



Memorandum

To: All ADAMH & CMH Executive Directors
Cc: Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities (OACBHA)
From: Ellie Jazi, RSS Administrator
Date: 8/8/2012
Re: RSS Consumers & Changes of Status

On July 1, 2011, the Ohio Department of Mental Health began administering the Residential State Supplement (RSS) Program. With this transition came the opportunity to transform RSS into a program that was increasingly efficient and more accessible to consumers. RSS currently serves approximately 1,300 Ohioans by providing financial assistance to adults with low incomes who have a disability and/or are over age 60, but who do not require care at a nursing facility. Consumers use the supplement, along with their Social Security, SSI and/or SSDI income, to pay for approved living arrangements.

The goal of the RSS Program is to help people reside in the least restrictive environment with community-based services who would otherwise require institutional care. Consumers enrolled in RSS receive Medicaid benefits and use the cash assistance to live in community-based Adult Care Facilities, Residential Care Facilities (“assisted living”), and Adult Foster Homes while receiving supportive services. RSS-eligible living arrangements are licensed by either ODMH or the Ohio Department of Health and provide consumers with safe & stable housing, supervision, and personal care services.

Once a consumer is enrolled in RSS, the individual or authorized representative is responsible for reporting any changes in status to the RSS Administrator *within ten days* to prevent delays in receiving benefits. Examples of changes in status include, but are not limited to, moving to a different residence, admission to a nursing home or hospital, and changes in payeeship or legal guardianship. Changes in status should be communicated as soon as possible by contacting the RSS Administrator via email at RSS@mh.ohio.gov or calling toll-free at 1-855-RSS-ODMH [777-6364].

Please share this information with your contract providers. Feel free to contact me anytime at the above information, whether you have general questions about RSS or are inquiring about a specific consumer. Thank you & I look forward to our continued work together.

Establishing mental health as a cornerstone of overall health

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