substance use disorders. This level of treatment provides a safe and stable group living environment where the person can develop, practice and demonstrate necessary recovery skills.
- B. People admitted into Primary Residential Services must receive a medical assessment within forty-eight (48) hours of admission to screen for health risks.
- C. Services must ensure access to each of the following professionals either through agency provider employees or affiliation agreement/contract:
  - 1. A licensed psychiatrist or psychologist with experience in the treatment of substance use disorders or
  - 2. A licensed physician with experience in the treatment of substance use disorders.
- D. The service components include at a minimum:
  - 1. At least one (1) hour of individual therapy per week with each person.
  - 2. A minimum attendance of at least five (5) hours of group therapy per week with each person.
  - 3. Family therapy must be offered and available at least twice during the course of treatment. Documentation of attendance or refusal by the person or family is required.
  - 4. At least twenty (20) hours of psychoeducational groups individualized to the people. Topics to be addressed may include, but are not limited to, substance use disorders, self-help/personal growth, increasing self-esteem, wellness education, social skills, anger management, the recovery process, and a philosophy of living which will support recovery.
  - 5. At least three (3) hours of family-oriented education activities during the course of treatment.
  - 6. Therapeutic and leisure/recreational/physical exercise activities (with physician's approval).
  - 7. Vocational counseling and planning/referral for follow-up vocational services.
  - 8. For children/youth, an academic schedule indicating school hours.
- E. A written master schedule that documents the provision of the following services:
  - 1. Group therapy;
  - 2. Psychoeducational groups;
  - 3. Family-oriented education;
  - 4. Therapeutic and leisure/recreational/physical exercise activities;
  - 5. Vocational counseling and planning/referral; and,
  - 6. For children/youth, an academic schedule indicating school hours.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 31.6 Environment and Safety for Primary and Transitional Residential Services**

- A. Service locations must adhere to environmental and safety requirements in this section that are in addition to or more stringent than the requirements in Part 2: Chapter 13 and are specific to Primary and Transitional Services.
- B. The agency provider must assign, maintain and document on-site employee coverage twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week with an employee designated as responsible for the service location at all times and male/female employee coverage when necessary.
- C. All service providers must ensure adequate visiting areas are provided for people and visitors.
- D. Any service location that has a clothes dryer must ensure that the clothes dryer has an exterior ventilation system free from excessive lint and dust accumulation.
- E. All service locations must have separate storage areas for:
  - 1. Sanitary linen;
  - 2. Food (Food supplies cannot be stored on the floor.); and,
  - 3. Cleaning supplies.
- F. All service locations must ensure an adequate, operable central heating and cooling system is provided to maintain temperature between sixty-eight (68) degrees and seventy-eight (78) degrees Fahrenheit.
- G. All service locations of two (2) stories or more in height where people are housed above the ground floor must be protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system and a fire alarm and detection system (all systems must be operable).
- H. Auditory smoke/fire alarms with a noise level loud enough to awaken people must be located in each bedroom, hallways and/or corridors, and common areas.
- I. Service locations using fuel burning equipment and/or appliances (i.e., gas heater, gas water heater, gas/diesel engines, etc.) must have carbon monoxide alarms/detectors placed in a central location outside of sleeping areas.
- J. Each bedroom must have at least two (2) means of egress.
- K. People must not have to travel through any room not under their control (i.e., subject to locking) to reach the designated exit, visiting area, dining room, kitchen, or bathroom.



- L. Two (2) means of egress per living area must be provided and must be readily accessible at all times, remote from each other, and so arranged and constructed to minimize any possibility that both may be blocked by fire or other emergency condition.
- M. Service locations must have the capacity to monitor unauthorized entrance, egress, or movement through the facility.
- N. Bedrooms must have an outside exposure at ground level or above. Windows must not be over forty-four (44) inches off the floor. All windows must be operable.
- O. Bedrooms must meet the following dimension requirements:
  - 1. Single room occupancy - at least one hundred (100) square feet; and,
  - 2. Multiple occupancy - at least eighty (80) square feet for each person.
- P. People's bedrooms must house no more than three (3) people each.
- Q. People's bedrooms must be appropriately furnished with a minimum of a single bed and chest of drawers and adequate storage/closet space for each person.
- R. Bedrooms must be located so as to minimize the entrance of unpleasant odors, excessive noise, or other nuisances.
- S. Beds must be provided with a good grade of mattress which is at least four (4) inches thick on a raised bed frame. Cots or roll-away beds may not be used.
- T. Each bed must be equipped with a minimum of one (1) pillow and case, two (2) sheets, bedspread, and blanket(s). An adequate supply of linens must be available to change linens at least once a week or sooner if the linens become soiled.
- U. All service locations must have a bathroom with at least one (1) operable toilet, one (1) operable lavatory/sink and one (1) operable shower or tub for every six (6) people.
- V. All service locations must ensure bathtubs and showers are equipped with:
  - 1. Soap dishes;
  - 2. Towel racks;
  - 3. Shower curtains or doors; and,
  - 4. Grab bars (as needed by people).
- W. Each site must have a written plan of action in place in case utilities fail. The plan must be readily available for review.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## **Part 2: Chapter 32 Intensive Community Supports for Serious Emotional Disturbance and Serious Mental Illness**

### **Rule 32.1 Service Components of Programs of Assertive Community Treatment**

- A. A Program of Assertive Community Treatment (PACT) is an individual-centered, recovery-oriented mental health service delivery model for facilitating community living, psychological rehabilitation and recovery for people who have the most severe and persistent mental illnesses, have severe symptoms and impairments, and have not benefited from traditional outpatient services.
- B. The important characteristics of Program of Assertive Community Treatment are:
  - 1. Programs of Assertive Community Treatment serve people who may have gone without appropriate services. Consequently, the individual group is often over represented among the homeless and in jails and prisons, and has been unfairly thought to resist or avoid involvement in treatment.
  - 2. Programs of Assertive Community Treatment Services are delivered by a group of multidisciplinary mental health personnel who work as a team and provide the majority of the treatment, rehabilitation, and support services people need to achieve their goals. Many, if not all, employees share responsibility for addressing the needs of all people requiring frequent contact.
  - 3. Programs of Assertive Community Treatment Services are individually tailored to each person and address the preferences and identified goals of each person. The approach with each person emphasizes relationship building and active involvement in assisting people with severe and persistent mental illness to make improvements in functioning, to manage symptoms better, to achieve individual goals, and to maintain optimism.
  - 4. The Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team is mobile and delivers services in community locations to enable each person to find and live in his/her own residence and find and maintain work in community jobs rather than expecting the person to come to the service.
  - 5. Program of Assertive Community Treatment Services are delivered in an ongoing rather than time-limited framework to aid the process of recovery and ensure continuity of care. Severe and persistent mental illnesses are episodic disorders, and many people benefit from the availability of a longer-term treatment approach and continuity of care. This allows people the opportunity to decompensate, consolidate gains, sometimes slip back, and then take the next steps forward until they achieve recovery.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 32.2 Program of Assertive Community Treatment Staffing**

- A. Each Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team must have the organizational capacity to provide a minimum employee person ratio of at least one (1) full-time equivalent employee for every ten (10) people (this ratio does not include the psychiatrist or psychiatric nurse practitioner and the service assistant).
- B. Each Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team must have sufficient numbers of employees to provide treatment, rehabilitation, and support services twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days per week.
- C. In addition to meeting the qualifications outlined in Part 2: Chapter 11, the following positions are required for Programs of Assertive Community Treatment Teams:
  - 1. Team Leader: A full-time team leader/supervisor who is the clinical and administrative supervisor of the team and who also functions as a practicing clinician on the Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team. At a minimum, this person must have a Master's degree in a mental health-related field and professional license or DMH credential as a Certified Mental Health Therapist.
  - 2. Psychiatrist/Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner: A psychiatrist/psychiatric nurse practitioner, who works on a full-time or part-time basis for a minimum of sixteen (16) hours per week for every fifty (50) people. For teams serving over fifty (50) people, the psychiatrist/psychiatric nurse practitioner must provide an additional three (3) hours per week for every fifteen (15) additional people admitted to the service (not including on-call time). The psychiatrist/psychiatric nurse practitioner provides clinical services to all Program of Assertive Community Treatment people; works with the team leader to monitor each person's clinical status and response to treatment; supervises employee delivery of services; and, directs psychopharmacologic and medical services.
  - 3. At least two (2) full-time registered nurses. A team leader with a nursing degree cannot replace one of the full-time equivalent nurses.
  - 4. At least one (1) Master's level or above mental health professional (in addition to the team leader).
  - 5. At least one (1) Substance Use Specialist
  - 6. At least one (1) Employment Specialist
  - 7. At least one (1) full-time equivalent certified Peer Support Specialist Professional. Peer Support Specialists must be fully integrated team members.
  - 8. The remaining clinical personnel may be Bachelor's level and paraprofessional mental health workers who carry out rehabilitation and support functions. A Bachelor's level

mental health worker has a Bachelor's degree in social work or a behavioral science, and work experience with adults with severe and persistent mental illness. A paraprofessional mental health worker may have a Bachelor's degree in a field other than behavioral sciences or have a high school degree and work experience with adults with severe and persistent mental illness or with people with similar human-service needs. These paraprofessionals may have related training (e.g., certified occupational therapy assistant, home health care aide) or work experience (e.g., teaching) and life experience.

9. At least one (1) service assistant who is responsible for organizing, coordinating, and monitoring all non-clinical operations of Programs of Assertive Community Treatment, including managing medical records; operating and coordinating the management information system; maintaining accounting and budget records for individual and service expenditures; and, providing receptionist activities, including triaging calls and coordinating communication between the team and people.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 32.3 Program of Assertive Community Treatment Admissions and Discharge**

- A. In order to be admitted into Program of Assertive Community Treatment Services, people must meet the criteria outlined in this rule.
- B. Program of Assertive Community Treatment Teams serve people with severe and persistent mental illness as listed in the most current edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of the American Psychiatric Association that seriously impair their functioning in community living. Priority is given to people with schizophrenia, other psychotic disorders (e.g., schizoaffective disorder), and bipolar disorder because these illnesses more often cause long-term psychiatric disability. People with other psychiatric illnesses are eligible dependent on the level of the long-term disability. (People with a primary diagnosis of a substance use disorder, intellectual disability or other Axis II disorders are not the intended group. Additionally, people with a chronically violent history may not be appropriate for this service.)
- C. People with significant functional impairments as demonstrated by at least one (1) of the following conditions:
  1. Significant difficulty consistently performing the range of practical daily living tasks required for basic adult functioning in the community (e.g., caring for personal business affairs; obtaining medical, legal, and housing services; recognizing and avoiding common dangers or hazards to self and possessions; meeting nutritional needs; maintaining personal hygiene) or persistent or recurrent difficulty performing daily living tasks except with significant support or assistance from others such as friends, family, or relatives.
  2. Significant difficulty maintaining consistent employment at a self-sustaining level or

- significant difficulty consistently carrying out the homemaker role (e.g., household meal preparation, washing clothes, budgeting, or child-care tasks and responsibilities).
3. Significant difficulty maintaining a safe living situation (e.g., repeated evictions or loss of housing).
- D. People must have one (1) or more of the following problems, which are indicators of continuous high-service needs (i.e., greater than eight [8] hours per month):
1. High use of acute psychiatric hospitals (e.g., two [2] or more admissions per year) or psychiatric emergency services.
  2. Intractable (i.e., persistent or very recurrent) severe major symptoms (e.g., affective, psychotic, suicidal).
  3. Coexisting substance use disorder of significant duration (e.g., greater than six [6] months).
  4. High risk or recent history of criminal justice involvement (e.g., arrest, incarceration).
  5. Significant difficulty meeting basic survival needs, residing in substandard housing, homelessness, or in imminent risk of becoming homeless.
  6. Residing in an inpatient or supervised community residence, but clinically assessed to be able to live in a more independent living situation if intensive services are provided, or requiring a residential or institutional placement if more intensive services are not available.
  7. Difficulty effectively utilizing traditional office-based outpatient services.
- E. Discharges from the Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team occur when people and agency provider employees mutually agree to the termination of services. This must occur when people:
1. Have successfully reached individually established goals for discharge, and when the person and agency provider employees mutually agree to the termination of services.
  2. Have successfully demonstrated an ability to function in all major role areas (i.e., work, social, self-care) without ongoing assistance from the agency provider, without significant relapse when services are withdrawn, and when the person requests discharge, and the agency provider employees mutually agree to the termination of services.
  3. Move outside the geographic area of the Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team's responsibility. In such cases, the Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team must arrange for transfer of mental health service responsibility to a Program of Assertive Community Treatment Service or another agency provider wherever the person is moving. The Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team must maintain contact with the person until this service transfer is implemented.
  4. Decline or refuse services and request discharge, despite the team's best efforts to develop an acceptable Individual Service Plan with the person.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 32.4 Program of Assertive Community Treatment's Contacts**

- A. The Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team must have the capacity to provide multiple contacts during a week with people experiencing severe symptoms, trying a new medication, experiencing a health problem or serious life event, trying to go back to school or starting a new job, making changes in their living situation or employment, or having significant ongoing problems in daily living. These multiple contacts may be as frequent as two to three (2 – 3) times per day, seven (7) days per week and depend on individual need and a mutually agreed upon plan between people and agency provider employees. Many, if not all, team members must share responsibility for addressing the needs of all people requiring frequent contact.
- B. The Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team must have the capacity to rapidly increase service intensity to a person when his or her status requires it or a person requests it.
- C. The Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team must provide a mean (i.e., average) of at least three (3) contacts per week for all people.
- D. Each new Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team must gradually build up its caseload with a maximum admission rate of five (5) people per month.
- E. The Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team must be available to provide treatment, rehabilitation, and support activities seven (7) days per week. When a team does not have a sufficient number of members to operate two (2) eight (8) hour shifts weekdays and one (1) eight (8) hour shift weekend days and holidays, members are regularly scheduled to provide the necessary services on an individual-by-individual basis (per the person-centered comprehensive assessment and individualized Individual Service Plan) in the evenings and on weekends. This includes:
  - 1. Regularly scheduling employees to cover individual contacts in the evenings and on weekends.
  - 2. Regularly scheduling mental health professionals for on-call duty to provide crisis and other services the hours when team members are not working.
  - 3. The team may arrange coverage through a reliable crisis intervention service. The team must communicate routinely with the crisis intervention service (i.e., at the beginning of the workday to obtain information from the previous evening and at the end of the workday to alert the crisis intervention service to people who may need assistance and to provide effective ways for helping them). The crisis intervention service should be expected to go out and see people who need face-to-face contact.
  - 4. Regularly arranging for and providing psychiatric backup all hours the psychiatrist/psychiatric nurse practitioner is not regularly scheduled to work. If availability of the Program of Assertive Community Treatment psychiatrist/psychiatric nurse practitioner during all hours is not feasible, alternative psychiatric backup should

be arranged (e.g., mental health center psychiatrist, emergency room psychiatrist).

5. If “3” or “4” occur, memoranda of agreement or formal contracts should be established and kept on file by the agency provider.
- F. Each Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team must set a goal of providing eighty-five percent (85%) of service contacts in the community in non-office-based or non-facility-based settings.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 32.5 Program of Assertive Community Treatment Employee Communication and Planning**

- A. The Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team must conduct daily organizational meetings at regularly scheduled times per a schedule established by the team leader. These meetings will be conducted in accordance with the following procedures:
  1. The Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team must maintain a written daily log. The daily log provides:
    - (a) A roster of the people served in the program; and,
    - (b) For each person, a brief documentation of any treatment or service contacts that have occurred during the last twenty-four (24) hours and a concise, behavioral description of the person’s status that day.
  2. The daily organizational employee meeting must commence with a review of the daily log to update employees on the treatment contacts which occurred the day before and to provide a systematic means for the team to assess the day-to-day progress and status of all people.
  3. The Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team, under the direction of the team leader, must maintain a weekly individual schedule for each person. The weekly individual schedule is a written schedule of all treatment and service contacts that employees must carry out to fulfill the goals and objectives in the person’s Individual Service Plan. The team will maintain a central file of all weekly individual schedules.
  4. The Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team, under the direction of the team leader, must develop a daily employee assignment schedule from the central file of all weekly individual schedules. The daily employee assignment schedule is a written timetable for all the individual treatment and service contacts and all indirect individual work (e.g., medical record review, meeting with collaterals [such as employers, social security], job development, Individual Service Planning, and documentation) to be done on a given day, to be divided and shared by the employees working on that day.
  5. The daily organizational employee meeting will include a review of all the work to be done that day as recorded on the daily employee assignment schedule. During the



meeting, the team leader or designee will assign and supervise employees to carry out the treatment and service activities scheduled to occur that day, and the team leader will be responsible for assuring that all tasks are completed.

6. During the daily organizational employee meeting, the Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team must also revise Individual Service Plans as needed, plan for emergency and crisis situations, and add service contacts to the daily employee assignment schedule per the revised Individual Service Plans.
- B. The Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team must conduct Individual Service Planning meetings under the supervision of the team leader and the psychiatrist/psychiatric nurse practitioner. These Individual Service Planning meetings must:
1. Convene at regularly scheduled times per a written schedule set by the team leader.
  2. Occur and be scheduled when the majority of the team members can attend, including the psychiatrist/psychiatric nurse practitioner, team leader, and all members of the Individual Treatment Team.
  3. Require individual employees to present and systematically review and integrate individual information into a holistic analysis and prioritization of issues.
  4. Occur with sufficient frequency and duration to make it possible for all employees:
    - (a) to be familiar with each person and their goals and aspirations;
    - (b) to participate in the ongoing assessment and reformulation of issues/problems;
    - (c) to problem-solve treatment strategies and rehabilitation options;
    - (d) to participate with the person and the Individual Treatment Team in the development and the revision of the Individual Service Plan; and,
    - (e) to understand fully the Individual Service Plan rationale in order to carry out each person's plan.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 32.6 Program of Assertive Community Treatment Employee Supervision**

- A. Each Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team must develop a written policy for clinical supervision of all employees providing treatment, rehabilitation, and support services. The team leader and psychiatrist must assume responsibility for supervising and directing all employee activities. This supervision and direction must consist of:
1. Individual, side-by-side sessions in which the supervisor accompanies an individual employee to meet with people in regularly scheduled or crisis meetings to assess employee performance, give feedback, and model alternative treatment approaches;
  2. Participation with team members in daily organizational employee meetings and regularly scheduled Individual Service Planning meetings to review and assess employee performance and provide employees direction regarding individual cases;
  3. Regular meetings with individual employees to review their work with people, assess

- clinical performance, and give feedback;
4. Regular reviews, critiques, and feedback of employee documentation (i.e., progress notes, assessments, Individual Service Plans, Individual Service Plan reviews); and,
  5. Written documentation of all clinical supervision provided to Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team personnel.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 32.7 Program of Assertive Community Treatment Required Services**

A. Operating as a continuous treatment service, the Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team must have the capability to provide comprehensive treatment, rehabilitation, and support services as a self-contained service unit. Services must minimally include the following (1-11):

1. Service Coordination/Individual Treatment Team

(a) Each person will be assigned one (1) member of the Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team to serve as a service coordinator who coordinates and monitors the activities of the person's individual treatment team (ITT) and the greater Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team. The primary responsibility of the service coordinator is to work with the person to write the Individual Service Plan, to provide individual supportive counseling, to offer options and choices in the Individual Service Plan, to ensure that immediate changes are made as the person's needs change, and to advocate for the person's wishes, rights, and preferences. The service coordinator is also the first employee called on when the person is in crisis and is the primary support person and educator to the person and/or person's family. Members of the person's treatment team share these tasks with the service coordinator and are responsible to perform the tasks when the service coordinator is not working. Service coordination also includes coordination with community resources, including self-help and advocacy organizations that promote recovery.

(b) Each person will be assigned to an individual treatment team. The individual treatment team is a group or combination of three to five (3-5) Program of Assertive Community Treatment personnel who together have a range of clinical and rehabilitation skills and expertise. The individual treatment team members are assigned to work with a person receiving services by the team leader and the psychiatrist/psychiatric nurse practitioner by the time of the first Individual Service Planning meeting or thirty (30) days after admission. The core members of the individual treatment team are the service coordinator, the psychiatrist/psychiatric nurse practitioner, and one (1) clinical or rehabilitation personnel who shares case coordination tasks and substitutes for the service coordinator when he or she is not working. The individual treatment team has continuous responsibility to: 1) be knowledgeable about the person's life, circumstances, goals and desires; 2) collaborate with the person to develop and write the Individual Service Plan; 3) offer options and choices in the Individual Service Plan; 4) ensure that immediate

changes are made as a person's needs change; and, 5) advocate for the person's wishes, rights, and preferences. The individual treatment team is responsible for providing much of the person's treatment, rehabilitation, and support services. Individual treatment team members are assigned to take separate service roles with the person as specified by the person and the individual treatment team in the Individual Service Plan.

2. Crisis Assessment and Intervention
  - (a) Crisis assessment and intervention must be provided twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week. These services will include telephone and face-to-face contact and will be provided in conjunction with the local community mental health system's emergency services program as appropriate.
  - (b) A system must be in place that assures the person can contact the Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team as necessary.
3. Symptom Assessment and Management includes but is not limited to the following:
  - (a) Ongoing comprehensive assessment of the person's mental illness symptoms, accurate diagnosis, and the person's response to treatment.
  - (b) Psycho-education regarding mental illness and the effects and side effects of prescribed medications.
  - (c) Symptom-management efforts directed to help each person identify/target the symptoms and occurrence patterns of his or her mental illness and develop methods (internal, behavioral, or adaptive) to help lessen the effects.
  - (d) Individual supportive therapy.
  - (e) Psychotherapy.
  - (f) Generous psychological support to people, both on a planned and as-needed basis, to help them accomplish their personal goals, to cope with the stressors of day-to-day living, and to recover.
4. Medication Prescription, Administration, Monitoring and Documentation
  - (a) The Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team psychiatrist/psychiatric nurse practitioner must:
    - (1) Establish an individual clinical relationship with each person.
    - (2) Assess each person's mental illness symptoms and provide verbal and written information about mental illness.
    - (3) Make an accurate diagnosis based on the comprehensive assessment which dictates an evidence-based medication pathway that the psychiatrist/psychiatric nurse practitioner will follow.
    - (4) Provide education about medication, benefits and risks, and obtain informed consent.
    - (5) Assess and document the person's mental illness symptoms and behavior in response to medication and monitor and document medication side effects.
    - (6) Provide psychotherapy.
  - (b) All Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team members must regularly assess and document the person's mental illness symptoms and behavior in response to medication and must monitor for medication side effects. This

information should be shared with the prescriber.

- (c) The Program of Assertive Community Treatment Teams must establish medication policies and procedures which identify processes to:
  - (1) Record physician orders;
  - (2) Order medication;
  - (3) Arrange for all individual medications to be organized by the team and integrated into people's weekly schedules and daily employee assignment schedules;
  - (4) Provide security for medications (e.g., daily and longer-term supplies, and long-term injectables) and set aside a private designated area for set-up of medications by the team's nursing personnel;
  - (5) Administer medications per state law to people receiving Program of Assertive Community Treatment services; and,
  - (6) Comply with Rule 13.8.

#### 5. Co-Occurring Substance Use Services

- (a) Co-Occurring Substance Use Services are the provision of a stage-based treatment model that is non-confrontational, considers interactions of mental illness and substance use, and has individual-determined goals. This must include but is not limited to individual and group interventions in:
  - (1) Engagement (e.g., empathy, reflective listening, avoiding argumentation);
  - (2) Assessment (e.g., stage of readiness to change, individual-determined problem identification);
  - (3) Motivational enhancement (e.g., developing discrepancies, psycho-education);
  - (4) Active treatment (e.g., cognitive skills training, community reinforcement); and,
  - (5) Continuous relapse prevention (e.g., trigger identification, building relapse prevention action plans).

#### 6. Work-Related Services

- (a) Work-related services to help people value, find, and maintain meaningful employment in community-based job sites and services to develop jobs and coordinate with employers but also includes but is not necessarily limited to:
  - (1) Assessment of job-related interests and abilities through a complete education and work history assessment as well as on-the-job assessments in community-based jobs.
  - (2) Assessment of the effect of the person's mental illness on employment with identification of specific behaviors that interfere with the person's work performance and development of interventions to reduce or eliminate those behaviors and find effective job accommodations.
  - (3) Development of an ongoing employment plan to help each person establish the skills necessary to find and maintain a job.
  - (4) Individual supportive therapy to assist people to identify and cope with mental illness symptoms that may interfere with their work performance.
  - (5) On-the-job or work-related crisis intervention.
  - (6) Work-related supportive services, such as assistance with grooming and

personal hygiene, securing of appropriate clothing, wake-up calls, and transportation, if needed.

7. Activities of Daily Living

- (a) Services to support activities of daily living in community-based settings include individualized assessment, problem solving, sufficient side-by-side assistance and support, skill training, ongoing supervision (e.g., prompts, assignments, monitoring, encouragement), and environmental adaptations to assist people to gain or use the skills required to:
  - (1) Find housing which is safe, of good quality, and affordable (e.g., apartment hunting; finding a roommate; landlord negotiations; cleaning, furnishing, and decorating); and, procuring necessities (such as telephones, furnishings, linens).
  - (2) Perform household activities, including house cleaning, cooking, grocery shopping, and laundry.
  - (3) Carry out personal hygiene and grooming tasks, as needed.
  - (4) Develop or improve money-management skills.
  - (5) Use available transportation.
  - (6) Have and effectively use a personal physician and dentist.

8. Social/Interpersonal Relationship and Leisure-Time Skill Training

- (a) Services to support social/interpersonal relationships and leisure-time skill training include supportive individual therapy (e.g., problem solving, role-playing, modeling, and support); social-skill teaching and assertiveness training; planning, structuring, and prompting of social and leisure-time activities; side-by-side support and coaching; and, organizing individual and group social and recreational activities to structure people's time, increase their social experiences, and provide them with opportunities to practice social skills and receive feedback and support required to:
  - (1) Improve communication skills, develop assertiveness, and increase self-esteem;
  - (2) Develop social skills, increase social experiences, and develop meaningful personal relationships;
  - (3) Plan appropriate and productive use of leisure time;
  - (4) Relate to landlords, neighbors, and others effectively; and,
  - (5) Familiarize themselves with available social and recreational opportunities and increase their use of such opportunities.

9. Peer Support Services

- (a) Services to validate people's experiences and to guide and encourage people to take responsibility for and actively participate in their own recovery. In addition, services to help people identify, understand, and combat stigma and discrimination against mental illness and develop strategies to reduce people's self-imposed stigma;
- (b) Peer counseling and support; and,
- (c) Introduction and referral to self-help services and advocacy organizations that

promote recovery.

10. Support Services

- (a) Support services or direct assistance to ensure that people obtain the basic necessities of daily life, including but not necessarily limited to:
  - (1) Medical and dental services;
  - (2) Safe, clean, affordable housing;
  - (3) Financial support and/or benefits counseling (e.g., SSI, SSDI, Food Stamps, Section 8, Vocational Rehabilitation, Home Energy Assistance);
  - (4) Social services;
  - (5) Transportation; and,
  - (6) Legal advocacy and representation.

11. Education, Support, and Consultation to People's Families and other Major Supports

- (a) Services provided regularly under this category to people's families and other major supports, with individual agreement or consent, include:
  - (1) Individualized psycho-education about the person's illness and the role of the family and other significant people in the therapeutic process;
  - (2) Intervention to restore contact, resolve conflict, and maintain relationships with family and/or other significant people;
  - (3) Ongoing communication and collaboration, face-to-face and by telephone, between the Program of Assertive Community Treatment's Team and the family;
  - (4) Introduction and referral to family self-help services and advocacy organizations that promote recovery;
  - (5) Assistance to people with children (including individual supportive counseling, parenting training, and service coordination) including but not limited to:
    - i. Services to help people throughout pregnancy and the birth of a child;
    - ii. Services to help people fulfill parenting responsibilities and coordinate services for the child/children; and,
    - iii. Services to help people restore relationships with children who are not in the person's custody.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 32.8 Program of Assertive Community Treatment Stakeholder Advisory**

- A. The Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team must have a stakeholder advisory group to support and guide Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team implementation and operation. The stakeholder advisory group must be made up of at least 51 percent (51%) of people receiving mental health services and family members and include other community stakeholders such as representatives from services for the homeless, support organizations, food-shelf agencies, faith-based groups, the criminal justice system, housing



authorities, landlords, employers, and/or community colleges. Group membership must also represent the cultural diversity of the local population.

B. The stakeholder advisory group must:

1. Promote quality Program of Assertive Community Treatment model services;
2. Monitor fidelity to the Program of Assertive Community Treatment service standards;
3. Guide and assist with the administering agency oversight of the Program of Assertive Community Treatment Service;
4. Problem-solve and advocate to reduce system barriers to Program of Assertive Community Treatment implementation;
5. Review and monitor individual and family grievances and complaints; and,
6. Promote and ensure people's empowerment and recovery values in assertive community treatment service.

C. The Program of Assertive Community Treatment Team must have a system for regular review of the service that is designed to evaluate the appropriateness of admissions to the program, treatment or service plans, discharge practices, and other factors that may contribute to the effective use of the service's resources.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 32.9 Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team**

- A. The Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team is a recovery and resiliency oriented, intensive, community-based rehabilitation and outreach service for adults with a severe and persistent mental illness. It is a team oriented approach to mental health rehabilitation intervention and supports necessary to assist people in achieving and maintaining rehabilitative, resiliency and recovery goals.
- B. Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery services are provided primarily in natural settings and are delivered face-to-face with the person and their family/significant other as appropriate, to the primary well-being and benefit of the recipient. Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery assists in the setting and attaining of individually defined recovery/resiliency goals. The Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery primary treatment objective is to assist in keeping the people receiving the service in the community in which they live, avoiding placement in state-operated behavioral health service locations.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 32.10 Service Components of Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team**

- A. Agency providers of Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Teams must also meet the requirements in Rules 32.5, 32.6, 32.7, and 32.8.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 32.11 Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team Staffing**

- A. Each Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team of three (3) will serve a maximum of forty-five (45) people with a ratio of one to fifteen (1:15).
- B. Each Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team must have sufficient number of employees (three [3]) to provide treatment rehabilitation, and support services twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week (after normal work hours on-call services can be rotated among the Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery personnel). Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery can also utilize the Mobile Crisis Emergency Response Team (MCERT) for assistance with on-call, but the response to a crisis by a person enrolled in Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery must be a member from the Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team.
- C. The following positions are required for Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Teams:
  - 1. Team Leader: One (1) full-time Master's Level Mental Health Therapist.
  - 2. A full-time registered nurse.
  - 3. A full-time equivalent Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional.
  - 4. A part-time clerical personnel.
  - 5. A part-time Community Support Specialist

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 32.12 Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Admissions and Discharges**

- A. In order to be admitted into Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Services, people must meet the criteria outlined in this rule.
- B. Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery only serves people with severe and persistent mental illness as listed in the most current edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of the American Psychiatric Association which seriously impairs their functioning in community living. Priority is given to people with schizophrenia, other psychotic disorders (e.g., schizoaffective disorder), and bipolar disorder because these illnesses more often cause long-term psychiatric disability. People with other psychiatric illnesses are eligible dependent on the level of the long-term disability. (People with a primary diagnosis of a



substance use disorder, mental retardation or other Axis II disorders are not the intended group. Additionally, people with a chronically violent history may not be appropriate for this service.)

C. People with significant functional impairments as demonstrated by at least one (1) of the following conditions:

1. Significant difficulty consistently performing the range of practical daily living tasks required for basic adult functioning in the community (e.g., caring for personal business affairs; obtaining medical, legal, and housing services; recognizing and avoiding common dangers or hazards to self and possessions; meeting nutritional needs; maintaining personal hygiene) or persistent or recurrent difficulty performing daily living tasks except with significant support or assistance from others such as friends, family, or relatives.
2. Significant difficulty maintaining consistent employment at a self-sustaining level or significant difficulty consistently carrying out the homemaker role (e.g., household meal preparation, washing clothes, budgeting, or child-care tasks and responsibilities).
3. Significant difficulty maintaining a safe living situation (e.g., repeated evictions or loss of housing).

D. People with one (1) or more of the following problems, which are indicators of continuous high-service needs (i.e., greater than eight [8] hours per month):

1. High use of acute psychiatric hospitals (e.g., two [2] or more admissions per year) or psychiatric emergency services (extensive use of Mobile Crisis Response Team services).
2. Intractable (i.e., persistent or very recurrent) severe major symptoms (e.g., affective, psychotic, suicidal).
3. Coexisting substance use disorder of significant duration (e.g., greater than six [6] months).
4. High risk or recent history of criminal justice involvement (e.g., arrest, incarceration) due to behavioral problems attributed to the person's mental illness.
5. Significant difficulty meeting basic survival needs, residing in substandard housing, homelessness, or imminent risk of becoming homeless.
6. Residing in an inpatient or supervised community residence, but clinically assessed to be able to live in a more independent living situation if intensive services are provided, or requiring a residential or institutional placement if more intensive services are not available.
7. Difficulty effectively utilizing traditional office-based outpatient services (office-based individual and/or group therapy, psychosocial rehabilitation, and medication monitoring).

E. Discharges from the Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team occur when people and service personnel mutually agree to the termination of services. This must occur when people:

1. Have successfully reached individually established goals for discharge, and when the person and service personnel mutually agree to the termination of services.

2. Have successfully demonstrated an ability to function in all major role areas (i.e., work, social, self-care) without ongoing assistance from the agency provider, without significant relapse when services are withdrawn, and when the person requests discharge, and the agency provider employees mutually agree to the termination of services.
3. Move outside the geographic area of the Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team's responsibility. In such cases, the Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team must arrange for transfer of mental health service responsibility to an Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Service or another agency provider wherever the person is moving. The Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team must maintain contact with the person until this service transfer is implemented.
4. Decline or refuse services and request discharge, despite the team's best efforts to develop an acceptable Individual Service Plan with the person.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 32.13 Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team's Contacts**

- A. The Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team must have seventy-five to eighty-five percent (75-85%) of Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery work and contact time in a community setting. Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery is for people with intensive needs that traditional outpatient clinic services have not been successful in treating.
- B. People served in Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery must be in the community (non-office based or non-facility-based settings). People that can make and maintain appointments at a clinic should not qualify for Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Services.
- C. The Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team must have the capacity to rapidly increase service intensity to a person when his or her status requires it or a person requests it.
- D. Each person can receive services as often as necessary but at a minimum they must be seen two (2) times a week at a minimum of two (2) hours (total).
- E. Each employee must provide services to each person as often as therapeutically necessary but at a minimum, each individual must be seen by Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team personnel one (1) time a week.
- F. Each person must receive services from a psychiatrist or psychiatric nurse practitioner as often as necessary but at a minimum of one (1) time per every thirty (30) days. These services can be provided in an office or community setting. Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery personnel must facilitate and provide transportation (if necessary) to the appointment.

- G. Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery will provide Peer Support Services, individual mental health therapy, medication administration/monitoring, general healthcare monitoring/treatment, supportive counseling, social/hygiene skills training, recovery/resiliency support, symptom management, budgeting skills, and leisure time activities.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 32.14 Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team for Children/Youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance**

- A. The Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team is a resiliency oriented, intensive, community-based rehabilitation service for children and youth with serious emotional/behavioral disturbance. Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Services support the entire family lacking access to office-based services and/or when needs cannot be met by traditional outpatient services and failure to intervene through community-based intervention could result in the child or youth becoming at risk for out-of-home therapeutic resources.
- B. Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery services are provided primarily in natural settings and are delivered face-to-face with the child or youth and/or his/her family/guardian/caregiver. Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery assists in the setting and attaining of youth-guided and family-driven resiliency goals. The ultimate goal is to stabilize the living arrangement, promote reunification or prevent the utilization of out-of-home therapeutic resources (i.e., psychiatric hospital, therapeutic foster care, and residential treatment facility).

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 32.15 Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team for Children/Youth Staffing**

- A. Each Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team of three (3) will serve a maximum of forty-five (45) children and/or youth with a ratio of one to fifteen (1:15).
- B. Each Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team must have sufficient number of employees (three [3]) to provide treatment rehabilitation, and support services twenty-four (24) hours per day, and seven (7) days per week (after normal work hours on-call services can be rotated among the Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery personnel). Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery can also utilize the Mobile Crisis Emergency Response Team (MCERT) for assistance with on-call, but the response to a crisis by a child

or youth enrolled in Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery must be a member from the Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team.

- C. The following positions are required for Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Teams:
1. Team Leader: One (1) full-time Master's Level Mental Health Therapist.
  2. A full-time registered nurse.
  3. A part-time equivalent Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional.
  4. A part-time clerical personnel.
  5. A full-time Community Support Specialist.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 32.16 Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team for Children/Youth Admissions and Discharges**

- A. In order to be admitted into Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Services, children and youth must meet the criteria outlined in this rule.
- B. Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery serves children and youth with a serious emotional/behavioral disturbance as listed in the most current edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of the American Psychiatric Association which seriously impairs their functioning in community living. Priority is given to children, ~~and~~ youth and their families who lack access to office-based services and/or who have experienced multiple acute hospital and/or residential care stays, who are at risk of out-of-home placement or have been recommended for residential care, and for those children and youth for whom traditional outpatient care has not been successful.
- C. Children and youth with functional impairments as demonstrated by at least one (1) of the following conditions:
1. Child or youth has a serious emotional/behavioral disturbance as listed in the most current edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of the American Psychiatric Association which impairs his/her functioning in community living.
  2. Child or youth is at-risk for out-of-home placement or use of out-of-home therapeutic resources without community-based intervention.
  3. Child or youth has difficulty demonstrating success in the home and educational environment due to emotional, social, and/or behavioral challenges.
  4. Child or youth has had difficulty effectively utilizing traditional office-based or school-based outpatient services (office-based individual and/or group therapy, day treatment services, school-based therapies).
  5. Family members of the child or youth have needs to be met and/or the family is experiencing multiple system involvement.

6. Youth has high risk or recent history of juvenile justice involvement (e.g., arrest, incarceration) due to behavioral problems attributed to the youth's emotional and/or behavioral problems.
- D. Discharges from the Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team occur when the child/youth's family and service personnel mutually agree to the termination of services. This must occur when children/youth:
1. Have successfully reached individually established goals for discharge, and when the child/youth's family and service personnel mutually agree to the termination of services.
  2. Have successfully demonstrated an ability to function in the areas of home, school and other entities, and social interactions without ongoing assistance from the agency provider, without significant relapse when services are withdrawn, and when the child or youth's family requests discharge and the agency provider employees mutually agree to the termination of services.
  3. Move outside the geographic area of the Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team's responsibility. In such cases, the Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team must arrange for transfer of mental health service responsibility to an Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Service or another agency provider. The team must maintain contact with the person until this service transfer is implemented.
  4. Decline or refuse services and request discharge, despite the team's best efforts to develop an acceptable Individual Service Plan with the child/youth.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 32.17 Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team for Children/Youth Contacts**

- A. The Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team must have seventy-five to eighty-five percent (75-85%) of Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery work and contact time in a community setting. Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery is for children and youth with intensive needs that traditional outpatient services have not been successful in treating.
- B. Children, youth and their families that can make and maintain appointments at a clinic should not qualify for Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Services.
- C. The Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team must have the capacity to rapidly increase service intensity to a child or youth when his or her status requires it or when his or her family requests it.
- D. The family being served by the Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team and team members determine the frequency that services are provided. Services must be provided as often as therapeutically necessary, but at a minimum, or youth must be seen

by Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Team personnel two (2) times a week. Frequency of services provided must be documented in the child's or youth's ISP.

- E. Each child or youth must receive services from a psychiatrist or psychiatric nurse practitioner as often as necessary but at a minimum of one (1) time per every thirty (30) days. These services can be provided in an office or community setting. Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery team members must facilitate and provide transportation (if necessary) to the appointment.
- F. Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery will provide Peer Support Services, individual mental health therapy, medication monitoring, linkage to medical and educational services, supportive counseling, social skills training, recovery/resiliency support, and symptom management.
- G. Wraparound Facilitation Services can be provided in conjunction with Intensive Community Outreach and Recovery Services.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 32.18 Intensive Community Support Services – General**

- A. Intensive Community Support Services is designed to be a key part of the continuum of mental health services and supports for people (adults and children/youth) with serious mental illness or emotional disturbance.
- B. Intensive Community Support Services must promote independence and quality of life through the coordination of appropriate services and the provision of constant and on-going support as needed by the person.
- C. The Intensive Community Support Specialist (ICSS) must have direct involvement with the person and must attempt to develop a caring, supportive relationship with the person.
- D. Intensive Community Support Services must be responsive to a person's multiple and changing needs and must play a pivotal role in coordinating required services from across the mental health system as well as other service systems (i.e., criminal justice, Chancery Court, Youth Court, Crisis Response and Substance Use Services).
- E. Intensive Community Support Services must help the person function in the least restrictive, most natural community environment and achieve an improved quality of life by helping the person to achieve his/her recovery goals.
- F. Intensive Community Support Services differs from typical Community Support Services and Targeted Case Management by:
  - 1. Engaging with community settings of people with severe functional impairments;

2. Serving people in the community who have traditionally been managed in psychiatric hospitals;
3. Maintaining an unusually low client to staff ratio;
4. Providing services multiple times per week as needed; and,
5. Providing interventions primarily in the community rather than in office settings.

G. Intensive Community Support Services is a comprehensive and complex service that involves:

1. Outreach and referrals;
2. Frequent assessment and planning;
3. Frequent direct services provision/intervention;
4. Frequent monitoring, evaluation and follow-up; and,
5. Information, liaison, advocacy, consultation and collaboration.

H. Staffing Requirements:

1. There must be at least one full-time (forty [40] hours per week) Intensive Community Support Specialist providing services. Additional staff, if needed, can be part-time to the service.
2. Intensive Community Support Services must be provided by a Mental Health Professional who holds at least a bachelor's degree in a mental health or related field, holds a DMH Community Support Specialist credential or comparable certification and has at least three (3) years of mental health direct care experience.
3. Overall supervision of the Intensive Community Support Services staff must be carried out only by a mental health professional possessing a master's degree and credentials in a mental health or related field and at least 3 years of mental health direct care experience.
4. A full-time (forty [40] hours per week) Intensive Community Support Specialist's caseload must not be more than twenty (20) people. A part-time (at least twenty [20] hours per week) ICSS's caseload must not be more than ten (10) people.

I. Service Provision Requirements:

1. The Intensive Community Support Specialist must monitor and track all people from the agency's catchment area that received a Pre-Evaluation Screening as ordered by the Chancery Court, were committed into inpatient care, or began inpatient care voluntarily.
2. The Intensive Community Support Specialist must coordinate with the people, family and the facility personnel while they are in inpatient psychiatric care (which includes state operated facilities, private facilities, crisis stabilization units, designated holding facilities, detention centers or jail), to develop and coordinate an aftercare plan.
3. The agency's Intensive Community Support Specialist will act as the primary contact ("single-point-of-entry") for the inpatient facility discharging someone into the agency's catchment area.

4. The Intensive Community Support Specialist must identify unmet needs of the person in the community and develop a plan to address those identified needs.
5. The Intensive Community Support Specialist must coordinate very closely with Crisis Response Services (M-CeRT) and attend the MAP Team and AMAP team meetings for the agency to ensure continuity of care. The Intensive Community Support Specialist will assist with the development of a Crisis Support Plan as required by the DMH Record Guide.
6. The Intensive Community Support Specialist must coordinate with typical mental health services in the person's community in order to transition the person using the "warm hand-off method" into typical mental health services at the appropriate time.
7. Intensive Community Support Specialists and Targeted Case Managers must work in conjunction to develop and coordinate each person's services.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 32.19 Mississippi Youth Programs Around the Clock (MYPAC)**

#### **A. Service Components**

1. MYPAC services are defined as treatment provided in the home and/or community to children and youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) from birth up to the age of twenty-one (21) years. The ultimate goal is to stabilize the living arrangement, promote reunification, and/or prevent the over-utilization of out-of-home therapeutic resources (i.e., psychiatric hospital, therapeutic foster care, therapeutic group home, and/or residential treatment facility). MYPAC services are provided until stabilization has occurred by evaluating the nature and course of psychiatric needs and providing intensive interventions intended to diffuse psychiatric needs and reduce the likelihood of a recurrence.
2. MYPAC services are individualized for children/youth who experience severe and impairing psychiatric symptoms and behavioral disturbances.
3. MYPAC services are most appropriate for children/youth who have not benefitted from traditional outpatient services, have experienced frequent acute psychiatric hospitalizations and/or psychiatric emergency stabilization services in the *past ninety (90) days*.
4. MYPAC services are person-centered, individually tailored to each child/youth and family, part of coordinated care efforts, and address the preferences and identified goals of each child/youth and family.
5. MYPAC is mobile and delivers services in the community and in the child/youth's home.
6. Staff assigned to each child/youth's case work as a team and provide the treatment



and support services children/youth need to achieve their goals. Staff share responsibility for addressing the needs of the children/youth and their families receiving this service.

7. Each MYPAC therapist will serve only children/youth receiving MYPAC services (children/youth and their families have the option to request Wraparound Facilitation as an additional service) and will have a maximum caseload of twenty (20) children/youth. The provider agency must maintain a roster for each MYPAC therapist of children/youth served for review.

## B. Service Requirements

1. Providers of MYPAC services must meet the following requirements:
  - a) Hold certification by DMH to provide Crisis Response Services, Community Support Services, Peer Support Services, Physician/Psychiatric Services, and Outpatient Therapy Services.
  - b) Have a psychiatrist or psychiatric nurse practitioner on staff, at least part-time, to evaluate and treat children/youth receiving MYPAC services.
  - c) Have appropriate clinical staff that meet DMH requirements to provide the therapeutic services needed.
  - d) Provide training topics (e.g., CPI, MANDT, MAB, etc.) that are appropriate to the needs of MYPAC service providers.
  - e) Coordinate services and needed supports with other providers and/or natural supports when appropriate and with consent.
  - f) Provide education on wellness, recovery, and resiliency.
  - g) Have procedures in place for twenty-four (24) hour, seven (7) days a week availability and response (inclusive of crisis response services).
2. The following services must be available, (but are not limited to):
  - a) Individual and Family Therapy
  - b) Peer Support Services
  - c) Community Support Services
  - d) Physician/Psychiatric Services.
3. MYPAC services must be included in the Individual Service Plan (ISP) and, if also receiving Wraparound Facilitation Services, the Wraparound Plan of Care, and provided to children/youth based on their needs identified in the treatment plan.
4. If the child/youth entering the MYPAC program does not have an Initial Assessment, one must be completed by the provider within fourteen (14) working days of admission.
5. If the child/youth is receiving Wraparound Facilitation Services, the provider needs to have input into the Wraparound Plan of Care (which needs to be available for

review upon request). In the event that the child/youth is no longer receiving Wraparound Services, the MYPAC provider *MUST* complete all required forms (Individual Service Plan, Individual Crisis Support Plan, Recovery Support Plan, etc.) within fourteen (14) working days of discharge from Wraparound Facilitation.

6. The provider agency must be able to respond to crises/emergencies, for each child/youth and family served, twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week. The MYPAC provider is required to be the first responder and make every effort to assist the child/youth and the family. Non-MYPAC team members (e.g., MCERT) should only be contacted and respond if the MYPAC provider is unable to assist the child/youth and the family, or on the rare occasion when a MYPAC team member is unable to respond within one (1) hour. MYPAC providers must show documentation of their attempted assistance upon request for review.
7. The provider agency must designate a MYPAC supervisor to coordinate MYPAC services and conduct supervision weekly and as needed. The MYPAC supervisor shall supervise no more than six (6) MYPAC therapists.

#### C. Staffing Requirements

1. Providers of MYPAC services must meet the following staffing requirements:
  - a) Psychiatrist and/or Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner (i.e., psychiatric staff) must hold a current professional license and be employed by the MYPAC provider at least part-time to evaluate and treat children/youth receiving MYPAC services.
  - b) MYPAC supervisor must hold a minimum of a master's degree in a mental health or related field and have either a current (1) professional license or (2) DMH credential (as appropriate to the service and population served) to coordinate/oversee services.
  - c) MYPAC therapist must hold a minimum of a master's degree in a mental health or related field and have either a current (1) professional license or (2) DMH credential (as appropriate to the service and population served).
  - d) Peer Support Specialist must be an individual with lived experience of having a child with a Serious Emotional Disturbance diagnosis and hold a current DMH Certified Peer Support Specialist credential.
  - e) Community Support Specialist must hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree in a mental health or human services/behavioral health-related field and a current DMH Community Support Specialist credential.

#### D. Admissions Criteria

1. To receive MYPAC services, children/youth must meet one (1) or more of the following criteria:
  - a) The child/youth has been evaluated and/or diagnosed by a psychiatrist, licensed psychologist, or a psychiatric nurse practitioner in the past ninety (90) days as it relates to a mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder of sufficient duration to

meet diagnostic criteria for a Serious Emotional Disturbance specified within the current version of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. The primary diagnosis must be psychiatric.

- b) The child/youth must be able to demonstrate a capacity to respond favorably to rehabilitative counseling and training in areas such as problem-solving, life skills development, and medication compliance training (i.e., demonstrates a capacity for positive response to rehabilitative services).
- c) The evaluating psychiatrist, licensed psychologist, or psychiatric nurse practitioner advises that the child/youth meets criteria of the MYPAC program and/or is at risk for out-of-home placement.
- d) The child/youth requires specialized services and supports, and an array of clinical interventions and family supports to be maintained in the community.
- e) The child/youth presents with a high use of acute psychiatric hospitalizations (i.e., two [2] or more admissions per year) or psychiatric emergency/stabilization services.
- f) The child/youth is currently residing in an inpatient facility or Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility level of care due to the lack of availability of appropriate placement but has been clinically assessed to be able to live in a community-based setting if intensive services are provided.
- g) The child/youth is at high risk for juvenile justice involvement or has a recent history of juvenile justice involvement (e.g., arrest, incarceration) *and* has a SED diagnosis.
- h) The child/youth is involved or at risk of being involved in child protective services.

#### E. Discharge Criteria

1. To discharge from MYPAC services, children/youth must meet one (1) or more of the following criteria:
  - a) Have successfully reached individually established goals for discharge, and when the individual/family and the agency provider mutually agree to the termination of services.
  - b) Have successfully demonstrated an ability to function at home and in the school setting without ongoing assistance from the agency provider, without significant relapse when services are withdrawn, when the person requests discharge, and the agency provider mutually agrees to the termination of services.
  - c) Move outside the geographic area. In such cases, the agency provider must arrange for transfer of mental health service responsibility to another agency provider and maintain contact with the child/youth and family until this service transfer is implemented.
  - d) Decline or refuse services and request discharge, despite the agency provider's best efforts to develop an acceptable Individual Service Plan with the child/youth and family.
  - e) Not deemed clinically appropriate for service, and treatment elsewhere would be more beneficial.
  - f) Have reached the age of twenty-one (21) and will be referred to an appropriate

service for adults.

#### F. Contact Requirements

1. The agency must have the capacity to provide multiple contacts during a week with children/youth being served through MYPAC. These multiple contacts may be frequent and depend on individual need and a *mutually agreed upon* plan between the family and agency provider staff providing services.
2. All children/youth must be evaluated for appropriateness for psychopharmacological treatment by the on-staff psychiatric provider within forty-five (45) working days of entering the MYPAC program. Only those who are actively prescribed psychotropic medication will be required to see the on-staff psychiatric provider at least every ninety (90) days. Children/youth not taking psychotropic medication will be re-evaluated by the on-staff psychiatric provider when there is a significant change in symptoms, environment (e.g., foster care), and/or loss/trauma.
3. Children/youth receiving MYPAC must participate in at least three (3) individual therapy sessions per month and at least one (1) family therapy session per month provided by the MYPAC therapist for a total of a minimum of four (4) therapy sessions per month.
4. A Peer Support Specialist and/or Community Support Specialist must contact the family at least two (2) times per month via telephone or face-to-face.
5. If the child/youth is participating in Wraparound Facilitation, the MYPAC provider must be a participating team member and attend the monthly Child and Family Team Meetings. The MYPAC provider must show evidence of attendance of the Child and Family Team Meeting in the child/youth's record (e.g., copy of sign-in sheet).
6. All sessions and contacts and/or visits must be documented in the case record.

#### G. Documentation Requirements

1. Employee records must indicate that within ninety (90) days of hire/placement employees receive orientation on the MYPAC program and supervised on-the-job training prior to being assigned independent responsibilities. This requirement is separate from any other orientation specified elsewhere in the *DMH Operational Standards* document.
2. Employee records must indicate weekly supervision provided by the MYPAC supervisor.
3. Agency provider must maintain a roster for each MYPAC therapist of children/youth who are served.
4. The following documents must be provided to the individual, family, and/or legal

guardian and be included in the child/youth's record:

- a) Consent to Receive Services
  - b) Rights of Persons Receiving Services
  - c) Acknowledgment of Grievance Procedures
  - d) Individual Service, Individual Crisis Support and Recovery Support Plans
  - e) Wraparound Plan of Care (if applicable)
  - f) Medication/Emergency Contact Information (if applicable).
5. The provider agency must complete an Initial Assessment within fourteen (14) working days of admission, if not already on file.
6. Each child/youth receiving MYPAC services must have an Individual Service Plan completed in its entirety on file (*no blank fields*). The following information must be included:
- a) Signatures:
    - 1) Individual/Child/Youth
    - 2) Parent and/or Legal Guardian
    - 3) MYPAC Therapist
    - 4) Peer Support Specialist and/or Community Support Specialist
    - 5) Psychiatrist and/or Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner.
  - b) Timelines:
    - 1) Developed within fourteen (14) working days of admission
    - 2) Document review at least every thirty (30) days and as needed on Periodic Staffing/Review of the ISP
    - 3) Periodic Staffing/Review of the ISP reviewed, approved, and signed off on by psychiatric staff at least every six (6) months
    - 4) Updated at least annually.
  - c) Reviews and updates must include the following changes in specific detail and applicable signatures:
    - 1) Change in diagnosis
    - 2) Change in symptoms
    - 3) Change(s) in service activities
    - 4) Change(s) in treatment/treatment recommendations
    - 5) Other significant life change
    - 6) Signatures of individual; parent/legal guardian; MYPAC therapist; psychiatrist/psychiatric nurse practitioner (if ISP rewritten).
7. Each child/youth receiving MYPAC services must have an Individual Crisis Support Plan completed in its entirety on file (*no blank fields*). The following must be included:
- a) Signatures:
    - 1) Individual/Child/Youth

- 2) MYPAC Therapist.
  - b) Timeline:
    - 1) Developed within thirty (30) days of admission.
  - c) Required Elements:
    - 1) Documentation that all team members have a copy (to refer to when needed)
    - 2) Documentation that individual receiving services has a copy (for reference).
8. Each child/youth receiving Peer Support Services and/or Community Support Services must have a Recovery Support Plan completed in its entirety (*no blank fields*). The following information must be included:
- a) Signatures:
    - 1) Individual/Child/Youth
    - 2) Parent and/or Legal Guardian
    - 3) Peer Support Specialist and/or Community Support Specialist
    - 4) MYPAC Therapist
    - 5) Any other individuals who participated in plan development.
  - b) Timelines:
    - 1) Developed within thirty (30) days of admission.
9. The child/youth's record must contain documentation of Peer Support Specialist and/or Community Support Specialist contact at least two (2) times per month either via telephone or face-to-face contact.
10. Each child/youth who receives both Wraparound Facilitation services and MYPAC services must have in the record:
- a) Wraparound Plan of Care (current copy)
  - b) Crisis Management Plan (current copy)
  - c) Monthly Child and Family Team sign-in sheets (documenting MYPAC provider's participation by evidence of the provider's signature)
  - d) Medication/Emergency Contact Information (if taking/has taken psychotropic medication).
11. Psychotherapy Services:
- a) A minimum of three (3) individual therapy sessions and at least one (1) family therapy session per month for a total of a minimum of four (4) therapy sessions documented and signed by a master's level therapist.

12. Any child/youth on psychotropic medication must have a Medication/Emergency Contact Information form completed in its entirety (*no blank fields*) and included in the record:
  - a) Medication recorded during the admission process
  - b) Current medications listed
  - c) Form updated when medications are added, discontinued and/or changed
  - d) Form updated annually
  - e) MYPAC therapist signs/initials all changes made to the form.
13. The child/youth's individual record must contain documentation that the child/youth is being seen by the psychiatric staff at least every ninety (90) days (if actively taking psychotropic medications), or as often as needed based on the child/youth's needs. If any child/youth who is not taking psychotropic medication is re-evaluated, the record must contain documentation pertaining to the significant change in symptoms, environment (e.g., foster care), and/or loss/trauma.

#### H. Service Review

1. DMH will conduct scheduled fidelity reviews of MYPAC services and may also conduct on-site compliance monitoring on a schedule as determined by DMH.
2. DMH may develop supplementary policies, procedures, and forms to work in concert with these rules. Providers will be notified of any such applicable policies and procedures (and subsequent updates), along with corresponding timelines for implementation. Moreover, any provisions not expressly covered by these rules will be handled at the discretion of DMH.
3. DMH reserves the right to amend or repeal any rule or requirement (or adopt a new rule or requirement), with appropriate prior notice to providers. Changes made under this provision will be incorporated into the current *DMH Operational Standards* document in a timely manner, according to customary rules making procedures.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## **Part 2: Chapter 33: Adult Making A Plan (AMAP) Teams**

### **Rule 33.1 Adult Making A Plan Teams – General Requirements**

- A. Adult Making A Plan Teams address the needs of adults, eighteen (18) years and above, with serious mental illness or dually diagnosed (SMI/DD or SMI/SUD) who have frequent/multiple placements in inpatient psychiatric services which could possibly be prevented with the coordinated efforts of multiple agency providers and services.
- B. Each Adult Making A Plan Team must have an employee identified as the Coordinator employed by the agency provider who has a Bachelor's degree. In addition, the following team members are recommended and should be present and documented at each Adult Making A Plan Team meeting (if applicable):
  - 1. The person being referred to the Adult Making A Plan Team, family member, and/or advocate representing the person.
  - 2. The person's therapist, Community Support Specialist, or other employee from the agency provider who has detailed knowledge of the person.
  - 3. A representative of the Chancery Clerk's office or Chancery Court.
  - 4. A representative of the sheriff's department of the county in which the person resides; and/or a representative of the police department of the city of residence.
  - 5. Employees from the regional behavioral health program or Crisis Residential Unit that has had frequent contact with the person.
- C. The agency provider must maintain a current written interagency agreement with agency providers participating in the Adult Making A Plan Team.
- D. The overall goal of the Adult Making A Plan Team is to develop a new and different intervention for the person in order for him/her to have a greater success of being maintained in a community setting. Past course of treatment and altered future service plan and completion of the Crisis Support Plan must be documented on the Case Summary Form.
- E. Adult Making A Plan Team Monthly Reporting forms and Adult Making A Plan Team Case Summary forms must be submitted to DMH with each cash reimbursement request (if funding is available) and must also be maintained on-site with the Adult Making A Plan Team Coordinator.
- F. For any people who have been previously referred to the local Adult Making A Plan Team to be placed at/committed to an inpatient psychiatric facility, the local Adult Making A Plan Team must attempt to develop a less restrictive alternative in the community.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 33.2 Access to Adult Making A Plan Teams**

- A. All agency providers certified as Community Mental Health Centers (DHM/C) must have a minimum of one (1) Adult Making A Plan Team Coordinator.
- B. The Adult Making A Plan Team Coordinator must provide information about the Adult Making A Plan Team to all Chancery Clerks and sheriff's departments of every county in the Community Mental Health Center's catchment area.
- C. Adult Making A Plan Team Coordinators must provide information about their Adult Making A Plan Team (i.e., contact person, meeting schedule, etc.) to each state-operated behavioral health facility, DMH Certified Crisis Residential Unit that has a catchment area that their Community Mental Health Center falls in, and the DMH Office of Consumer Support.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Part 2: Chapter 34: Access to Inpatient Care**

### **Rule 34.1 Referral**

- A. All agency providers certified as DMH/C or DMH/P must provide access to inpatient services in the person's locale when appropriate.
- B. The agency provider must have written policies and procedures for referral to inpatient services in the community, should a person require such services.
- C. The agency provider must maintain a current written agreement with a licensed hospital(s) to provide/make available inpatient services, which, at a minimum, addresses:
  - 1. Identification of the agency provider's responsibility for the person's care while the person is in inpatient status;
  - 2. Description of services that the hospitals will make available to people who are referred; and,
  - 3. How hospital referral, admission and discharge processes are coordinated with crisis, Pre-Evaluation Screening, Civil Commitment Examination Services, and aftercare services.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 34.2 Pre-Evaluation Screening and Civil Commitment**

- A. Pre-Evaluation Screening and a Civil Commitment Examination are two (2) separate events which include screening and examinations, inclusive of other services, to determine the need for civil commitment and/or other mental health services, including outpatient or inpatient commitment. These services also include assessment and plans to link people with appropriate services and can only be provided by a DMH/C provider.
- B. The DMH/C must have a written plan that has been implemented which describes how the service meets the requirements of the Mississippi civil commitment statutes. This plan must describe by county:
  - 1. The system for conducting Pre-Evaluation Screenings;
  - 2. The system for conducting Civil Commitment Examinations;
  - 3. The system for handling court appearances;
  - 4. The services that are offered for the family and/or significant others; and,
  - 5. The system for assuring that people being screened and/or evaluated for civil commitment and their family or significant others have access to an employee knowledgeable in the civil commitment process.
- C. The Pre-Evaluation Screening must be conducted by qualified employees of a regional Community Mental Health Center, and:

1. Be performed by:
  - (a) A certified licensed psychologist or physician; or
  - (b) A person with a Master's degree in a mental health or related field who has received training and certification in Pre-Evaluation Screening by DMH; or,
  - (c) Registered nurses who have received training and certification in Pre-Evaluation Screening by DMH.
  - (d) Additionally, employees who meet requirements (b) and (c) above, have completed and provide documentation of at least six (6) months of experience working with people with serious mental illness or serious emotional disturbance.
2. Be performed in accordance with current Mississippi civil commitment statutes.
3. Be documented on the forms and provide the information required by the civil commitment law and/or DMH.

D. If the Civil Commitment Examination is conducted, the examination must:

1. Be performed by two (2) licensed physicians, or one (1) licensed physician and either one (1) psychologist, nurse practitioner or physician assistant. The nurse practitioner or physician assistant conducting the examination shall be independent from, and not under the supervision of, the other physician conducting the examination (as required in MCA Section 41-21-67 (2)).
2. Be documented on required forms, and provide information required by law or DMH. Documentation must include information in the person's record of the Commitment Examination results and the official disposition following the examination.
3. Include the evaluation of the person's social and environmental support systems.
4. Include, when possible, the development of a treatment and follow-up plan for the person and the family and/or significant others.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Part 2: Chapter 35: Designated Mental Health Holding Facilities**

### **Rule 35.1 Designation**

Designated Mental Health Holding Facilities (hereafter referred to as “holding facility”) hold people who have been involuntarily civilly committed and are awaiting transportation to a treatment facility. The holding facility can be a county facility or a facility with which the county contracts. DMH will conduct annual on-site visits to each holding facility to ensure with the standards in this Chapter.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 35.2 Policies and Procedures**

- A. Each holding facility must have a manual that includes the written policies and procedures for operating and maintaining the facility holding people involved in the civil commitment process or those awaiting transportation to a certified/licensed mental health facility. Written policies and procedures must give sufficient details for implementation and documentation of duties and functions so that a new employee or someone unfamiliar with the operation of the holding facility and services would be able to carry out necessary operations of the holding facility.
- B. The policies and procedures must:
  - 1. Be reviewed annually by the governing authority of the county, with advice and input from the regional Community Mental Health Center, as documented in the governing authority meeting minutes;
  - 2. Be updated as needed, with changes approved by the governing authority before they are instituted, as documented in the governing authority meeting minutes. Changed sections, pages, etc., must show the date of approval of the revision on each page;
  - 3. Be readily accessible to all employees on all shifts providing services to people in the holding facility, with a copy at each service delivery location;
  - 4. Describe how the policies and procedures are made available to the public; and,
  - 5. Have a copy of the Memoranda of Understanding or contract between the holding facility and the Community Mental Health Center to describe how mental health services will be provided while people are being held in the holding facility.
- C. A personnel record for each employee and contractual employee, as noted below, must be maintained and must include, but not be limited to:
  - 1. The application for employment, including employment history and experience.
  - 2. A copy of the current Mississippi license or certification for all licensed or certified personnel.
  - 3. A copy of college transcripts, high school diploma, and/or appropriate documents to verify that educational requirements of the job description are met.

4. Documentation of an annual performance evaluation.
  5. A written job description that shall include, at a minimum:
    - (a) Job title;
    - (b) Responsibilities of the job; and,
    - (c) Skills, knowledge, training/education and experience required for the job.
  6. For contractual employees, a copy of the contract or written agreement which includes effective dates of the contract and which is signed and dated by the contractual employee and the director of the holding facility or county supervisor.
  7. For all employees (including contractual employees) and volunteers, documentation must be maintained that a criminal records background check (including prior convictions under the Vulnerable Adults Act) and child registry check (for employees and volunteers who work with or may have to work with children/youth) has been obtained and no information received would exclude the employee/volunteer. (See Sections 43-15-6, 43-20-5, and 43-20-8 of the *Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated*) For the purposes of these checks, each employee/volunteer hired after July 1, 2002, must be fingerprinted.
- D. Each holding facility shall have written procedures for admission of people who have been involuntarily civilly committed and are awaiting transportation. These procedures shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
1. Make a complete search of the person and his/her possessions;
  2. Properly inventory and store person's personal property;
  3. Require any necessary personal hygiene activities (e.g., shower or hair care, if needed);
  4. Issue clean, laundered clothing or appropriate garments (e.g., suicide risk reduction garments);
  5. Issue allowable personal hygiene articles;
  6. Perform health/medical screening;
  7. Record basic personal data and information to be used for mail and visiting lists; and,
  8. Provide a verbal orientation of the person to the holding facility and daily routines.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 35.3 Employee Training**

- A. Supervisory and direct service employees who work with people being held in the holding facility as part of the civil commitment process must participate in training opportunities and other meetings, as specified and required by DMH.
- B. Documentation of training of individual employees must be included in individual training/personnel records and must include:
  1. Date of training;
  2. Topic(s) addressed;
  3. Name(s) of presenter(s) and qualifications; and,

4. Contact hours (actual time spent in training).
- C. Training on the following must be conducted and/or documented prior to service delivery for all newly hired employees (including contractual employees) and annually thereafter for all agency provider employees. People who are trained in the medical field (i.e., physicians, nurse practitioners or licensed nurses) may be excluded from this prior training. People who have documentation that they have received this training at another program approved by DMH within the time frame required may also be excluded:
1. First aid and life safety, including handling of emergencies such as choking, seizures, etc.;
  2. Preventing, recognizing and reporting abuse/neglect, including provisions of the Vulnerable Adults Act, and the MS Child Abuse Law;
  3. Handling of accidents and roadside emergencies (for services transporting only);
  4. De-escalation techniques & crisis intervention;
  5. Confidentiality of information pertaining to people being housed in the holding facility, including appropriate state and federal regulations governing confidentiality, particularly in addressing requests for such information;
  6. Fire safety and disaster preparedness to include:
    - (a) Use of alarm system;
    - (b) Notification of authorities who would be needed/required in an emergency;
    - (c) Actions to be taken in case of fire/disaster; and,
    - (d) Use of fire extinguishers;
  7. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Certification (CPR) must be a live, face-to-face training which is conducted by a certified CPR instructor. Must be certified by the American Red Cross, American Heart Association or by other approved agency providers by DMH. Employees must be initially certified and maintain certification as required by the certifying entity;
  8. Recognizing and reporting serious incidents, including completion and submission of reports;
  9. Universal precautions for containing the spread of contaminants;
  10. Adverse medication reaction and medical response; and,
  11. Suicide precautions.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 35.4 Environment and Safety**

- A. If the holding facility is being used for civil commitment purposes and is part of a correctional facility or jail, the people awaiting transfer related to civil commitment proceedings (or just people detained as part of the civil commitment process) must be held separately from pre-trial criminal offense detainees or inmates serving sentences.
- B. Rooms used for holding people must be free from structures and/or fixtures that could be used to harm themselves.

- C. Holding facilities must be inspected and approved by appropriate local and/or state fire, health/sanitation, and safety agencies at least annually (within the anniversary month of the prior inspection), with written records of fire and health inspections on file.
- D. The following must be conducted immediately upon arrival:
  - 1. Suicide assessment (using a DMH approved screening instrument); and,
  - 2. Violence risk assessment (using a DMH approved screening instrument).
- E. If the risk level for any of these assessments is deemed “high,” a twenty-four (24) hour follow-up assessment by a nurse or physician is required.
- F. If the risk level for suicide is deemed “high,” immediate suicide prevention actions must be instituted.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 35.5 Clinical Management**

- A. Each holding facility must have written procedures and documentation for clinical management of people who are involved in or have been involuntarily civilly committed and awaiting transportation. These procedures shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
  - 1. Immediately upon arrival of the person to the holding facility, all mental health screening information (pursuant to civil commitment procedures) must be made available to the holding facility personnel;
  - 2. Immediately upon arrival or within twenty-four (24) hours, a medical screening should be conducted and documented by a registered nurse or nurse practitioner that includes, at a minimum, the following components:
    - (a) Vital signs (at a minimum: body temperature, pulse/heart rate, respiratory rate, and blood pressure);
    - (b) Accu-Chek monitoring for people with diabetes;
    - (c) Medical/drug history;
    - (d) Allergy history; and,
    - (e) Psychiatric history (refer to pre-evaluation form).
- B. Clinical Management of the person being held must include:
  - 1. Within seventy-two (72) hours of admission, people should be assessed by a physician, preferably a psychiatrist or a nurse practitioner;
  - 2. Twenty-four (24) hour crisis/on-call coverage by a physician or psychiatric nurse practitioner;
  - 3. Availability of ordered pharmacologic agents within twenty-four (24) hours



4. Timely administration of prescribed medication in accordance with the MS Nursing Practice Act;
5. Access to medical services for pre-existing conditions that require ongoing medical attention (e.g., high blood pressure, diabetes, etc.);
6. Immediate availability of a limited supply of injectable psychotropic medications, medications for urgent management of non-life threatening medical conditions (e.g., insulin, albuterol inhalers and medications used for withdrawal management);
7. Ongoing assessment and monitoring for people with mental illness or substance use considered by medical or psychiatric personnel to be at high risk;
8. Training/certification of employees in prevention/management of aggressive behavior program; and,
9. Procedures for maintenance of people's records, including:
  - (a) Documentation of information by professional personnel across disciplines;
  - (b) Documentation of physician's orders; and,
  - (c) Basic personal data and information that ensures rapid emergency contact, if needed.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 35.6 Dignity of People**

- A. In order to ensure the dignity and rights of people being held in a holding facility for reasons of psychiatric crisis or civil commitment, reasonable access to the following must be allowed:
  1. Protection and advocacy services/information;
    - (a) Disability Rights MS 800-772-4057;
    - (b) Dept. of Mental Health 877-210-8513;
  2. Chaplain services;
  3. Telephone contact; and,
  4. Visits with family members.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## **Part 2: Chapter 36: Consultation and Education Services**

### **Rule 36.1 Written Plan**

- A. The agency provider of the Consultation and Education Services must develop and implement a written plan to provide these services. The plan must include a range of activities for:
  - 1. Developing and coordinating effective mental health education, consultation, and public information services; and,
  - 2. Increasing the community awareness of mental health related issues.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 36.2 Target Populations**

- A. The Consultation and Education Services must be designed to specifically meet the needs of the target populations of:
  - 1. Children/youth;
  - 2. Elderly people;
  - 1. People with serious mental illness;
  - 2. People with intellectual/developmental disabilities;
  - 3. People with a co-occurring diagnosis (MH/SUD/IDD);
  - 4. People with a mental illness who are homeless;
  - 5. Military families and the military community; and,
  - 6. Other populations defined by the agency provider.
- B. The agency provider must develop linkages with other health and social agencies that serve the target populations.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## **Part 2: Chapter 37: Prevention/Early Intervention for Serious Emotional Disturbance**

### **Rule 37.1 Service Design**

- A. Prevention/Early Intervention Services include preventive mental health services targeting vulnerable at-risk groups with the intent to prevent the occurrence of mental and/or emotional problems and services designed to intervene as early as possible following the identification of a problem. Prevention and/or Early Intervention Services should be designed to target a specific group of children/youth and/or their families, such as children/youth who have been abused or neglected, teenage parents and their children, and young children and their parents. Children/youth identified as having a serious emotional disturbance and/or their families may also be targeted to receive specialized intervention early in the course of identification of the emotional disturbance.
- B. An employee must be designated to plan, coordinate and evaluate Prevention/Early Intervention Services.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 37.2 Strategies**

- A. All Prevention/Early Intervention Services must maintain documentation that services include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - 1. Informational activities designed to provide accurate and current information about emotional disturbance and mental illness in children/youth; or
  - 2. Effective education activities, such as parent education, designed to assist people in developing or improving critical life skills and to enhance social competency thereby changing the conditions that reinforce inappropriate behavior; or
  - 3. Consultation/education activities that are designed to include, but not be limited to, education and awareness activities to assist in the maintenance and/or improvement of services; or,
  - 4. Early Intervention Services, including screening, assessment, referral, counseling, and/or Crisis Intervention Services, designed to serve people identified as "high risk" and who are exhibiting signs of dysfunctional behaviors.
- B. Development of linkages with other health and social service agencies, particularly with those serving children.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 37.3 Documentation**

- A. Records for people provided individualized Primary Prevention or Early Intervention/Prevention Services (such as home-based individual education, parent or sibling group education, screening/assessment or Crisis Intervention Services) must be maintained with applicable forms in the DMH Record Guide.
- B. Documentation of the provision of general or indirect presentations/activities on prevention and/or early intervention must include, at a minimum:
  - 1. Topic and brief description of the presentation/activity;
  - 2. Group or a person to whom the activity was provided;
  - 3. Date of activity;
  - 4. Number of participants; and,
  - 5. Name and title of presenter(s) of activity, with brief description of qualifications/experience in the topic presented.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## Part 2: Chapter 38: Family Support and Education Services

### **Rule 38.1 Service Design**

- A. Family Support and Education Services provide self-help and mutual support for families of children/youth with serious emotional disturbances or mental health challenges. This service increases the knowledge, skills and confidence of parents and family members in parenting their child/youth and increases understanding of family-driven practice.
- B. An employee with documented training completed at a successful level in a DMH approved program in family education and support for families of children/youth with behavioral/conduct or emotional disorders must be designated to coordinate Family Support and Education Services.
- C. The agency provider of Family Support and Education Services must maintain policies and procedures for offering and implementing appropriate family and education support to families of children/youth with behavioral/conduct or emotional disorders that address, at a minimum, the following:
  - 1. Description of people engaged in family-driven activities;
  - 2. Specific strategies to be used for outreach to the target population for Family Support and Education Services;
  - 3. Description of qualifications and specialized training required for family support and education agency providers; and,
  - 4. Description of service components of Family Support and Education Services.
- D. A variety of social marketing materials and activities appropriate for families of children/youth with behavioral/conduct or emotional disorders must be made available through brochures, workshops, social activities, or other appropriate meetings or methods/types of presentations with an individual family or groups of families and other stakeholders.
- E. These activities must be documented and address one (1) or more of the following or other DMH pre-approved topics:
  - 1. Overview of children's mental health disorders and services;
  - 2. Family-driven practice;
  - 3. Common medications;
  - 4. Child development;
  - 5. Problem-solving;
  - 6. Effective communication;
  - 7. Self-Advocacy;
  - 8. Identifying and utilizing community resources;
  - 9. Parent/professional collaboration;
  - 10. System Navigation and Rights;
  - 11. Consultation and education; and,

12. Pre-evaluation screening for civil commitment for ages fourteen (14) and up.

F. Documentation of the activity and/or group must include, at a minimum:

1. Topic and brief description of the presentation/activity or group;
2. Group or people to whom the activity was provided;
3. Date of activity;
4. Number of participants; and,
5. Name and title of presenter(s) or facilitator(s), with brief description of qualifications/experience in the topic presented.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*



## **Part 2: Chapter 39: Making A Plan (MAP) Teams**

### **Rule 39.1 Service Design**

- A. Making A Plan Teams address the needs of children/youth, birth up to twenty-one (21) years, with serious emotional/behavioral disorders and/or dually diagnosed with serious emotional/behavioral disorders and an intellectual disability or serious emotional disturbance and alcohol/drug use; who require services from multiple agency providers and multiple service systems, and who can be successfully diverted from inappropriate institutional placement.
- B. Each Making A Plan Team must be comprised of at least one (1) child/youth behavioral health representative employed by the Community Mental Health Center or DMH/P certified agency provider who has a Bachelor's degree. In addition, there must be at least one (1) representative from each of the following:
  - 1. Each local school district in a county served by a Making A Plan Team;
  - 2. County or Regional Office of the MS Department of Child Protection Services;
  - 3. County or Regional Youth Services Division of the MS Department of Child Protection Services;
  - 4. County or Regional Office of the MS Department of Rehabilitation Services;
  - 5. County or Regional Office of the MS State Department of Health;
  - 6. Parent or family member with a child/youth who has experienced an emotional and/or behavioral disturbance; and,
  - 7. Additional members may be added to each team, to include significant community-level stakeholders with resources that can benefit the children/youth with serious emotional disturbance.
- C. The Community Mental Health Center (DMH-C) must maintain a current written interagency agreement with agency providers participating in the Making A Plan Team.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 39.2 Access to Making A Plan Teams**

- A. Each agency provider certified as DMH/C must have a written plan that describes how each county in its catchment area will develop or have access to a Making A Plan Team. The plan must include timelines for ensuring each county has access to or has developed a Making A Plan Team. Additionally, the plan must be available for DMH Review.
- B. Before referring a child/youth to a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility, the Community Mental Health Center must first have the local Making A Plan Team review the situation to ensure all available resources and service options have been utilized. This does not include those children/youth who are in immediate need of acute hospitalization due to suicidal or homicidal ideations.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Part 2: Chapter 40: Respite Care for Children/Youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance**

### **Rule 40.1 Service Design**

- A. Respite is short-term planned relief care in the home or community for children/youth with serious emotional/behavioral disturbances or mental health challenges. This service offers time-out for caregivers and children/youth, helping family members to cope with their responsibilities, to rest and regroup, facilitate stability, and feel less isolated from the community, family and friends. The provision of services is community-based, culturally competent, and child-centered with the family participating in all decision-making.
- B. A person with, at a minimum, a Master's degree in a mental health or closely related field, must be designated to plan and supervise respite services. The supervisor can also have administrative or other supervisory responsibility for other services or service locations.
- C. Agency providers of Respite Services must maintain documentation of linkages with other health and social service agencies, particularly those that serve children/youth.
- D. Respite Services must be available a minimum of once per month for up to the number of hours per month determined necessary, based on individual needs of the child/youth and his/her family.
- E. The service must implement behavior management approaches that utilize positive reinforcement of appropriate behaviors. Documentation must be maintained that respite service agency providers have received all required training for new and/or existing employees/volunteers specified in Part 2: Chapter 12.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 40.2 Policies and Procedures**

In addition to the requirements in Part 2: Chapter 8, the written policies and procedures manual for the operation of Respite Services must also include the following areas:

- A. Written description of responsibilities of Respite Service providers;
- B. Written description of specialized training required for Respite Service providers; and,
- C. Description of procedures for developing and implementing behavior change/management services for children/youth served on a regular basis.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 40.3 Information to Parent(s)/Legal Representative(s)**

At the time of the initial interview, the agency provider of Respite Services must document that the following information has been provided in writing and explained in a manner easily understood to parent(s)/legal representative(s) and children/youth being served, as part of information provided to children/youth, parent(s)/legal representative(s) prior to or upon provision of Respite Services:

- A. Employment criteria/credentials of the potential Respite Service provider;
- B. Respite Service's policy concerning behavior management (The service must be very specific in its description pertaining to behavior management.);
- C. Signed confidentiality statement; and,
- D. Service Agreement between the caregiver, the employee providing respite services, and the agency provider clearly stating what each entity agrees to do while services are being provided.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## Part 2: Chapter 41: Wraparound Facilitation

### **Rule 41.1 Service Design**

- A. Wraparound facilitation is the creation and facilitation of a child/youth and family team for the purpose of developing a single plan of care to address the needs of children/youth with complex mental health challenges and their families.
- B. Wraparound facilitation is intended to serve:
  - 1. Children/youth with serious mental health challenges who exceed the resources of a single agency provider or service provider;
  - 2. Children/youth who experience multiple acute hospital stays;
  - 3. Children/youth who are at risk of out-of-home placement or have been recommended for residential care;
  - 4. Children/youth who have had interruptions in the delivery of services across a variety of agencies due to frequent moves; and,
  - 5. Children/youth who have experienced failure to show improvement due to lack of previous coordination by agencies providing care, or for reasons unknown, can also be served through wraparound facilitation.
- C. A child/family team meeting cannot take place without team members in addition to family and the wraparound employee present. Child/youth and family team membership must include:
  - 1. The wraparound facilitator;
  - 2. The child/youth's service providers, any involved child/youth serving agency provider representatives and other formal supports, as appropriate;
  - 3. The caregiver/legal representative(s) and all family members living in the home;
  - 4. Other family or community members serving as informal supports, as appropriate; and,
  - 5. Identified children/youth, if age nine (9) or above, unless there are clear clinical indications this would be detrimental. Such reasons must be documented clearly throughout the person's record.
- D. The wraparound family and child/youth team must have access to flexible funds if needed for non-traditional supports and resources to carry out the Wraparound Individualized Support Plan.
- E. The identified wraparound facilitator may not serve as the Mental Health Therapist for a process that he/she is facilitating.
- F. The facilitator must provide wraparound facilitation on a full-time basis with no additional caseload.
- G. Agency providers must ensure caseload size for wraparound facilitators is maintained at an average of not more than ten (10) cases per wraparound facilitator.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 41.2 Wraparound Activities**

- A. Wraparound facilitation must be provided in accordance with high fidelity and quality wraparound practice.
- B. Activities include:
  - 1. Engaging the family;
  - 2. Assembling the child/youth and family team;
  - 3. Facilitating a child/youth and family team meeting at a minimum every thirty (30) days;
  - 4. Facilitating the creation of a plan of care, which includes a plan for anticipating, preventing and managing crisis, within the child/youth and family team meeting;
  - 5. Working with the team in identifying agency providers of services and other community resources to meet family and child/youth needs;
  - 6. Making necessary referrals for children/youth;
  - 7. Documenting and maintaining all information regarding the plan of care, including revisions and child/youth and family team meetings;
  - 8. Presenting the plan of care for approval by the family and team;
  - 9. Providing copies of the plan of care to the entire team including the child/youth and parent(s)/legal representative(s);
  - 10. Monitoring the implementation of the plan of care and revising if necessary to achieve outcomes;
  - 11. Maintaining communication between all child/youth and family team members;
  - 12. Monitoring the progress toward needs met and whether or not the referral behaviors are decreasing;
  - 13. Leading the team to discuss and ensure the supports and services the child/youth and family are receiving continue to meet the caregiver(s) and child/youth's needs;
  - 14. Educating new team members about the wraparound process; and,
  - 15. Maintaining team cohesiveness.
- C. In addition to complying with Rules 41.1 and 41.2, agency providers of wraparound facilitation must comply with the most recent version of the *DMH Wraparound Agency Provider Registration Procedure and Operational Guidelines*.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## Part 2: Chapter 42: Peer Support Services

### **Rule 42.1 Service Design**

- A. Peer Support Services are non-clinical activities with a rehabilitation and resiliency/recovery focus that allow a person receiving mental health services and substance use services and their family members the opportunity to build skills for coping with and managing psychiatric symptoms, substance use issues and challenges associated with various disabilities while directing their own recovery. Natural resources are utilized to enhance community living skills, community integration, rehabilitation, resiliency and recovery. Peer Support is a helping relationship between peers and/or family members that is directed toward the achievement of specific goals defined by the person. Peer Support Services are provided by Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals. A Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional is a person with significant life-altering experience, also referred to as lived experience, who has successfully completed peer support competencies-based training and testing.
- B. Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals include the following designations:
1. A Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional - Adult (CPSSP-A) is an adult diagnosed with a mental illness and/or substance use disorder who can demonstrate his/her own efforts at self-directed recovery and expertise including knowledge and approaches to support others in recovery. This designation prepares people who are successfully engaged in recovery from mental health and/or substance use who provide support to others who can benefit from their experiences and knowledge to help other adults in their recovery journey.
  2. A Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional - Parent/Caregiver (CPSSP-P) is a biological parent, adoptive parent, or relative caregiver with permanent legal custody who is raising or has raised a child/youth with an emotional, social, behavioral, and/or substance use disability; and, whose child/youth has received services from a children/youth mental health provider. The Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional- Parent/Caregiver will provide support and guidance to parent(s)/caregiver(s) in navigating the child/youth serving systems and advocating with them to help their child/youth.
  3. A Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional - Youth/Young Adult (CPSSP-Y) is a person between the ages of eighteen – twenty-six (18-26) with lived experience with a behavioral health diagnosis who can demonstrate his/her own efforts in self-directed recovery. A behavioral health diagnosis can include a mental and/or substance use disorder. This designation prepares people who are successfully engaged in recovery from mental health and/or substance use disorders to help others in their recovery journey.

4. A Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional - Recovery (CPSSP-R) is an adult diagnosed with a substance use disorder who provides Peer Support Services for people in recovery from substance use disorders.
- C. Agency providers of Peer Support Services must develop and implement a service provision plan that addresses the following:
1. The population to be served, including the process in place for referring people to Peer Support Services, how peer services will be introduced to the people receiving services, expected number of people to be served, diagnoses, age and any specialization.
  2. The types of services and activities offered, particular peer supports utilized, including whether services will be provided on an individual or group basis, type of intervention(s) practiced, typical service day and expected outcomes.
  3. Service location capacity, including staffing patterns, employee to person ratios, employee qualifications and cultural composition reflective of population, and a plan for deployment of employees to accommodate unplanned employee absences to maintain employee to person ratios.
  4. A description of how the mental health/substance use disorder professional will maintain clinical oversight of Peer Support Services, which includes ensuring that services and supervision are provided consistently with DMH requirements.
  5. A description of how Peer Support Specialists within the agency provider will be given opportunities to meet with or otherwise receive support from other Peer Support Specialists both within and outside the agency provider.
  6. A description of how the Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals and Certified Peer Support Specialist Supervisors will participate in and coordinate with treatment teams at the request of a person and the procedure for requesting team meetings.
  7. A description of how the agency provider will recruit and retain Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals.
  8. A description of how the organization will prepare for the integration of Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals into the workforce; ensuring the employees understand the duties and responsibilities of Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals and how the duties and responsibilities support other employees and promote recovery and resiliency.
- D. Peer Support Services are voluntary. People and/or their legal representative(s) must be offered this service when indicated as necessary to promote recovery and resiliency by a mental health professional and/or physician.
- E. Peer Support Services are provided using a group or one-on-one (1 on 1) support.
- F. Peer Support Services must be included in and coordinated with the person's Individual Service Plan. A specific planned frequency for service should be identified by the physician and/or mental health professional who believes the person would benefit from this recovery/resiliency support.
- G. Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals must provide documentation of successful



completion of at least one (1) of the DMH recognized peer training programs, that is designed to increase the knowledge of the Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional about the population he/she will be supporting.

- H. Peer Support Services must be supervised by a mental health professional who has completed the DMH-required peer supervisory training.
- I. Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals may be employed as part-time or full-time employees depending on agency capacity, the needs of the community being served, and the preferences of the employee.
- J. Agency providers are encouraged to employ more than one (1) Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional within an agency provider and to employ Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals who reflect the cultural, ethnic, and public mental health service experiences of the people with whom they will work.
- K. Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals must provide Peer Support Services according to their lived experience scope of service and Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional designation.
- L. A Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional Supervisor must report Code of Ethics violations and changes in employment status to the DMH, Division of Recovery and Resiliency.
- M. Supervision must occur at least bi-weekly for Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals within the first six (6) months of employment as a Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional; monthly for Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals within seven (7) months – one (1) year of employment as a Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional; and, as deemed necessary for Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals after one (1) year of employment. Supervision of Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals must be provided face-to-face, individually or in group settings.
- N. A full-time equivalent supervisor may supervise no more than nine (9) full-time equivalent Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals.
- O. The supervisor will maintain a log of supervisor meetings.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 42.2 Activities**

- A. Peer Support Services include a wide range of structured activities that are provided face-to-face to assist people in their recovery/resiliency process. Activities should support goals of the person's documented Individual Service Plan and Recovery Support Plan as follows:

1. Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional – Adult services include a wide range of activities that assist adults with mental health and/or substance use challenges in regaining control of their lives based on the principles of recovery. Activities may include the following:
  - (a) Relate their own recovery stories to inspire hope;
  - (b) Model effective coping techniques and self-help strategies;
  - (c) Assist in identifying resources in the community;
  - (d) Utilize specific interventions necessary to assist peers in meeting their individualized goals;
  - (e) Teach relevant skills needed for self-management of symptoms;
  - (f) Teach peers how to overcome personal fears and anxieties;
  - (g) Assist peers in articulating their personal goals and objectives for wellness; and,
  - (h) Assist peers in creating their personal wellness plans (e.g., Wellness Recovery Action Plan, crisis plan, etc.).
2. Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional - Parent/Caregiver services include a wide range of activities that assist others in regaining control over their lives based on the principles of lived experience as a parent(s) or caregiver(s) of a child/youth with a mental health challenge. Activities may include the following:
  - (a) Navigating the various child/youth serving systems;
  - (b) Assist in identifying resources for their children/youth;
  - (c) Empower parents to be self-advocates;
  - (d) Assist parents in obtaining services for their child/youth;
  - (e) Help parents develop relationships with community partners;
  - (f) Educate providers and other employees on family-driven practice;
  - (g) Participate on local Making A Plan Teams;
  - (h) Assist Mobile Crisis Response Teams in responding to child/youth and family crisis; and,
  - (i) Support families in the wraparound process.
3. Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional - Youth/Young Adult services assist other youth/young adults in regaining control over their own lives based on the principles of wellness and resiliency. Activities may include the following:
  - (a) Encourage youth/young adults to develop independent behavior;
  - (b) Promote awareness and acceptance of behavioral health issues;
  - (c) Share their experience in a helpful way to youth/young adults;
  - (d) Assist youth/young adults in obtaining services and resources;
  - (e) Support and empower youth/young adults in developing life skills;
  - (f) Model a sense of hope and resiliency;
  - (g) Encourage youth/young adults' participation in services and system activities; and,
  - (h) Help youth/young adults develop positive relationships with community partners.

4. Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional – Recovery Services assist people and families working towards recovery from a substance use disorder. Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals work closely with service participants before, during and after their treatment experiences to support and assist them in their recovery. Activities may include the following:
  - (a) Model a sense of hope and resiliency;
  - (b) Reduce or eliminate environment or personal barriers to recovery;
  - (c) Facilitate recovery and wellness groups;
  - (d) Assist in identifying and gaining access to social, education, employment, and other resources in the community that facilitate recovery;
  - (e) Share problem solving processes;
  - (f) Share basic steps for accomplishing recovery goals;
  - (g) Encourage connections with other service systems as needed; and,
  - (h) Support opportunities to establish positive social connections with others in recovery so as to learn social and recreational skills in an alcohol- and drug-free environment.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 42.3 Recovery**

- A. Peer Support Services – Recovery (PSS-R) are non-clinical services that are offered before, during, and after any services that assist people and families working towards recovery from substance use disorders. They incorporate a full range of social, educational, employment, and other resources that facilitate recovery and wellness to reduce or eliminate environmental or personal barriers to recovery. Peer Support Services - Recovery include social supports, linkage to and coordination among allied service providers, and other resources to improve quality of life for people in and seeking recovery and their families.
  1. Peer Support Services - Recovery is conducted by a Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional – Recovery with first-hand lived experience.
  2. Peer Support Services - Recovery must be provided to people regardless of where or if Primary Treatment Services have been completed.
  3. The positions of Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional – Recovery must meet the following requirements:
    - (a) Have a current MS DMH Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional – Recovery Credential or
    - (b) Have a current MS DMH Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional Credential and acquire, within twelve (12) months of being hired for the Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional - Recovery position, the Recovery component of the Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional training.
    - (c) Must be able to adapt too many stages and modalities of recovery, as well as, adapt to different service settings and organizational contexts.

(d) Must have a strong understanding of cultural diversity and inclusion.

*People who seek employment as a Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional-Recovery must adhere to the standards set forth for Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals in the DMH Standards 42.1-2.*

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Part 2: Chapter 43: Applied Behavior Analysis**

### **Rule 43.1 Applied Behavior Analysis – General**

The purpose of this chapter is to establish guidelines and incorporate best practices for the application of Applied Behavior Analysis principles and strategies to assist people demonstrating significant deficits or excesses in the areas of communication, activities of daily living and self-help skills, social and behavioral challenges including people with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Autism Spectrum Disorder includes any of the Pervasive Developmental Disorders in the most recent edition of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases (ICD) or Autism Spectrum Disorder in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, or in the editions of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases or Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders in effect at the time of diagnosis.

- A. The provider must develop policies and procedures that address all components of service provision including identification assessments, treatment plans, behavior plans, caregiver involvement, data collection methods, admission, coordination of care, and transition and discharge plans including treatment follow-up.
- B. Documentation of consents, assessment procedures and results, baseline behavior measurements and recordings, treatment plans, and treatment baseline and outcomes must be included in the person's record.
- C. Eligibility criteria include a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder, an eligibility determination for Early and Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment, when medically necessary.

It is the intent of this service to alter social and learning environments along with develop functional skills necessary to assist people to thrive in their homes and communities and/or prevent hospitalizations or out-of-home placements. Applied Behavior Analysis Services include empirically-validated methods that are designed to build effective contingencies and support to facilitate optimal functioning for people who receive such services.

All services are provided in accordance with the **MS Division of Medicaid Administrative Code: Part 206: Mental Health Services Chapter 3: Autism Spectrum Disorder Services and the State Plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act Medical Assistance Program, TN No. 16-0020.**

- D. Services must be provided by people licensed in the State of Mississippi (Mississippi Code 73-75, 2016) as a Licensed Behavior Analyst or Licensed Assistant Behavior Analyst under the supervision of a Licensed Behavior Analyst. Behavior Technicians must be certified as Registered Behavior Technicians and listed with the State Licensure Board under a supervising Licensed Behavior Analyst. Licensed Psychologists whose scope of practice, training, and competence include Applied Behavioral Analysis may provide Applied Behavior Analysis Services.

- E. A personnel record must be maintained on all employees and include information as indicated in Rule 11.2. Evidence of continuing education hours to maintain current licensing requirements must also be included in the personnel record.
- F. Applied Behavior Analysis Services include:
  - 1. Problem-Identification Assessment by licensed personnel including the following processes as deemed appropriate by licensed personnel.
    - (a) Review of file information about the person's medical status, prior assessments and prior treatments.
    - (b) Stakeholder interviews and/or rating scales.
    - (c) Review of assessments by other professionals.
    - (d) Direct observation and measurement of the person's behavior in structured and unstructured situations.
    - (e) Determination of baseline levels of adaptive and maladaptive behaviors.
    - (f) Functional behavior analysis.
    - (g) Selection of treatment targets in collaboration with family members or stakeholders.
    - (h) Development of written protocols for treating and measuring all treatment targets.
  - 2. Development, monitoring and management of Behavior Support Plans directed by licensed professionals which includes Adaptive Behavior Treatment with Protocol Modification, Exposure Adaptive Behavior Treatment with Protocol Modification, Adaptive Behavior Treatment by Protocol by Technician, Family Behavior Treatment Guidance, Group Adaptive Behavior Treatment by Protocol, and/or Adaptive Behavior Treatment with Treatment Protocol.
- G. Once skill acquisition has occurred, generalization training must be put in place so that skills are used across settings to maximize treatment for the person.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Part 2: Chapter 44: ID/DD Waiver Support Coordination and IDD Targeted Case Management Services**

### **Rule 44.1 Support Coordination**

- A. Support Coordination is responsible for coordinating and monitoring all services a person on the ID/DD Waiver receives, regardless of funding source, to ensure services are adequate, appropriate, meet individual needs, and ensure the person's health and welfare needs are met and addressed.
- B. The maximum caseload for a Support Coordinator is thirty-two (32) waiver participants.
- C. Support Coordinators conduct face-to-face visits with each person and/or legal representative(s) at least once every three (3) months, rotating service settings and talking to employees. For people who receive only day services, at least one (1) visit per year must take place in the person's home.
- D. Support Coordinators cannot supervise, provide or be associated with any other ID/DD Waiver service.
- E. Support Coordination Services must be distinctly separate from other ID/DD Waiver service(s) an agency provider provides.
- F. Support Coordinators must adhere to the requirements in the ID/DD Waiver Support Coordination Manual.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 44.2 Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Targeted Case Management**

- A. IDD Targeted Case Management is responsible for coordinating and monitoring all services a person on the IDD Community Support Program receives, regardless of funding source, to ensure services are adequate, appropriate, meet individual needs, and ensure the person's health and welfare needs are met and addressed.
- B. The maximum caseload for a Targeted Case Manager is thirty-five (35) participants.
- C. Targeted Case Managers conduct face-to-face visits with each person and/or legal representative(s) at least once every three (3) months, rotating service settings to observe each community service location during the certification year.
- D. Targeted Case Managers cannot supervise, provide or be associated with any other IDD service.

- E. Targeted Case Management Services must be distinctly separate from other IDD service(s) an agency provider provides.
- F. Targeted Case Managers must adhere to the requirements in the IDD Targeted Case Management Manual.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 44.3 Support Coordination/Targeted Case Management Activities**

- A. Coordinating and facilitating the development of the Plan of Services and Supports through the person-centered planning process.
- B. Revising/updating each person's Plan of Services and Supports at least annually or when changes in the person's circumstances occur or when requests are made by the person/legal representative(s).
- C. Informing and assisting people/legal representative(s) with access of services, both Home and Community-Based Services and non-Home and Community-Based Services, from which the person could benefit.
- D. Informing people /legal representative(s) about certified providers for the services on his/her approved Plan of Services and Supports initially, annually, if he/she becomes dissatisfied with the current agency provider, when a new agency provider/service location is certified, or if an agency provider's certification status changes.
- E. Assisting the person/legal representative(s) with meeting/interviewing agency provider representatives and/or arranging tours of service locations until the person chooses an agency provider.
- F. Support Coordinators/Targeted Case Managers are responsible for entering required information in The Division of Medicaid's LTSS System.
- G. Notifying each individual of:
  - 1. Initial enrollment;
  - 2. Approval/denial of requests for additional services;
  - 3. Approval/denial of requests for increases in services;
  - 4. Approval for requests for recertification for services;
  - 5. Approval for requests for readmission;
  - 6. Reduction in service(s); and,
  - 7. Termination of service(s).



- H. Informing and providing the person/legal representative(s) with the procedures for appealing the denial, reduction, or termination of ID/DD Waiver or IDD Community Support Program Services.
- I. Educating people, legal representative(s) and families on people's rights and the procedures for reporting instances of abuse, neglect and exploitation.
- J. Performing all necessary functions for the person's annual recertification and continued eligibility.
- K. At least monthly monitoring and assessment of the person's Plan of Services and Supports that must include:
  - 1. Information about the person's health and welfare, including any changes in health status, needs for support, preferences, progress and accomplishments, and or changes in desired outcomes.
  - 2. Information about the person's satisfaction with current service(s) and provider(s) (IDD Services and others).
  - 3. Information addressing the need for any new services (IDD Services and others) based upon expressed needs or concerns or changing circumstances and actions taken to address the need(s).
  - 4. Information addressing whether the amount/frequency of service(s) listed on the approved Plan of Services and Supports remains appropriate.
  - 5. Review of Activity Support Plans developed by agency providers which provide IDD Services to the person.
  - 6. Ensuring all services a person receives, regardless of funding source, are coordinated to maximize the benefit and outcome for the person.
  - 7. Follow-up activities regarding issues/needs identified during monthly or quarterly contacts or those reported by providers.
  - 8. Determination of the need to update the Plan of Services and Supports.
  - 9. Information about new agency providers/service locations in the person's area.
  - 10. Review of services utilization via a report generated by the Division of Medicaid.
- L. Addressing issues related to a person's Plan of Services and Supports with his/her agency provider(s). If an agency provider is not responsive, the Support Coordinator/Targeted Case Manager is responsible for reporting the issue as a grievance through DMH's established grievance reporting procedures through the Office of Consumer Support.
- M. The following items must be addressed during quarterly visits:
  - 1. Determine if needed supports and services in the Plan of Services and Supports have been provided;
  - 2. Review implementation of Activity Support Plans to ensure specified outcomes are being met;
  - 3. Review the person's progress and accomplishments;
  - 4. Review the person's satisfaction with services and agency providers;

5. Identify any changes to the person's needs, preferences, desired outcomes, or health status;
6. Identify the need to change the amount or type of supports and services or to access new waiver or non-waiver services;
7. Identify the need to update the Plan of Services and Supports; and,
8. Determine the general wellbeing of the person and if there are any areas in his/her life in which his/her needs assistance. Assisting the person/legal representative(s) with access or referral of needed assistance.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Part 2: Chapter 45: ID/DD Waiver In-Home Services**

### **Rule 45.1 In-Home Respite Services**

- A. In-Home Respite provides temporary, periodic relief to those people normally providing care for the eligible person. In-Home Respite personnel provide all the necessary care the usual caregiver would provide during the same time period.
- B. In-Home Respite is only available to people living in a family home and is not permitted for people living independently, either with or without a roommate.
- C. In-Home Respite is not available for people who receive Supported Living, Supervised Living, Shared Supported Living, Host Home Services, or who live in any other type of staffed residence.
- D. In-Home Respite is not available to people who are in the hospital, an ICF/IID, nursing home, or other type of rehabilitation facility that is billing Medicaid, Medicare, and/or private insurance.
- E. In-Home Respite cannot be provided in the provider's residence.
- F. Employees may accompany people on short community outings (1-2 hours), but this cannot comprise the entirety of the service. Activities are to be based upon the outcomes identified in the Plan of Services and Supports and implemented through the Activity Support Plan. Allowable activities include:
  - 1. Assistance with personal care needs such as bathing, dressing, toileting, grooming;
  - 2. Assistance with eating and meal preparation for the person receiving services;
  - 3. Assistance with transferring and/or mobility; and,
  - 4. Leisure activities.
- G. Employees cannot accompany people to medical appointments.
- H. In-Home Respite personnel are not permitted to provide medical treatment as defined in the MS Nursing Practice Act and Rules and Regulations. (Refer to Rule 13.8)
- I. Each person must have an Activity Support Plan, developed with the person, which is based on his/her Plan of Services and Supports.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 45.2 Family Members as Providers of In-Home Respite**

- A. The following types of family members are excluded from being providers of In-Home Respite:

1. Anyone who lives in the same home with the person, regardless of relationship.
  2. Parents/step-parents, spouses, or children of the person receiving the services.
  3. Those who are normally expected to provide care for the person receiving the services.
- B. Providers employing a family member to serve as In-Home Respite personnel, regardless of relationship or qualifications, must maintain the following documentation in each employee's personnel record in addition to the requirements in Rule 11.2 and Chapter 12:
1. Proof of address for the family member seeking to provide services. Proof of address is considered to be a copy of a lease, rental agreement, or utility bill that includes that person's name. If required documentation cannot be obtained, the family member seeking to provide services must provide a signed and notarized affidavit that includes his/her current address.
  2. Evidence the person's ID/DD Waiver Support Coordinator has been notified the agency provider is seeking approval of a family member to provide In-Home Respite.
- C. Family members providing In-Home Respite will only be authorized to provide a maximum of up to one-hundred seventy-two (172) hours per month (forty [40] hours per week).
- D. Providers must conduct drop-in, unannounced quality assurance visits during the time the approved family member is providing services. These visits must occur at least two (2) times per year. Documentation of these visits must be maintained in the employee's personnel record. Documentation must include:
1. Observation of the family member's interactions with the person receiving services;
  2. Review of the Plan of Services and Supports and Service Notes to determine if outcomes are being met; and,
  3. Review of utilization to determine if contents of Service Notes support the amount of service provided.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 45.3 In-Home Nursing Respite**

- A. The standards in Rule 45.1 also apply (Except Rule 45.1.H).
- B. In-Home Nursing Respite is provided by a registered or licensed practical nurse. He/she must provide nursing services in accordance with the MS Nursing Practice Act and other applicable laws and regulations.
- C. In-Home Nursing Respite is provided for people who require skilled nursing services, as prescribed by a physician, in the absence of the primary caregiver. The need for administration of medications alone is not a justification for receiving In-Home Nursing Respite Services. (Refer to Rule 13.8)

- D. People must have a statement from their physician/nurse practitioner stating:
1. The treatment(s) and/or procedure(s) the person needs in order to justify the need for a nurse in the absence of the primary caregiver;
  2. The amount of time needed to administer the treatment(s) and/or procedure(s); and,
  3. How long the treatment(s) and/or procedure(s) are expected to continue.
- E. Private Duty Nursing Services through Early Periodic Screening Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) must be exhausted before waiver services are utilized.
- F. In-Home Nursing Respite cannot be provided by family members.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## Part 2: Chapter 46: ID/DD Waiver Behavior Support Services

### **Rule 46.1 General**

- A. Behavior Support provides systematic behavior assessment, Behavior Support Plan development, consultation, restructuring of the environment and training for people whose maladaptive behaviors are significantly disrupting their progress in learning, self-direction or community participation and/or are threatening to require movement to a more restrictive setting or removal from current services. This service also includes consultation and training provided to families and employees working with the person. The desired outcome of the service is long-term behavior change.
- B. If at any time a person's needs exceed the scope of the services provided through Behavior Support, the person will be referred to other appropriate services to meet his/her needs.
- C. This service is not restricted by the age of the person; however, it may not replace educationally related services provided to people when the service is available under Early Periodic Screening Diagnostic and Treatment, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or other sources such as an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) through First Steps or is otherwise available. All other sources must be exhausted before waiver services can be approved. This does not preclude a Behavior Consultant from observing a person in his/her school setting, but direct intervention cannot be reimbursed when it takes place in a school setting.
- D. Behavior Support must be provided on a one (1) employee to one (1) person ratio.
- E. Behavior Support Services consist of:
  - 1. An on-site visit as part of a Functional Behavior Assessment to observe the person to determine if the development of a Behavior Support Plan is warranted.
  - 2. Informal training of employees and other caregivers regarding basic positive behavior support techniques that could be employed if it is determined that a Behavior Support Plan is not warranted based on the presenting behavior(s).
  - 3. A Functional Behavior Assessment if consultation indicates a need based on the professional judgement of the Behavior Consultant.
- F. Functional Behavioral Assessments are limited to every two (2) years, if needed, unless the person changes providers or the Behavior Support Plan documents substantial changes to:
  - 1. The person's circumstances (living arrangements, school, caretakers);
  - 2. The person's skill development;
  - 3. Performance of previously established skills; and,
  - 4. Frequency, intensity or types of challenging behaviors.

- G. A medical evaluation for physical and/or medication issues must be conducted prior to completion of the Functional Behavior Assessment and before a Behavior Support Plan can be implemented.
- H. Behavior Support Plans can only be developed by the person who conducted the Functional Behavior Assessment.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 46.2 Role of the Behavior Consultants**

- A. Behavior Consultants must perform the following activities:
  - 1. Provide consultation as part of the Functional Behavior Assessment;
  - 2. Conduct Functional Behavior Assessment;
  - 3. Develop Behavior Support Plan;
  - 4. Implement the Behavior Support Plan to the degree determined necessary;
  - 5. Train the Behavior Interventionist and/or employees and other caregivers in the implementation of the Behavior Support Plan;
  - 6. Monitor and review data submitted by the Behavior Interventionist to determine progress toward successful implementation of the Behavior Support Plan; and,
  - 7. Monitor fidelity of implementation of the Behavior Support Plan and reliability of the data.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 46.3 Role of the Behavior Interventionist**

- A. Behavior Interventionists are responsible for:
  - 1. Participating in the development of the Behavior Support Plan with the Behavior Consultant;
  - 2. Implementing the Behavior Support Plan;
  - 3. Collecting and analyzing data for the effectiveness of the Behavior Support Plan;
  - 4. Adjusting or revising the strategies identified in the Behavior Support Plan as approved by the Behavior Consultant;
  - 5. Providing face-to-face training on the Behavior Support Plan and implementation strategies to employees and other caregivers. This shall include training for meals, hygiene, and/or community activities, and evenings and weekends noted in the Behavior Support Plan as particularly challenging;
  - 6. Monitoring agency provider employees and other caregivers on the implementation of the Behavior Support Plan; and,



7. Submitting documentation to the Behavior Consultant as specified in the Behavior Support Plan which documents progress toward successful implementation of the Behavior Support Plan.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 46.4 Provision of Behavior Support In Conjunction with Other Services**

- A. All providers must allow for implementation of the Behavior Support Plan in the service setting regardless of if another provider employs the Behavior Support personnel. All appropriate employees must receive training from the Behavior Consultant and/or Behavior Interventionist from the Behavior Support agency provider.
- B. Behavior Support can be provided simultaneously with other waiver services if the purpose is to:
  1. Conduct a Functional Behavior Assessment;
  2. Provide direct intervention; or,
  3. Provide training to employees/parents on implementing and maintaining the Behavior Support Plan.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## Part 2: Chapter 47: ID/DD Waiver Home and Community Supports (HCS)

### **Rule 47.1 General**

- A. Home and Community Supports are for people who live in the family home and provide assistance with activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs) such as bathing, toileting, transferring and mobility, meal preparation (but not the cost of the meals), assistance with eating and incidental household cleaning and laundry which are essential to the health, safety, and welfare of the person. Other activities can include assistance with keeping appointments, use of natural supports and other typical community services available to all people, social activities and participation in leisure activities.
- B. Home and Community Supports may be shared by up to three (3) people who have a common direct service provider. People may share Home and Community Supports personnel when agreed to by the participants and the health and welfare can be assured for each participant.
- C. Home and Community Supports cannot be provided in a school setting or be used in lieu of school services or other available day services.
- D. Home and Community Supports are not available for people who receive Supported Living, Shared Supported Living, Supervised Living, Host Home Services, or who live in any other type of staffed residence.
- E. Home and Community Supports are not available to people who are in the hospital, an ICF/IID, nursing home, or other type of rehabilitation facility that is billing Medicaid, Medicare, and/or private insurance.
- F. Home and Community Support providers are responsible for providing transportation to and from community outings within the scope of the service. (Refer to Rule 13.7)
- G. Home and Community Support providers are responsible for supervision and monitoring of the person at all times during service provision whether in the person's home, during transportation (if provided), and during community outings.
- H. Home and Community Supports personnel are not permitted to provide medical treatment as defined in the MS Nursing Practice Act and Rules and Regulations.
- I. Home and Community Supports personnel cannot accompany a minor on a medical visit without a parent/legal representative present.
- J. Home and Community Supports cannot be provided in a provider's residence.
- K. Home and Community Supports personnel may assist people with shopping needs and money management, but may not disburse funds on the part of a person without written authorization from the legal representative(s), if applicable.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 47.2 Family Members as Providers of Home and Community Supports**

- A. The following types of family members are excluded from being providers of Home and Community Supports:
  - 1. Anyone who lives in the same home with the person, regardless of relationship.
  - 2. Parents/step-parents, spouse or children of the person receiving the services.
  - 3. Those who are normally expected to provide care for the person receiving the services.
- B. Providers employing a family member to serve as a Home and Community Supports employee, regardless of relationship or qualifications, must maintain the following documentation in each employee's personnel record in addition to the requirements in Rule 11.2 and Chapter 12.
  - 1. Proof of address for the family member seeking to provide services. Proof of address is considered to be a copy of a lease, rental agreement, or utility bill that includes that person's name. If required documentation cannot be obtained, the family member seeking to provide services must provide a signed and notarized affidavit that includes his/her current address.
  - 2. Evidence the person's ID/DD Waiver Support Coordinator has been notified the agency provider is seeking approval of a family member to provide Home and Community Supports.
- C. Family members employed as an employee to provide Home and Community Supports must meet the qualifications and training requirements outlined in Part 2: Chapters 11 and 12.
- D. Family members providing Home and Community Supports will only be authorized to provide a maximum of one-hundred seventy-two (172) hours per month (40 hours per week).
- E. Providers must conduct drop-in, unannounced quality assurance visits during the time the approved family member is providing services. These visits must occur at least two (2) times per year. Documentation of these visits must be maintained in the employee's personnel record. Documentation must include:
  - 1. Observation of the family member's interactions with the person receiving services;
  - 2. Review of Plan of Services and Supports and Service Notes to determine if outcomes are being met; and,
  - 3. Review of utilization to determine if contents of Service Notes support the amount of service provided.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Part 2: Chapter 48: ID/DD Waiver Transition Assistance Services**

### **Rule 48.1 General**

- A. Transition Assistance is a one (1) time set-up expense for people who transition from institutions (ICF/IID or Title XIX nursing home) to the ID/DD Waiver. They may move to a less restrictive community living arrangement such as a house or apartment, with ID/DD Waiver Supports or home with family and receive ID/DD Waiver Supports.
- B. To be eligible for transition assistance the following is necessary:
  - 1. The person cannot have another source to fund or attain the items or support.
  - 2. The person must be transitioning from a setting where these items were provided for him/her and upon leaving the setting will no longer be provided.
  - 3. The person must be moving to a residence where these items are not normally furnished.
  - 4. The person's ICF/IID or nursing facility stay is not acute or for rehabilitative purposes.
- C. Items bought using these funds are for individual use and are to be the property of the person if he/she moves from a residence owned or leased by a provider.
- D. There is a one-time, life time maximum of \$800 per person.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 48.2 Expenditures for Transition Assistance**

- A. Examples of expenses that may be covered as Transition Assistance are:
  - 1. Transporting furniture and personal possessions to the new living arrangement;
  - 2. Essential furnishing expenses required to occupy and use a community domicile;
  - 3. Linens and towels;
  - 4. Cleaning supplies;
  - 5. Security deposits that are required to obtain a lease on an apartment or home that does not constitute paying for housing rent;
  - 6. Utility set-up fees or deposits for utility or service access (e.g., telephone, water, electricity, heating, trash removal);
  - 7. Initial stocking of the pantry with basic food items for the person not the family;
  - 8. Health and safety assurances such as pest eradication, allergen control or one-time cleaning prior to moving;
  - 9. Essential furnishings include items for a person to establish his or her basic living arrangements such as a bed, table, chairs, window blinds, eating utensils, and food preparation items; and,
  - 10. Adaptive Equipment.

- B. Transition Assistance Services shall not include monthly rental or mortgage expenses, regular utility charges, and/or household appliances or recreational electronics such as DVD players, game systems, or computers.
- C. At the Person-Centered Planning meeting, the person and/or legal representative(s), and the rest of the team agree upon the basic types of items to be purchased.
- D. The provider makes purchases and arranges to store the item(s) until the person is ready to move into his/her new home.
- E. After the person moves, the provider submits a claim to the Division of Medicaid for the dollar amount of the items, up to the approved maximum reimbursement rate. If the total amount of purchases exceeds the approved maximum reimbursement rate, the provider will only be paid up to that amount.
- F. The provider must maintain receipts for all items purchased in the person's record and send copies to the ID/DD Waiver Support Coordinator.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Part 2: Chapter 49: All Substance Use Prevention and Treatment Services**

### **Rule 49.1 General**

- A. All DMH-certified service providers of substance use services must submit the Mississippi Substance Abuse Management Information System (MSAMIS) report to DMH by the tenth (10th) working day of the month following the reporting period.
- B. The Agency Provider must have written policies and procedures for the following:
  - 1. Successful completion of treatment;
  - 2. Transfer of person to another service;
  - 3. Service re-entry after any disruption of services; and,
  - 4. Person initiated discharges without completion.
    - (a) When people choose to disregard agency provider rules and regulations after the agency provider has documented all interventions clinically available to employees.
    - (b) When people willfully choose to leave the service.
  - 5. Employee initiated discharges without completion (last resort):
    - (a) Standard protocol of interventions utilized before discharge is initiated.
    - (b) The required protocol for treatment team meetings includes:
      - (1) Required employee present;
      - (2) Requirement for review of all interventions used prior to this staffing; and,
      - (3) How the treatment team makes the discharge decision.
  - 6. Acceptance and accommodation of people entering treatment services utilizing medication assisted treatment (MAT) or beginning the use of medication assisted treatment after admission to treatment services.
  - 7. Discharge from services after no therapeutic contact within the last ninety (90) days.
- C. To assist with appropriate referrals and placement, all residential services must report to DMH when the census of the service exceeds ninety percent (90%) capacity and when the census drops below ninety percent (90%) capacity. The report should be submitted to the Office of Consumer Support by fax and the Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services by email within twenty-four (24) hours of crossing the ninety percent (90%) threshold.
- D. For agency providers classified as a state or federal institution or correctional facility that are certified by CARF, The Joint Commission (TJC), the American Corrections Association or other certification body approved by DMH, DMH may accept those certifications in lieu of the Health and Safety Operational Standards with the exception of standards related to clinical services operation and personnel requirements. Agency providers must be in good standing with the applicable certification body in order for approval to be granted.
- E. The Joint Commission accredited substance use disorder treatment service providers (not funded by DMH) seeking DMH certification must submit documentation of The Joint

Commission accreditation in the specific substance use disorder area(s) that corresponds (not to include DUI) with the substance use disorder service area(s) included in the DMH Operational Standards. DMH will determine if the documentation is sufficient to support certification in the specific substance use disorder service areas.

- F. All service locations must have a physical environment which provides designated space for privacy of individual and group counseling sessions.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 49.2 HIV and TB Risk Assessment and Testing**

- A. All providers must provide and document that all people receiving substance use disorder treatment services receive a risk assessment for HIV at the time of intake. For people determined to be high risk by the HIV assessment, testing options are determined by level of care and must be provided as follows:
  - 1. Outpatient Services: People must be offered on-site HIV Rapid Testing by the organization or informed of available HIV testing resources available within the community.
  - 2. Primary Residential Services: People must be offered and encouraged to participate in on-site HIV Rapid Testing. If HIV Rapid Testing is not immediately available, then testing must be offered using other methodology on-site or the person must be transported to a testing location in the community only until such time as a Rapid Testing Program can be implemented.
  - 3. Transitional Residential and Recovery Support Services: People must be offered and encouraged to participate in on-site HIV Rapid Testing unless the service can provide documentation that the person received the risk assessment and was offered testing within the last six (6) months. If testing was refused, the agency provider should encourage further testing. If HIV Rapid Testing is not immediately available, then testing must be offered using other methodology on-site or the person must be transported to a testing location in the community only until such time as a Rapid Testing Program can be implemented.
- B. All service locations must have and follow written policies and procedures for ensuring maximum participation from people in HIV testing to include:
  - 1. Standardized procedures for conducting an HIV Risk Assessment.
  - 2. Utilization of an “opt-out” methodology for documenting people who decline to be tested.
  - 3. Standardized protocol for explaining the benefits of testing.
- C. All services offering HIV Early Intervention Testing should provide at a minimum:



1. A minimum of thirty (30) minutes up to one (1) hour of pre-test counseling which must include a risk assessment if one has not been previously conducted.
  2. Offer appropriate post-test counseling as needed. If preliminary testing is reactive (positive) then a minimum of sixty (60) minutes of post-test counseling is required.
  3. All services providing on-site testing must have the following:
    - (a) A Clinical Laboratory Improvements Amendments (CLIA) Waiver;
    - (b) Relevant employee training;
    - (c) A written protocol for HIV testing; and,
    - (d) Agreements with the MS State Department of Health or other relevant agency providers to obtain HIV test kits, where applicable.
- D. Services providing on-site testing must have policies and procedures that include but are not limited to:
1. Standardized procedures for conducting an HIV test and delivering results;
  2. Standardized procedures for obtaining a confirmatory test in the case of a reactive “preliminary positive” test result;
  3. Documentation and standardized procedures for providing linkage to care; and,
  4. Quality control procedures to include:
    - (a) Proper storage of HIV test kits and controls; and,
    - (b) Documentation of when and how often controls are run to verify test accuracy.
- E. All Primary and Transitional Residential providers must document that all people received a risk assessment for TB at the time of intake. Any person determined to be at high risk cannot be admitted into a treatment service until testing confirms the person does not have TB.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 49.3 Education Regarding HIV, TB, STDs**

- A. All providers must provide and document that all people receiving substance use disorder treatment services receive a minimum of one (1) hour of educational information concerning the following topics in a group and/or individual session:
1. HIV/AIDS
    - (a) Modes of transmission;
    - (b) Universal Precautions and other preventative measures against contracting/spreading the virus; and,
    - (c) Current treatments and how to access them.
  2. Tuberculosis (TB)
    - (a) Modes of transmission; and,
    - (b) Current treatment resources and how to access them.

3. Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs)
    - (a) Modes of transmission;
    - (b) Precautions to take against contracting these diseases;
    - (c) Progression of diseases; and,
    - (d) Current treatment resources and how to access them.
  4. Hepatitis
    - (a) Modes of transmission;
    - (b) Precautions to take against contracting these diseases; and,
    - (c) Current treatments and how to access them.
- B. Transitional Residential and Recovery Support Services must also provide the services outlined, unless the agency provider can provide documentation that the person received the educational information prior to a transfer to a less restrictive level of care.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 49.4 Services to Pregnant Women**

- A. All substance use services must document and follow written policies and procedures that ensure:
1. Pregnant women are given top priority for admission.
  2. Pregnant women may not be placed on a waiting list. Pregnant women must be admitted into a substance use disorder treatment service within forty-eight (48) hours.
  3. If a service is unable to admit a pregnant woman due to being at capacity or any other appropriate reason, the service must assess, refer and assist the woman with placement in another DMH certified service within forty-eight (48) hours.
  4. If a service is unable to admit a pregnant woman, the woman must be referred to a local health provider for prenatal care until an appropriate placement is made.
  5. If unable to complete the entire process as outlined, the DMH Office of Consumer Support must be notified immediately by fax or email using standardized forms provided by DMH. The time frame for notifying DMH of inability to place a pregnant woman cannot exceed forty-eight (48) hours from the initial request for treatment from the woman.
  6. If an agency provider is at capacity and a referral must be made, the pregnant woman must be offered an immediate face-to-face assessment at the agency provider or another DMH-certified agency provider. If offered at another DMH-certified agency provider, the referring agency provider must fully facilitate the appointment at the alternate DMH-certified agency provider. The referring agency provider must follow-up with the certified agency provider to ensure the woman was placed within forty-eight (48) hours.
  7. Written documentation of placement or assessment and referral of pregnant women must be maintained on-site and reported to DMH.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 49.5 Services to People Who Use IV Drugs**

- A. All DMH certified substance use services must document and follow written policies and procedures that ensure:
  - 1. People who use IV drugs are provided priority admission over non-IV drug users.
  - 2. People who use IV drugs are placed in treatment services identified as the best modality by the assessment within forty-eight (48) hours.
  - 3. If an agency provider is unable to admit a person who uses IV drugs due to being at capacity or any other appropriate reason, the agency provider must assess, refer and place the person in another DMH-certified agency provider within forty-eight (48) hours.
  - 4. If unable to complete the entire process as outlined, the DMH Office of Consumer Support must be notified immediately by fax or email using standardized forms provided by DMH. The time frame for notifying DMH of inability to place a person who uses IV drugs cannot exceed forty-eight (48) hours from the initial request for treatment from the person.
  - 5. If an agency provider is at capacity and a referral must be made, the referring provider is responsible for assuring the establishment of alternate placement at another DMH-certified agency provider within forty-eight (48) hours.
  - 6. The referring agency provider is responsible for ensuring the person is placed within forty-eight (48) hours.
  - 7. In the event there is an IV drug user who is unable to be admitted because of insufficient capacity, the following interim services will be provided:
    - (a) Counseling and education regarding HIV and TB, the risks of sharing needles, the risk of transmission to sex partners and infants, and the steps to prevent HIV transmission; and,
    - (b) Referrals for HIV and TB services made when necessary.
  - 8. Written documentation of placement or assessment and referral of IV drug users must be maintained on-site and reported to DMH.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 49.6 DUI Convictions**

- A. Agency providers must determine and document, at intake, if the person has been convicted of more than one (1) DUI that has resulted in a suspended driver's license. If so, the agency provider must explain the DUI assessment and treatment process to the person and determine if he/she is interested in participating.
- B. An agency provider must disclose if it is certified by DMH to conduct DUI assessments.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## Part 2: Chapter 50: Withdrawal Management Services

### **Rule 50.1 General**

- A. The Withdrawal Management standards in this section are based on the *American Society of Addiction Medicine*® established criteria for Level 3.2-WM: Clinically Managed Residential Withdrawal Management (sometimes referred to as “social detox”) and 3.7 Medically Monitored Inpatient Withdrawal Management.
- B. These services must be provided in conjunction with DMH Certified Primary Residential Services.
- C. All agency providers must utilize the results of a medical screening assessment(s) identifying the need for Withdrawal Management Services. The screening assessment(s) should be conducted as often as the individual case warrants.
- D. Agency providers providing Withdrawal Management Services must have written policies and procedures which specify the following:
  - 1. A person designated as responsible for coordinating Withdrawal Management Services;
  - 2. A description of the method by which Withdrawal Management Services are offered;
  - 3. A description of the method by which referrals are made to physicians and/or hospitals for appropriate medical intervention; and,
  - 4. Criteria for admission, care, discharge, and transfer of a person to another level of care.
- E. All Residential Agency Providers must have a current contract on file with a Medically Managed Intensive Inpatient Withdrawal Management Agency Provider. If applicable and funds are available, DMH will reimburse this contract for people experiencing physical withdrawals from benzodiazepines, opioids and/or alcohol, or people who have a history of a biomedical condition(s) that will complicate withdrawal. If the agency provider is serving pregnant women, the following must be included:
  - 1. The contract with the medical provider will state that women will not be detoxed during pregnancy without consideration by a physician or nurse practitioner of the impact it would have on the mother or her fetus.
  - 2. All Residential Services are responsible for ensuring that pregnant women are evaluated immediately by a physician, hospital, or medical clinic when symptoms of intoxication, impairment, or withdrawal are evident.
  - 3. All Residential Services must provide transportation for pregnant women who are referred to a physician, hospital, medical clinic or other appropriate residential facility.
  - 4. Withdrawal Management Services for pregnant/prenatal women will take into account up-to-date medical research.
- F. Agency providers should establish a protocol for immediate referral to an acute care facility such as:

1. The proper threshold score as established by the assessment instrument
2. When the person has any one of the following:
  - (a) Seizures or history of seizures;
  - (b) Current persistent vomiting or vomiting of blood;
  - (c) Current ingestion of vomit in lungs;
  - (d) Clouded sensorium such as gross disorientation or hallucination;
  - (e) A temperature higher than one hundred one (101) degrees Fahrenheit;
  - (f) Abnormal respiration such as shortness of breath or a respiration rate greater than twenty-six (26) breaths per minute;
  - (g) Elevated pulse such as a heart rate greater than one hundred (100) beats per minute or arrhythmia;
  - (h) Hypertension such as blood pressure greater than one hundred sixty (160) over one hundred twenty (120);
  - (i) Sudden chest pain or other sign of coronary distress or severe abdominal pain;
  - (j) Unconscious and not able to be awakened;
  - (k) Other signs of significant illness such as jaundice, unstable diabetes, acute liver disease, severe allergic reaction, poisoning, progressively worsening tremors, chills, severe agitation, exposure, internal bleeding, or shock;
  - (l) Uncontrollable violence; or,
  - (m) Suicidal or homicidal ideations.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 50.2 Staffing and Observation**

- A. Agency providers providing Level 3.2-WM: Clinically Managed Residential Withdrawal Management Services must provide a level of services designed to assist people in a safe manner through withdrawal without the need for on-site medical and nursing personnel. Services must contain the following:
  1. Appropriately credentialed personnel who are trained to provide physician approved protocols, and recognize signs and symptoms of alcohol and drug intoxication, withdrawal and appropriate monitoring of those conditions. Employees must:
    - (a) Observe and supervise the person;
    - (b) Determine the person's appropriate level of care; and,
    - (c) Facilitate the person's transition to continuing care.
  2. Twenty-four (24) hour a day medical evaluation and consultation.
  3. A written agreement or contract with a local hospital able to provide Medically Managed Withdrawal Management Services as defined by the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM).
  4. The employee supervising self-administered medications must be appropriately licensed or credentialed by the state of Mississippi.
- B. Agency providers providing Level 3.7-WM: Medically Monitored Inpatient Withdrawal Management Services. This service provides care to people whose withdrawal signs and

symptoms are sufficiently severe to require twenty-four (24) hour care delivered by medical and nursing professionals. Services must include the following:

1. Services staffed by a physician or appropriately licensed employee performing the duties as a physician under a collaborative agreement or other requirements of the Medical Practice Act.
2. Physician or licensed designee must be available twenty-four (24) hours a day by telephone.
3. People must be assessed by a physician or licensed designee within twenty-four (24) hours of admission or earlier if medically necessary.
4. A registered nurse or other licensed and credentialed nurse is available to conduct a nursing assessment on admission.
5. Documentation of hourly observation of the people receiving services during the first twenty-four (24) hours of the withdrawal management. Agency providers providing this service must have a written plan describing the handling of medical emergencies which includes the roles of employees and physicians.
6. Must have an interdisciplinary team of appropriately trained employees available to assess and treat the person's needs.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## Part 2: Chapter 51: Substance Use Prevention Services

### **Rule 51.1 General**

- A. Prevention Services are designed to reduce the risk factors and increase the protective factors linked to substance use disorder and related problem behaviors to provide immediate and long-term positive results. The process begins prior to the onset of a disorder. These interventions are intended to prevent or reduce the risk of developing a behavioral health problem, such as underage alcohol use, prescription drug misuse and abuse, tobacco use, and illicit drug use.
- B. No Prevention Services will be provided to people who are actively engaged in any substance use services. This includes people detained in a facility for drug-related offenses.
- C. All Prevention Services must implement at least three (3) of the following six (6) strategies, required by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) in the delivery of Prevention Services:
  - 1. Information/dissemination;
  - 2. Affective education services;
  - 3. Alternative services;
  - 4. Problem/Identification and Referral;
  - 5. Community-based process (community development); and,
  - 6. Environmental services.
- D. All DMH-certified providers of Prevention Services must document all prevention activities on the designated internet-based tool or other required tool by the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) working day of the month following the reporting period.
- E. All prevention agency providers must have an employee designated to coordinate the prevention services.
- F. People working in Prevention Services must have their own working computer (provided by the certified agency provider) with internet access.
- G. All Prevention Services must show evidence of ongoing use of at least one (1) model, evidence-based curriculum recommended by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention. All services are required to provide an evidenced-based curriculum schedule upon request. The percentage of evidence-based curriculum implementation must adhere to Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services grant requirements.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## **Rule 51.2 Prevention Services**

A. Overview - For purposes of 45 C.F.R. 96.124, each agency provider shall develop and implement comprehensive Prevention Services which include a broad array of Prevention Strategies directed at people not identified to be in need of treatment. The comprehensive service shall be provided either directly or through one (1) or more public or non-profit private entities. The comprehensive primary Prevention Services shall include activities and services provided in a variety of settings for both the general population, as well as targeting sub-groups who are at high risk for substance use.

1. In implementing Prevention Services, grantees must use a variety of strategies, as appropriate for each target group, including but not limited to, the following:
  - (a) Information/dissemination;
  - (b) Education;
  - (c) Alternatives to traditional services;
  - (d) Problem/identification and Referral;
  - (e) Community-based process; and,
  - (f) Environmental Services.

### **B. Other Prevention Funding Continuation Application (FCA) Requirements**

#### **1. Synar Amendment**

Each full-time Prevention Specialist should conduct a minimum of twenty-five (25) merchant education activities and document each activity in DataGadget as an environmental strategy.

#### **2. Quarterly Coalition Meetings**

Prevention Services must meet, at a minimum, quarterly with all other DMH-funded and/or certified Prevention Services within their mental health region/catchment area. Each agency provider or approved designee is responsible for submitting the agenda and minutes to the Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services with Quarterly Reports. Other community-based organizations that have an interest in the prevention of substance use (domestic violence, gambling, school personnel, Employee Assistance Program [EAP] Coordinators, corrections, health department, etc.) may participate in the coalition meetings. The populations being served should have a representative on the coalition. Additionally, regions should be familiar with other services within their area of the state but not necessarily within their mental health region.

#### **3. Training for Prevention Coordinator/Specialist**

- (a) At a minimum, the Prevention Coordinator/Specialist must attend the forty (40) hour prevention course Substance Abuse Prevention Specialist Training (SAPST) designated by the Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services within six (6) months of hire.
- (b) For Prevention Specialists that have already completed the forty (40) hour prevention training, an additional fifteen (15) hours of continuing education training is required for each grant year. Evidence of training should be attached to

the progress report and available for review in the personnel or separate employee training file.

- (c) Employees providing Prevention Services who are listed on the prevention grant must attend the eight (8) - hour Prevention - 101 training within three (3) months of hire.
- (d) Prevention Coordinators/Specialists must acquire their Prevention Certification designation from the MS Association of Addiction Professionals within two (2) years of their hire date.
- (e) Prevention Specialists who have the designation of Associate Prevention Specialist (APS) will be allotted one (1) year to acquire their designation from the MS Department of Child Protection Services.
- (f) All prevention staff must complete Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Online Course on Primary Prevention within two (2) weeks of start date and annually thereafter. The course is located at <https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/block-grants/sabg/primary-prevention-course>.

4. Health Fairs

No more than ten percent (10%) of grant funds may be used to fund Prevention Services at health fairs or similar information dissemination activities.

5. National Outcome Measures (NOMs)

Addictive Services funded programs must adhere to all requirements regarding the collection and submission of National Outcome Measures. This information should be documented in DataGadget. *(For example of desired outcome measures see table listed below)*

Outcome Measures		
Mississippi Prevention Priority Areas and Annual Performance Indicators		
<u>Prescription Drug Use</u>	<u>Alcohol Use</u>	<u>Marijuana Use</u>
<u>Youth Rx Drug Misuse</u>	<u>Youth Alcohol Use</u>	<u>Youth Marijuana Use</u>
<u>Drug Use Perception of Harm</u>	<u>Young Adult Alcohol Use</u>	<u>Young Adult Marijuana Use</u>
<u>Young Adult &amp; Adult Rx Drug Use</u>	<u>Adult Alcohol Use</u>	<u>Adult Marijuana Use</u>

*(Technical Assistance on data submission may be requested by notifying the Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services.)*

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

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## **Part 2: Chapter 52: DUI Diagnostic Assessment Services for Second and Subsequent Offenders**

### **Rule 52.1 General**

- A. The DUI Diagnostic Assessment is a process by which a diagnostic assessment (such as, Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory, or other DMH approved tool) is administered and the result is combined with other required information to determine the offender's appropriate treatment environment.
- B. All DMH-certified agency providers which conduct DUI assessments must have a designated employee(s) responsible, accountable, and trained to administer the assessment and implement the agency provider's procedures.
- C. The agency provider must have written policies and procedures and adhere to those policies and procedures which describe:
  - 1. The criteria by which the treatment environment is determined;
  - 2. The criteria by which successful completion of treatment is determined for DUI offenders; and,
  - 3. The process by which a person is admitted into substance use treatment following completion of the DUI Diagnostic Assessment.
- D. The DUI Diagnostic Assessment must consist of the following components and be documented in the person's case file:
  - 1. Motor Vehicle Report from an official governmental source such as the MS Department of Public Safety.
  - 2. Results and interpretation of the Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory, or other DMH Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services approved tool. In order to administer the diagnostic tool, at least one (1) employee must be certified.
  - 3. An initial assessment.
- E. People receiving DUI treatment services through DUI Outpatient Services must receive a minimum of twenty (20) hours of direct service (individual and/or group therapy), in no less than ten (10) separate therapeutic sessions or as otherwise specified by the DMH Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, before receiving the DMH Certification of DUI In-Depth Diagnostic Assessment and Treatment Form. Documentation of treatment will be maintained in the person's record.
- F. All DUI Diagnostic Assessment/Treatment agency providers must submit the DMH Certification of DUI In-Depth Diagnostic Assessment and Treatment Form and a release of information to the Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services when a person has successfully completed the treatment.

- G. All DUI Diagnostic Assessment services must be equipped to provide each person the type of substance use treatment services indicated by the results and interpretation of the assessment (components listed in this section above). Substance use treatment may be offered through the assessment service and/or through an affiliation agreement with a DMH certified substance use treatment service. The assessment service must be able to provide, at a minimum, outpatient and primary residential or inpatient chemical dependency substance use treatment.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## Part 2: Chapter 53: Opioid Treatment Services

### **Rule 53.1 General Related to Opioid Treatment Programs (OTP)**

- A. DMH Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services will serve as the State Authority for Opioid Treatment Programs under the authority provided under state statute (Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated*). Such Opioid Treatment Programs shall provide withdrawal management services to people suffering from chronic addiction to opioids/opioid derivatives. The services support the person by utilizing methadone, buprenorphine (including buprenorphine-naloxone formulations), naltrexone, and other medications approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA), while the person participates in a spectrum of counseling and other recovery support services intended to assist the person with successful recovery from opioid addiction.
- B. Agency providers of Opioid Treatment Programs shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, codes, and/or rules to include, but not be limited to, those promulgated/administered by or through the United States Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) regulations, and the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.). Any federal laws, regulations, or guidelines that exceed or conflict with the standards set forth under this chapter will take precedent.
- C. An Opioid Treatment Program must have a current, valid certification from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and permanently display proof of that current certification in public view, available for public inspection. Additionally, Opioid Treatment Programs must have a current certification from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).
- D. The operation of each Opioid Treatment Program must be in compliance with the MS Pharmacy Practice Act (Section 73-21-69 et. seq. of the *Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated*) as well as current rules and regulations promulgated by the MS Board of Pharmacy; and, must at a minimum obtain and maintain a "Pharmacy Permit," as defined and authorized by the MS Board of Pharmacy.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 53.2 Staffing for Opioid Treatment Programs**

- A. An Opioid Treatment Program must employ sufficient and qualified employees to meet the treatment and support needs of the population served. Services must be provided by an interdisciplinary team, all of whom are properly licensed, registered, or certified by the appropriate authority in accordance with Mississippi law. At a minimum, the team must include:

1. A licensed physician;
  2. A registered nurse;
  3. A licensed pharmacist; and,
  4. A licensed psychologist/counselor/social worker, licensed/certified mental health therapist (or addictions therapist) who must be on-site during all hours of operation. The therapist to individual ratio must be set with a limited caseload that supports and meets the needs of the people receiving services, and limits must be addressed in the agency provider's policies and procedures.
- B. An Opioid Treatment Program must designate a Medical Director who is responsible for administering and supervising all medical services performed by the program. The Medical Director must be a physician licensed in the state of Mississippi. He/she must be on-site as needed to complete all medical needs in accordance with standard medical practice and available by phone as needed. The Medical Director may directly provide services to the Opioid Treatment Program's patients or delegate specific responsibility to authorized program physicians and healthcare professionals functioning under the Medical Director's direct supervision.
- C. An Opioid Treatment Program must employ at least one (1) full-time registered nurse for the first one hundred (100) or fewer people. In addition to the one (1) full-time registered nurse, additional registered nurses must be maintained so as to provide nursing services at least one (1) hour per week per five (5) people enrolled over one hundred (100) people. (For example a service location serving one hundred fifty (150) people would have one (1) full-time registered nurse and an additional ten (10) hours per week of registered nurse time from another registered nurse on staff.) Nursing functions may be supplemented by a licensed practical nurse, if a registered nurse or physician is on-duty. All nursing services provided must be in compliance with the MS Nursing Practice Act (Section 73-15-1 et. seq. of the *Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated*) and current rules and regulations promulgated by the MS State Board of Nursing.
- D. A person may hold more than one (1) employee position within the facility if that person is qualified to function in both capacities, and the required hours for each job are separate and apart for each position.
- E. All Opioid Treatment Programs must provide availability of employees seven (7) days a week, twenty-four (24) hours a day. A record of the on-call schedule must be maintained and the people must be informed of how to access the on-call employees; therefore, a signed statement by the person must be maintained in the person's record. The on-call employee must be available at all times for emergencies of the people served. The on-call employee must have access to pertinent information, including dosage levels, for a person receiving services.
- F. In addition to the requirement of Rule 2.4.A, entities applying for certification as an Opioid Treatment Program must include the following:
1. Service goals and objectives;



2. Service funding (including individual fee schedules); and,
3. Demonstrated need to establish the service.
  1. Submit sufficient justification to include:
    - (1) Location population data;
    - (2) Plan for service implementation;
    - (3) Identified gaps in service;
    - (4) Expected target population;
    - (5) Sufficient documentation of support for services in the form of a signed letter from at least one (1) of the following:
      - i. Person receiving services
      - ii. Businesses
      - iii. Property-owners residing/located within the immediate area surrounding the proposed location;
    - (6) Sufficient documentation of need in the form of a signed letter from at least one (1) of the following:
      - i. Behavioral health program
      - ii. Area physician
      - iii. Other health professional/agency provider; and,
    - (7) Sufficient documentation of support for services in the form of a signed letter from at least one (1) of the following:
      - i. Local governing authorities
      - ii. Local law enforcement officials
      - iii. Local judges.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 53.3 Admissions to Opioid Treatment Programs**

- A. The Opioid Treatment Program must have written policies and procedures to describe the total process utilized for admission to the service and must at a minimum include:
  1. A face-to-face with each person requesting treatment services;
  2. Documentation and identification of the person's immediate/urgent need(s);
  3. Admission criteria must include, but not be limited to the following:
    - (a) Current diagnosis of opioid dependence in accordance with the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (Current Edition);
    - (b) Person is at least eighteen (18) years old; as evidenced by:
      - (1) Driver's license or
      - (2) Birth certificate or Social Security card;
    - (c) Person meets the federal requirements, including exceptions, regarding determination that the person is currently addicted to opioids and has been addicted to opioids for at least one (1) year prior to admission;
    - (d) Person is not currently enrolled in another Opioid Treatment Program;

- (e) Person has signed a statement to evidence his/her understanding of the risks and side effects of available treatments;
  - (f) Person has signed a statement to evidence his/her understanding of the options concerning all treatment procedures in Opioid Replacement Management;
  - (g) Person has signed a statement evidencing that admission is voluntary;
  - (h) Person has been informed of and received a copy of rights of people receiving services, including confidentiality (a signed copy must be maintained in the person's record);
  - (i) Person has been informed of and received a copy of service rules (signed documentation of receipt of service rules must be maintained in the person's record);
  - (j) Person has received counseling, testing, and education regarding HIV, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, TB, and sexually transmitted diseases (documentation must be maintained in the person's record); and,
  - (k) Person must have signed documentation that he/she understands the fee schedule and tapering process due to inability to pay for services.
- 4. Criteria for waiting list (a plan must be documented); and,
  - 5. Any specific conditions/situations that would exclude a person from being eligible for admission. Provisions for and documentation of recommendations for alternate services must be included.
- B. Each person must be provided an orientation prior to administration of any medication. The orientation must be documented by a signed statement that is maintained in the person's record which proves the person acknowledges receipt of a service handbook. The service handbook must include, but is not limited to the following:
- 1. Signs and symptoms of overdose, and conditions for seeking emergency assistance;
  - 2. Description of the medications to be administered by the service, including potential risks, benefits, side effects, and drug interactions;
  - 3. The nature of addictive disorders;
  - 4. The goals and benefits of medication-assisted treatment and the process of recovery;
  - 5. Voluntary and involuntary discharge procedures;
  - 6. Toxicology urine drug screen (UDS) testing procedures;
  - 7. Medication dispensing procedures;
  - 8. Hours of operations;
  - 9. Medication fee schedule; and,
  - 10. Counseling services offered during treatment.
- C. Each person must be reviewed prior to admission and annually thereafter from the date of admission on the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) in Mississippi and nearby states for which access is available to assess for appropriateness of Opioid Treatment Services. No person is eligible for admission or continued services/treatment whose review indicates the potential for diversion. Each Prescription Drug Monitoring Program access shall confirm the person is not seeking prescription medication from multiple sources. The service shall access the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program:
- 1. Upon admission;

2. Before initial administration of methadone or other treatment in an Opioid Treatment Program;
  3. Prior to requesting any take-home dosing exceptions and shall submit the resulting report to the State Opioid Treatment Authority (SOTA) with the exception request;
  4. After any positive drug test for prescription medication;
  5. Every six (6) months to determine if controlled substances other than methadone are being prescribed for the person. The person's record shall include documentation of the results of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program database check and the date upon which it occurred; and,
  6. In accordance with any other applicable requirements set forth by state or federal laws, regulations, or licensing authorities.
- D. No service shall provide any form of consideration, including but not limited to free or discounted services or medication, for referral of potential people to the service.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

#### **Rule 53.4 Opioid Treatment Program Services**

- A. Medical Services must be provided and/or managed by the Medical Director of the program. The Medical Director must:
1. Be a physician licensed under Mississippi law who has been designated to oversee all medical services of an agency provider and has been given the authority and responsibility for medical care delivered by an agency provider. This includes ensuring the program is in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations regarding the medical treatment of addiction to an opioid drug.
  2. (a) Be American Society of Addiction Medicine or American Board of Addiction Medicine (ABAM) certified, or hold a comparable accreditation approved by DMH;  
(b) Hold a Drug Enforcement Administration license for prescribing opioid treatment medication; and,  
(c) Have completed an employee training plan to include appropriate components as determined by DMH.
  3. Be available to the program on a continual basis, seven (7) days per week, twenty-four (24) hours per day.
  4. Be present or ensure that qualified medical personnel are present in the program location for two (2) hours per week for each fifty (50) people enrolled.
  5. Complete a full physical evaluation for each person annually to re-confirm the need for continued participation in the Opioid Treatment Program.
  6. Ensure that a pharmacist licensed by the state of Mississippi is present and overseeing the dispensing of medication at each service location. Based on the MS Board of

Pharmacy rules and regulations, DMH defines “dispensing” as the interpretation of a valid prescription or order of a practitioner by a pharmacist and the subsequent preparation of the drug or device for administering to or use by a patient or other person entitled to receive the drug. The pharmacist is not required to be on-site at all times that medications are distributed in single doses (by a nurse at the dosing counter). However, the pharmacist is required to be present during the creation of take-home doses and at the time that people pick up their take-home doses. It should be outlined in the agency provider’s policies and procedures the required duties of the pharmacist (such as verifying dosing parameters or completing necessary paperwork, etc.) and sufficient time in the service to complete these tasks should be allowed.

B. Services must include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Medical Services under the direction of the Medical Director will include an initial history and physical evaluation to determine diagnosis and if the person meets criteria for medication-assisted treatment, unless the person can provide documentation of a medical examination (including laboratory test results) that was conducted within fourteen (14) days prior to admission. The admission activities outlined in this requirement can be conducted by a licensed nurse practitioner under the supervision of a licensed physician but cannot be conducted by a physician’s assistant. The physical evaluation will include but not be limited to the following:
  - (a) A complete medical history;
  - (b) Baseline toxicology report produced from a urine drug screen that includes at a minimum testing for the following substances using the following cutoff concentrations:

(1) Opioids	100 ng/ml;
(2) Methadone	300 ng/ml;
(3) Buprenorphine	0.5 ng/ml;
(4) Benzodiazepines	200 ng/ml;
(5) Barbiturates	200 ng/ml;
(6) Cocaine	300 ng/ml;
(7) Amphetamines	1000 ng/ml;
(8) Tetrahydrocannabinol	100 ng/ml;
(9) Alcohol	.03 gm/dl;
  - (10) Any other drug known to be frequently used in the locality of the Opioid Treatment Program.
  - (c) A TB skin test or chest x-ray if the skin was ever previously positive;
  - (d) Screening for STDs;
  - (e) Other laboratory tests as clinically indicated by the person’s history and physical examination; and,
  - (f) A pregnancy test shall be completed, and the results documented, for each female of childbearing potential prior to the initiation of medication-assisted treatment, medically-assisted withdrawal, or detoxification procedures.

2. Provide for the medical needs (annual physical exams, prescribing of medications, follow-up evaluations, ordering and review of lab work), of the people being served in accordance with current standards of medical practice;
  3. Ensure that the program is in compliance with local, state, and federal guidelines as each related to the medical treatment of opioid addiction;
  4. Determine the adequate treatment dose of medication to meet the needs of the person served;
  5. Provide for dosing and counseling services seven (7) days each week, including as needed by people, on days when the Opioid Treatment Program is closed;
  6. Establish hours of operations for at least six (6) days each week (except on federal holidays) which are flexible to accommodate the majority of a person's school, work, and family responsibility schedules;
  7. Maintain physical plant that is adequate in size to accommodate the proposed number of people, required program activities, and provide a safe, therapeutic environment that supports enhancement of each person's well-being and affords protection of privacy and confidentiality;
  8. Reconcile administration and dispensing medication inventory;
  9. Approve all take-home medications; and,
  10. Participate in treatment planning including approval and signing of all plans.
- C. Nursing Services provided must be in compliance with the MS Nursing Practice Act (Section 73-15-1 et. seq. of the *Mississippi Code of 197, Annotated*) and current rules and regulations promulgated by the MS State Board of Nursing. These duties and responsibilities are in addition to requirements of the Operational Standards for Mental Health, Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Use Community Service Providers and must include the following:
1. Administration of all medications as prescribed by the licensed Medical Director;
  2. Documentation of all medication administered and countersigning of all changes in dosage schedule;
  3. Provision of general nursing care in addition to substance use services when ordered by the program's licensed Medical Director;
  4. Supervision of functions that may be supplemented by a licensed practical nurse; and,
  5. Participation in treatment team meetings.
- D. Counseling and Recovery Support Services are a part of a holistic approach to treating a person with an opioid addiction. Counseling services must be provided by a licensed psychologist, licensed professional counselor, licensed certified social worker or DMH

credentialed Addictions Therapist and must be provided in accordance with the following requirements:

1. Written documentation must support decisions of the treatment team including indicators such as a positive drug screen, inappropriate behavior, criminal activity, and withdrawal management procedures.
  2. Counseling must be provided individually or in small groups of people (not to exceed twelve [12] people) with similar treatment needs.
  3. Each person must be assigned to a primary counselor, and the counselor must be familiar with all people on his/her caseload and document all contacts in the person's record.
  4. Specialized information and counseling approaches for people who have special problems, (e.g., terminal illness) must be provided and documented.
  5. Counselors must assess the psychological and sociological backgrounds of people, contribute to the treatment team, and monitor individual treatment programs.
  6. Counselor to person ratio cannot exceed 1:40 (one [1] counselor to every forty [40] people receiving services).
- E. Through the provision of Counseling Services, therapeutic interventions must be available as needed but at a minimum consist of the following:
1. Evidence-based therapeutic services/practices, stress/anxiety management and relapse prevention must be included as a schedule of therapeutic interventions.
  2. Individual, group or family therapy sessions must be provided for one (1) hour per week for the first ninety (90) days of treatment.
  3. Individual, group, or family therapy sessions must be provided for two (2) hours per month for days ninety-one (91) through one hundred eighty (180) of treatment.
  4. Individual, group or family therapy sessions must be provided for one (1) hour per month for the remainder of treatment.
  5. Provide referrals for special needs.
  6. Provide focused counseling in cases of psychosocial stressors such as:
    - (a) Abuse/neglect (known or suspected);
    - (b) Marital (relationship);
    - (c) Pregnancy;
    - (d) Financial/legal;
    - (e) Vocational/educational;
    - (f) Infectious disease; and/or,
    - (g) Other services as ordered/indicated.
- F. Women's Services must be provided to ensure accessibility of services to pregnant women. The program must develop, implement, maintain, and document implementation of written policies and procedures to ensure the provision and accessibility of adequate services for women. The program must adhere to (and document wherever possible) the following:
1. Give priority to pregnant women in its admission policy:
    - (a) Cannot deny admission solely on the basis of the pregnancy; and,

- (b) If a program is unable to provide services for a pregnant woman, the State Opioid Treatment Authority must be notified as to how the program will assist the pregnant woman in locating services.
- 2. Arrange for and document medical care during pregnancy by appropriate referral, and written and recorded verification that the woman receives prenatal care as planned.
- 3. Implement informed consent procedures for women who refuse prenatal care to ensure the woman acknowledges in writing that she was offered prenatal treatment but refused.
- 4. Ensure that the pregnant woman is fully informed of the possible risks to her unborn child from continued use of illicit drugs or from a narcotic drug administered during maintenance or withdrawal management treatment.
- 5. Ensure that the pregnant woman is fully informed of the possible risks and benefits to her unborn child from participating in the Opioid Treatment Program.
- 6. Implement a process to provide pregnant women with access to or referral for prenatal care, pregnancy/parenting education, and postpartum follow-up.
- 7. Obtain written consent to reciprocally share a woman's information with existing medical providers or future medical providers that have been or will be treating the pregnant woman.
- 8. For pregnant women who refuse appropriate referral for prenatal services, the program shall:
  - (a) Utilize informed consent procedures to have the woman formally acknowledge, in writing, that the Opioid Treatment Program offered a referral to prenatal services that was refused by the woman; and,
  - (b) Provide the woman with the basic prenatal instruction on maternal, physical, and dietary care as part of the Opioid Treatment Program counseling services and document service delivery in the woman's record.
- 9. Implement the following procedures to care for pregnant women:
  - (a) Women who become pregnant during treatment shall be maintained on the pre-pregnancy dosage, if effective, as determined by the Medical Director;
  - (b) Dosing strategies will be consistent with those used for non-pregnant women if effective, as determined by the Medical Director; and,
  - (c) Methadone dosage shall be monitored more intensely during the third (3rd) trimester.
- 10. The program shall describe in writing and document in the woman's record the decision by and process utilized if a pregnant woman elects to withdraw from

methadone or buprenorphine which shall, at the minimum, include the following requirements:

- (a) The Medical Director shall supervise the withdrawal process.
- (b) Regular fetal assessments, as appropriate for gestational age, shall be part of the withdrawal process.
- (c) Education shall be provided on medically supervised withdrawal and the impact of medically supervised withdrawal services on the health and welfare of the unborn child.
- (d) Withdrawal procedures shall adhere to accepted medical standards regarding adequate dosing strategies.
- (e) When providing medically supervised withdrawal services to pregnant women whose withdrawal symptoms cannot be eliminated, referrals to inpatient medical programs shall be made.
- (f) The program shall describe in writing and document implementation of policies and procedures, including informed consent, to ensure appropriate post-pregnancy follow-up and primary care for the new mother and well-baby care for the infant.

- 11. Maintain documentation of an annual review implemented by the Medical Director of the protocol for treating pregnant women.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 53.5 Medication Management for Opioid Treatment Programs**

- A. The medication used in the treatment of opioid addiction must at a minimum:
  - 1. Be approved by the Food and Drug Administration;
  - 2. Be administered only as authorized and directed by orders signed by the Medical Director;
  - 3. Be dispensed according to product pharmaceutical label; and,
  - 4. Be appropriate to produce the desired response for the desired length of time.
- B. Urine drug screening must be included as one (1) source of information in making programmatic decisions, monitoring drug use, and making decisions regarding people's capability to receive take-home medication. These screens must NOT be used as the sole criterion to discharge a person from treatment.
- C. The program must include methodology for conducting a urine drug screening in its policies and procedures that at a minimum, ensures the following:
  - 1. Urine specimens are obtained in a treatment atmosphere of trust and safety, rather than of punishment and power;
  - 2. Results of all drug testing shall be filed in the person's record;



3. Urine testing shall be documented and performed by a laboratory certified by an independent, federally approved accreditation entity;
  4. Specimen testing includes the same panel and cutoff concentrations as the baseline toxicology report;
  5. Specimens are obtained randomly on the basis of the individual clinic visit schedule; but no less than twice a month for the first thirty (30) days and a minimum of eight (8) times in any twelve (12) month period;
  6. People have signed a statement that they have been informed about how urine specimens are collected and of the responsibility to provide a specimen when asked (a signed statement must be maintained in the person's record);
  7. The bathroom used for collection is clean and always supplied with soap and toilet articles;
  8. That specimens are collected in a manner that minimizes falsification; if using direct observation, the procedures must be carried out ethically and professionally;
  9. That results of urine screens are communicated promptly to the person to facilitate rapid intervention with any drug that was disclosed or with possible diversion of methadone (or other treatment) as evidenced by lack thereof or its metabolites in the urine; and,
  10. The program will develop a specific, DMH approved policy, requiring that blood serum testing will be done on a person if there is any reason for suspicion that the urine testing is incorrect or in any manner thought to be false. This policy must be developed and approved prior to opening the program.
- D. The program must have written policies and procedures that outline the documentation and implementation of standard procedures for addressing a failed urine drug screen, which is defined as positive toxicology results for illicit or non-prescribed drugs and/or negative results for drugs provided by the Opioid Treatment Program in the course of opioid maintenance therapy. These implemented policies and procedures must include, but are not limited to the following:
1. Baseline toxicology testing results shall be discussed with the person and documentation of this discussion recorded as a progress note in the person's record.
  2. For new people who are within the first ninety (90) days of treatment, a failed urine drug screen will be discussed by the counselor and the person during the next clinic visit to review the treatment plan and modify services as needed.
  3. For people with take-home privileges:
    - (a) The first failed urine drug test will result in the following:
      - (1) Person will be placed on probation for ninety (90) days;
      - (2) Person will receive a minimum of two (2) random drug screens per month during the probationary period; and,
      - (3) Person must be required to meet with his/her primary counselor to discuss toxicology results and individual service plan.
    - (b) The second failed urine drug test will result in the following:
      - (1) Person will be transferred to a lower dosing phase;
      - (2) Person will receive a minimum of two (2) random drug screens per month during the probationary period; and,

- (3) Person must be required to participate in a clinical staffing with the treatment team to develop and implement a remedial plan.
- (c) The third and subsequent failed urine drug test will result in the following:
  - (1) Complete re-assessment;
  - (2) Complete medical re-evaluation of medication dosage, plasma levels, metabolic responses and adjustment of dosage;
  - (3) Assessment for co-occurring disorders and modifications to treatment protocol as needed;
  - (4) Increase in counseling services, change in primary counselor and/or family intervention as appropriate; and,
  - (5) Consideration of alternative opioid addiction treatment.
- (d) The sixth consecutive failed urine drug test will result in the person being informed that administrative withdrawal procedures will begin immediately and a referral made to the appropriate level of care unless the Medical Director:
  - (1) Provides objective clinical contraindications of the need for this action; and,
  - (2) Develops a written intervention plan in consultation with the person and the treatment team to detoxify from any substance not prescribed by the Opioid Treatment Program, and intensify counseling.

E. When dispensing Methadone the program must:

- 1. Ensure that each medication administration and dosage change is ordered and signed by the program Medical Director;
- 2. Ensure that administration of each dose is documented in the person's record;
- 3. Ensure that administration of each dose is documented in the medication sheets;
- 4. Document administration of the dose with signature or initials of the qualified person administering the medication; and,
- 5. Document the exact number of milligrams of the medication dispensed with daily totals.

F. The initial dose of methadone should be prescribed by the Medical Director based on standard medical practice and sound clinical judgment. For each new patient enrolled in a program, the initial dose of methadone shall not exceed 30 mg and the total daily dose for the first day may not exceed 40 mg unless the Medical Director documents in the person's record that 40 mg did not suppress opioid abstinence symptoms.

G. Subsequent doses of medication shall be:

- 1. Individually determined based upon the Medical Director's evaluation of the history and present condition of the person.
- 2. Reviewed and updated according to the person's treatment plan and in consideration of the following criteria:
  - (a) Cessation of withdrawal symptoms
  - (b) Cessation of illicit opioid use as measured by:
    - (1) Negative drug tests; and,
    - (2) Reduction of drug-seeking behavior

- (c) Establishment of a blockade dose of an agonist
- (d) Absence of problematic craving as measured by:
  - (1) Subjective reports; and,
  - (2) Clinical observations
- (e) Absence of signs and symptoms of too large an agonist dose after an interval adequate for the person to develop complete tolerance to the blocking dose
- 3. Subject to a process which shall be established and implemented by the program to address people who are objectively intoxicated or who are experiencing other problems that would render the administration of methadone unsafe.

H. The program shall have a written policy implemented for split dosing that must:

- 1. Include input from the Medical Director in consultation with the treatment team and the State Opioid Treatment Authority;
- 2. Accurately reflect that split dosing is guided by outcome criteria that shall include:
  - (a) The person complains that the dosage level is not holding.
  - (b) The person exhibits signs and symptoms of withdrawal.
  - (c) The Medical Director employs peak and trough criteria for split dosing, if appropriate.
  - (d) The Medical Director is unable to obtain a peak and trough ratio for 2.0 or lower, increasing intervals of dosing may be appropriate.
  - (e) Addressing the failure of all avenues of stabilization
  - (f) Addressing stabilization failures with the person involving the Medical Director and the treatment team
- 3. Include provisions for education of the person on the rationale for split dosing and take-home medication.

I. The program shall develop, implement, maintain, and document implementation of dosing policies and procedures for the provision of medication to a guest person "Guest Dosing." The Guest Dosing policies shall at a minimum specify:

- 1. The person must be enrolled in his/her home Opioid Treatment Program for a minimum of thirty (30) days before being eligible for a guest dose at another Opioid Treatment Program, unless approval is obtained by the State Opioid Treatment Authority prior to enrollment as a guest.
- 2. The receiving program must have evidence of two (2) consecutive successful urine drug screens within a thirty (30) day period prior to a person being enrolled for guest dosing, unless approval is obtained by the State Opioid Treatment Authority prior to enrollment as a guest.
- 3. The sending program's responsibilities include, at a minimum:
  - (a) Develop a document to utilize in transmitting all relevant person and dosing information to the receiving program to request guest dosing privileges;
  - (b) Forward this document to the receiving program;

- (c) Provide the person with a copy of the document that was sent to the receiving program;
  - (d) Verify receipt of the information sent to the receiving program;
  - (e) Verify that the person understands all stipulations of the guest dosing process including, but not limited to, fees, receiving program contacts, dosing times and procedures;
  - (f) Accept the person upon return from guest dosing unless other arrangements have been made; and,
  - (g) Document all procedures implemented in the guest dosing process in each person's record.
- 4. The receiving program's responsibilities include, at a minimum:
  - (a) Verify receipt of the sending service's request for guest dosing privileges and acceptance or rejection of the person for guest medication within forty-eight (48) hours of the request;
  - (b) Communicate any requirements of the receiving program that have not been specified on the document submitted by the sending program;
  - (c) Establish a process for medical personnel to verify dose prior to dosing; and,
  - (d) Document all procedures implemented in the guest dosing process in each person's record.
- 5. If guest dosing exceeds fourteen (14) days, a drug screen shall be obtained.
- 6. Guest dosing shall not exceed twenty-eight (28) days.
- J. No dose of methadone in excess of 120 mg per day may be ordered or administered without the prior approval of the State Opioid Treatment Authority.
- K. Take-home privileges. The service must develop, implement, maintain, and document implementation of policies and procedures that govern the process utilized by the Medical Director and treatment team for determination of unsupervised consumption of medication, referred to as take-home privileges. All information utilized to determine take-home privileges must be documented in the person's record, with documentation to include at a minimum, the following:
  - 1. Absence of recent use of drugs and/or failed urine drug screens;
  - 2. Regularity of clinic attendance;
  - 3. No observed, reported, or otherwise known serious behavioral problems;
  - 4. Absence of known recent criminal activity;
  - 5. Stability of the person's home environment and social relationships;
  - 6. Length of time in treatment;
  - 7. Assurance that take-home medication can be safely stored within the person's home;

8. Personal possession of a secure locking storage device in order to receive the medication from the clinic (NO exceptions); and,
  9. Decisions and rationale for the approval of take-home privileges.
- L. The program will adhere to the following schedule of Treatment Phases based on the clinical judgment of the Medical Director and the treatment team's behavioral assessment of the person served. The quantity of take-home medication and frequency of urine drug screens must not be less restrictive than the following:
1. Phase 1 - During the first ninety (90) days of treatment, people will successfully complete a minimum of two (2) urine drug screens per month but will NOT be eligible for any take-home medication.
  2. Phase 2 – During days 91-180 of treatment, people will successfully complete one (1) urine drug screen per month to be eligible for two (2) doses per week of take-home medication.
  3. Phase 3 – During days 181-270 of treatment, people will successfully complete one (1) urine drug screen per month to be eligible for three (3) doses per week of take-home medication.
  4. Phase 4 – During days 271-365 of treatment, people will successfully complete one (1) urine drug screen per month to be eligible for six (6) doses per week of take-home medication.
  5. Phase 5 – During the second continuous year of treatment, people will successfully complete one (1) urine drug screen per month to be eligible for thirteen (13) doses of take-home medication.
  6. Phase 6 – During the third and subsequent continuous years of treatment, people will successfully complete one (1) urine drug screen per month to be eligible for a one (1) month supply of take-home medication.
- M. Temporary take-home medication for non-emergency: The program shall develop, implement, maintain, and document implementation of written policies and procedures for the process to allow for temporary take-home medication for exceptional circumstances which shall include at a minimum:
1. The need for temporary take-home medication shall be clearly documented with verifiable information in the person's record;
  2. The person must meet the minimum requirements for take-home privileges outlined in Rule 53.5.K;
  3. Take-home medication may be assessed and authorized, as appropriate, for a Sunday, or legal holiday as identified by Section 3-3-7, *Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated* (Amended in regular Session 1987, effective from and after passage March 20, 1987.);
  4. Take-home medication will not be allowed in short-term detoxification (i.e., withdrawal management up to thirty [30] days); and,
  5. Requests for temporary special take-home medication shall be approved in writing by the State Opioid Treatment Authority prior to dispensing and administering medication to the person.

- N. Temporary take-home medication for emergency: The program shall develop, implement, maintain, and document implementation of written policies and procedures for the process to allow for temporary take-home medication for exceptional circumstances which shall include at a minimum:
1. The need for emergency take-home medication shall be clearly documented with verifiable information in the person's record.
  2. Requests for emergency take-home medication shall be approved in writing by the program's Medical Director and shall not exceed a three (3) day medication supply at any one (1) time.
  3. Requests for emergency special take-home medication shall be approved in writing by the State Opioid Treatment Authority prior to dispensing to the person.
  4. Situations that might warrant emergency take-home medication include:
    - (a) Death in the family;
    - (b) Illness;
    - (c) Inclement weather; and,
    - (d) Other similar uniquely identified situations.
  5. Take-home medication will not be allowed in short-term detoxification.
- O. Since the use of take-home privileges provides opportunity not only for diversion, but also accidental poisoning, the Medical Director and the treatment team must make every attempt to ensure that the take-home medication is given only to people who will benefit from it and who have demonstrated responsibility in handling their medication(s). The program must have in writing and utilize a "call-back" procedure that requires a randomly scheduled drug test or, with reasonable cause, the patient returns to the program with the amount of medication that should be remaining based upon prescribed dosing.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

### **Rule 53.6 Withdrawal Management**

- A. Medically supervised withdrawal management from a synthetic narcotic with a continuum of care must be a part of the treatment protocol for the Opioid Treatment Program. The program must develop, implement, maintain, and document implementation of written policies and procedures that include, at a minimum:
1. A process for voluntary medically supervised withdrawal that shall:
    - (a) Acknowledge that participation in the Opioid Treatment Program is voluntary and that the person is free to leave treatment at any time;
    - (b) Identify the steps to be taken by the program when a person and program employee agree on a need to initiate the withdrawal procedures;

- (c) Identify the steps to be taken by the program when a person requests withdrawal against the medical advice of the program employee; and,
  - (d) Ensure availability of a variety of supportive options to improve the chances of a successful episode of medically supervised withdrawal.
- 2. A process for involuntary medically supervised withdrawal that shall:
  - (a) Identify the circumstances under which involuntary administrative withdrawal procedures will be implemented;
  - (b) Identify the steps to be taken to delineate the responsibilities of program employees in implementation of involuntary administrative withdrawal procedures; ensure availability of a variety of supportive options to improve the chances of a successful episode of medically supervised withdrawal; and,
  - (c) Provide for the referral or transfer of the person to an appropriate treatment program upon completion of the withdrawal process.
- 3. The program Medical Director shall approve all requests for voluntary and involuntary withdrawal from an Opioid Treatment Program.
- 4. The Medical Director shall establish a person's withdrawal dosage schedule in accordance with sound medical treatment and ethical considerations, and based on an objective assessment of each person's unique needs.
- 5. Each person's withdrawal schedule shall be for a time period of not less than thirty (30) days, unless otherwise clinically contraindicated with supporting documentation from the Medical Director.
- 6. Take-home medication shall NOT be allowed during medically supervised withdrawal.
- 7. A history of one (1) year of physiological dependence shall not be required for admission to an Opioid Treatment Program for supervised withdrawal.
- 8. People who have two (2) or more unsuccessful detoxification episodes within a twelve (12) month period shall be assessed by the program Medical Director for other forms of treatment.
- 9. A service shall not admit a person for more than two (2) detoxification episodes in one (1) year.
- 10. Drug screens during detoxification shall be performed as follows:
  - (a) An initial drug screen shall be performed at the beginning of the detoxification process.
  - (b) At least one (1) random drug screen shall be performed monthly during the detoxification process.
- 11. Decreasing the dose of the synthetic narcotic to accomplish gradual, but complete withdrawal, within the tolerance level of the person.

12. Counseling of the type and quantity designed to motivate the continuation of the withdrawal process.
  13. Assurance that voluntary withdrawal would be discontinued and maintenance resumed in the event of impending relapse.
  14. Provisions for the continuance of care after the completion of withdrawal.
- B. Documentation must be maintained regarding the person's condition during the total withdrawal process to include:
1. Signs and symptoms of medical and emotional distress;
  2. Actions taken to avoid discharge; and,
  3. Progress of the person served.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 53.7 Diversion Control**

- A. The program must develop, implement, maintain and document implementation of a written plan to reduce the possibilities for diversion of controlled substances from legitimate treatment to illicit use. The diversion control plan must include, at a minimum, policies and procedures for:
1. Continuous monitoring of clinical and administrative activities related to dosing and take-home dispensing practices to identify weaknesses and reduce the risk of medication diversion;
  2. Problem identification and correction, including for prevention of related diversion problems;
  3. Specific assignment of diversion control measures to employees who are identified in the diversion control plan to demonstrate accountability to patients and the community;
  4. Random and unannounced drug screening for all employees, including full-time or contract employees;
  5. Video-camera surveillance in medication area(s), both within the dispensing area and outside the dispensing area with all monitoring conducted by the administrator and/or security personnel;
  6. Surveillance in the parking lot of the clinic and surrounding areas, including security camera(s) with outdoor monitoring capabilities;
  7. Loitering by people being served around the building and surrounding area(s) is not permitted;
  8. Procedures for people who are dispensed three (3) or more take-home doses are to receive a minimum of two (2) call-backs annually;



9. Restriction of employees from taking purses or bags into the medication area(s); and,
  10. Only one (1) person at a time at the medication window.
- B. The Opioid Treatment Programs must have written procedures utilized for handling biohazardous medical waste material, which provide at a minimum the following:
1. Safe handling;
  2. Safe storage; and,
  3. Safe disposal.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

**Rule 53.8 Multiple Enrollments**

- A. The program shall develop, implement, maintain and document implementation of written policies and procedures established to ensure that it does not admit or provide medication for a person who is enrolled in another Opioid Treatment Program.
- B. The State Opioid Treatment Authority shall establish written guidelines, incorporated herein by reference, for participation in a central registry process to aid in the prevention of enrollment of a person in more than one (1) Opioid Treatment Program at the same time. Each Opioid Treatment Program shall provide written documentation of adherence to the State Opioid Treatment Authority guidelines that shall, at a minimum, include the following:
1. The program shall make a disclosure to the central registry at each of the following occurrences:
    - (a) A person is admitted for opioid treatment;
    - (b) A person is transferred to another agency provider for opioid treatment; and,
    - (c) A person is discharged from opioid treatment.
  2. The program shall make disclosures in the format and within the time frames established by the State Opioid Treatment Authority.
  3. The program shall limit disclosures of personal identifying information and the dates of admission, transfer, and discharge.
  4. The program shall obtain the person's written consent, in accordance with 42 CFR Part 2, prior to making any disclosures to the central registry.
  5. The program shall inform each person of the required written consent for participation in the central registry before services are initiated.
  6. The program shall deny admission to people who refuse to provide written consent for disclosures to the central registry and shall document these denials in the person's record.

- C. The program shall obtain the person's written consent, in accordance with 42 CFR Part 2, to photograph the applicant at the time of admission. The photograph shall be maintained in the person's record.
- D. The program shall require that all people show proof of identification in the form of an official state driver's license or a non-driver's license issued by the state's Department of Public Safety. A copy of current identification will be maintained in the person's record.

Source: Section 41-4-7 of the *Mississippi Code, 1972, as amended*

## Part 2: Chapter 54: Glossary

- A. Agency Provider - the overall agency provider/entity. Agency provider does not refer to an individual employee or service location.
- B. Basic bedroom furnishings - bed frame, mattress (at least 4 inches thick), box springs (if applicable to bed frame type), chest of drawers or dresser, lamp, nightstand, two (2) sets of bed linens.
- C. Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional (CPSSP) - Certified Peer Support Specialist Professionals provide non-clinical activities with a rehabilitation and resiliency focus that allow people receiving mental health services and substance use services and their family members the opportunity to build skills for coping with and managing psychiatric symptoms, substance use issues and challenges associated with various disabilities while directing their own recovery. A Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional is a person with significant life-altering experience, and also referred to as lived experience peer support competencies-based training and testing.

A Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional - Adult (CPSSP-A) is an adult diagnosed with a mental illness and/or substance use who can demonstrate their own efforts at self-directed recovery and expertise including knowledge approaches to support others in recovery. This designation prepares people who are successfully engaged in recovery from mental health and/or substance use disorder to help other adults in his/her recovery journey.

A Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional - Parent/Caregiver (CPSSP-P) is a biological parent, adoptive parent, or relative caregiver with permanent legal custody who is raising or has raised a child/youth with an emotional, social, behavioral, and/or substance use disability; and, whose child/youth has received services from a children/youth mental health provider. The Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional- Parent/Caregiver provides support and guidance to parent(s)/caregiver(s) in navigating the child/youth serving systems and advocating with them to help their child/youth.

A Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional - Youth/Young Adult (CPSSP-Y) is a person between the ages of eighteen – twenty-six (18-26) with lived experience with a behavioral health diagnosis who can demonstrate his or her own efforts in self-directed recovery. A behavioral health diagnosis can include mental health and/or substance use. This designation prepares people who are successfully engaged in recovery from mental health and/or substance use to help others in their recovery journey.

A Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional - Recovery (CPSSP-R) is an adult diagnosed with a substance use disorder who provides Peer Support Services for people in recovery from substance use.

- D. Chemical restraint - a medication used to control behavior or to restrict the person's freedom of movement and is not standard treatment of the person's medical or psychiatric condition.

- E. Community-based - services and supports are located in or strongly linked to the community, in the least restrictive setting supportive of a person's safety and treatment needs. Services and supports should be delivered responsibly and seamlessly where the person lives, works, learns and interacts.
- F. Controlled Setting - Components for a “controlled” setting for IDD Services is defined as an agency with a lease or agreement with a property owner and the property owner maintains control of the physical setting/environment.
- G. Cultural Competency - the acceptance and respect for difference, continuing self-assessment regarding culture, attention to dynamics of difference, ongoing development of cultural knowledge and resources and flexibility within service models to work towards better meeting the needs of minority populations.
- H. Days - calendar days.
- I. De-escalation - includes verbal and non-verbal communication skills aimed at reducing another person’s agitation and aggression. De-escalation reduces the intensity of the conflict or a potential violent situation.
- J. Director - a person with overall responsibility for a service, service area(s) (such as Community Services Director, Director of Community Support Services, Director of ID/DD Waiver Support Coordination, Service Director for Adult and Children’s Partial Hospitalization, Day Treatment, Therapeutic Foster Care) or multiple services provided at/from a single location. This person must have at least a Master’s degree in mental health or intellectual/developmental disabilities, or a related field and either (1) a professional license or (2) a DMH Credential as a Mental Health Therapist or Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Therapist (as appropriate to the service and population being served). A registered nurse may be employed as the Director for DMH/H Agency Providers that only serve as agency providers of In-Home Nursing Respite Services, In-Home Respite Services and Community Support Services.
- K. DMH Credentials - a generic term referring to any or all levels of DMH professional certification/licensure; examples include (not an exhaustive list): DMH Certified Mental Health Therapist (CMHT), DMH Certified Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Therapist (CIDDT), and DMH Certified Addictions Therapist (CAT).
- L. Grievance - a written statement made by a person receiving services alleging a violation of rights or policy.
- M. Immediate family members - spouse, parent, stepparent, sibling, child, or stepchild.
- N. Legal representative - the legal guardian or conservator for a person as determined in a court of competent jurisdiction.

- O. Mechanical restraint - the use of a mechanical device, material, or equipment attached or adjacent to the person's body that he or she cannot easily remove that restricts freedom of movement or normal access to one's body.
- P. Medical Screening - components of medical screening include: patient's personal information, doctor's information (name, etc.), exam information – blood pressure, pulse, height, weight, current diagnosis, current medications, statement of freedom from communicable disease, physical and dietary limitations and allergies. Must be signed by a licensed physician/nurse practitioner.
- Q. Peer - a self-identified person (or family member of a person) who has received mental health or substance use services.
- R. Peer Support Service - Peer Support Services are non-clinical activities with a rehabilitation and resiliency/recovery focus that allow people receiving mental health services and substance use services and their family members the opportunity to build skills for coping with and managing psychiatric symptoms, substance use issues and challenges associated with various disabilities while directing their own recovery. Natural resources are utilized to enhance community living skills, community integration, rehabilitation, resiliency and recovery. Peer Support is a helping relationship between peers and/or family member(s) that is directed toward the achievement of specific goals defined by the person. Peer Support Services are provided by a Certified Peer Support Specialist Professional.
- S. Peer Support Specialist Professional Supervisor - a person credentialed according to the standards and guidelines determined by DMH. Prior to, or immediately upon acceptance in a Peer Support Specialist Professional Supervisory position, this person is required to receive basic Peer Support Specialist training specifically developed for supervision within the Peer Support Specialist Program, as provided by DMH.
- T. Person-Centered Planning - a best practice approach to planning for people who require life-long supports and services. Person-Centered Planning discovers and acts on what is important to a person. Person-Centered Thinking© principles are used to gather information with and from participants of the person's choosing. The person and his/her team develop individually tailored outcomes that are molded into activities to assist people in having meaningful days and in doing what they choose to do.
- U. Person - Centered, Recovery Oriented System of Care - identification of the supports needed for individual recovery and resilience. Individualized and person-centered means that the combination of services and supports should respond to a person's needs, and should work with the strengths unique to each person's natural and community supports. Services and supports should be designed to help the person served identify and achieve his/her own recovery goals. The public mental health system must also recognize, respect and accommodate differences relating to culture/ethnicity/race, religion, gender identity and sexual orientation. However, an individualized/person-centered process must recognize the importance of the family and fact that supports and services impact the entire family.

- V. Person-Centered Thinking - underlies and guides respectful listening which leads to actions, resulting in people who: have positive control over their life; are recognized and valued for their contributions (current and potential) to their communities; and, are supported in a web of relationships, both natural and paid, within their communities. © TLC-PCP.
- W. Physical escort - the temporary holding of the hand, wrist, arm, shoulder, or back for the purpose of inducing a person who is acting out to walk to a safe location.
- X. Physical intervention - procedures used in conditions where the safety of the person with challenging behaviors, or others is in imminent danger. An evidence-based physical intervention training focuses on de-escalation skills and strategies first, with physical intervention used only as last resort.
- Y. Physical restraint - any manual method, physical or mechanical device, or equipment that immobilized or reduces the ability of a person to move his or her arms, legs, or head freely when used as a restriction to manage a person's behavior.
- Z. Professional License - examples include Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)/Provisional Licensed Professional Counselor (P-LPC), Licensed Psychologist, Licensed Master Social Worker, Licensed Certified Social Worker, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT), and Medical Doctor.
- AA. Psychiatric Services - includes interventions of a medical nature provided by medically trained personnel to address medical conditions related to the person's mental illness or emotional disturbance. Medical services include medication evaluation and monitoring, nurse assessment, and medication injection.
- BB. Recovery - a process of change through which individuals improve their health and wellness, live a self-directed life and strive to reach their full potential.
- CC. Recovery-oriented services - services that are dedicated to and organized around actively helping people served to achieve full personal recovery in their real life and service environment.
- DD. Relapse - a state of resuming any substance use, practices or behaviors detrimental to the individual's quality of life, or a deterioration of a previous level of improvement.
- EE. Results-oriented - services and supports that lead to improved outcomes for the person served. People have as much responsibility and self-sufficiency as possible, taking into consideration their age, goals and personal circumstances.
- FF. Seclusion - a behavior control technique involving locked isolation. Such term does not include a time-out.

GG. Service location - a DMH certified physical site (i.e. premises, building or facility) of which approved services and programs are provided by the provider to people with SMI, SED, SUD, and/or IDD that houses:

- Pertinent files for all staff and populations served,
- A site-based Safety Review Log of which the agency provider must conduct monthly, and
- Prominently posted OCS informational poster with instructions on filing a grievance with DMH.

HH. Supervisor - a person with predominantly supervisory and administrative responsibilities on-site in the day-to-day provision of services for such areas as Work Activity Services, Day Services-Adult, Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services, Day Support Services, etc. This person must have at least a Bachelor's degree in mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities, or a related field, and be under the supervision of a person with a Master's degree in a mental health, intellectual/developmental disabilities, or a related field.

II. Time-Out - a behavior management technique which removes a person from social reinforcement into a non-locked room, for the purpose of calming. The time-out procedure must be part of an approved treatment service.