

Residential State Supplement (RSS)
Legislative Review Community Forum Minutes

Date/Time

October 25, 2013, 11:00 – 1:00

Location

Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board of Cuyahoga County

Welcome & Introductions

Jody Lynch (Deputy Director, Office of Treatment & Recovery) welcomed the forum attendees and introduced others present from OhioMHAS, including Roma Barickman and Ellie Jazi. Attendees included representatives from the Ohio Adult Care Facility Association, NAMI Ohio, home operators, local board representatives, and residents of multiple adult care facilities and foster homes.

RSS Legislative Review Presentation

Ellie presented information regarding the purpose and scope of the Legislative Review, RSS Program, multiple venues for stakeholder input, issues of disparity among Adult Care Facility (ACF) and Adult Foster Home (AFoH) residents, and the department's new ACF/AFoH Incentive Program (please review the RSS Legislative Review Community Forum presentation slides for detailed information).

Feedback/Comment Period

Representatives from OhioMHAS requested recommendations for action steps in the areas of RSS Program Eligibility Criteria, Allowable Fees, Quality Improvement, Disparities Among RSS & Non-RSS Residents, and other issues. The following recommendations were made by the forum attendees:

Eligibility Criteria

- Expand criteria to include individuals from other settings, e.g., hospitals, alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment, criminal justice
- Create a standard level of care assessment for housing purposes

Allowable Fees

- Certify beds in ACF/AFoH's as "RSS beds" regardless of residents' previous setting
- Fund all licensed beds
- Confirm whether the amount of the COLA disregard for SSI recipients is correct (if it should be the entire COLA to date of \$417/month or the annual COLA for 2013 of \$12/month)
- Increase allowable fees according to the level of services provided, e.g., ADL assistance for seniors, transportation

- Create a housing line item for state budget
- Update financial eligibility determination formula to reflect increased costs to home operators
- Change financial eligibility determination formula to reduce disparity between SSI and Social Security/SSDI recipients
- Create Medicaid reimbursement process for ACF operators (similar to providers in DD system)
- Require first and last month's rent for residents (due to possible housing damages)
- OhioMHAS develop a list of billable services to be attached to Resident Agreement
- Make allowable fee rates the same despite type of licensure since same services are provided in all types of homes
- Look at daily rate compared with services provided by operator

Quality Improvement

- Residents receive same level of services regardless if they receive RSS
- Allow "wear & tear" fees so operators can comply with licensure requirements

Other Recommendations

- Educate nursing facilities (NF's) about RSS
- Create electronic applications for RSS through self-service portal and provide training to home operators
- Process RSS applications within 24 hours of receipt
- "Go green" – require direct deposit of RSS funds
- Restricting personal needs allowances for residents with AOD issues and should have additional requirements, such as attending AA meetings
- Expand membership for local mental health and AOD boards to home operators to check progress on referrals for residents