



Table of Contents

National Core Indicator Page 2

Developmental Disabilities Nursing Association Page 2 - 3

CIB Requirements for All Service Providers Page 3

BHHF Makes Funding Available Page 3

Crisis Services Page 4

New Providers..... Page 4

APS Healthcare Update Page 5

Name the Newsletter Page 5

Important Dates Page 6

NATIONAL CORE INDICATOR

John Sassi

The State of West Virginia participates, annually, in nationally implemented surveys in collaboration with the

Human Services Research Institute (HSRI), the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services (NASDDDS) and about 24 other states and regional centers. The survey is used to collect information to generate performance and outcome measurements about services. Some of the areas which are addressed include, but are not limited to, self-direction, relationships, personal health and well being, and general demographic information. The information is collected in a manner that provides anonymity (no personal identifying information will be used or released through participation in these surveys). These surveys are directed at individual adults receiving services, family/guardians of adults and children's families. There are general questions for specific comparison and analysis. For more specific or individual comments, there are sections where specific concerns, complaints or positive remarks can be submitted. These surveys are an integral part of assisting the State in reviewing West Virginia's quality levels as well as comparing our performance to other states' performance. The assistance of individuals and families, as Title XIX Waiver stakeholders, in completing these surveys is greatly appreciated as it helps the Department develop policy, monitor our progress and identify deficit areas or problematic issues which may affect the services that are helping improve the lives of individuals with disabilities. If anyone has a question regarding survey requests or require assistance with the completion of a survey, please feel free to contact Jon Sassi at 304-558-0360.

To view previous survey results, go to the WV Division of Developmental Disabilities at <http://www.wvdhhr.org/bhbf/mrdd.asp> and scroll to the bottom of the page under "WV National Core Indicators" and use the links provided to view the results of the Consumer or Family surveys.

Developmental Disabilities Nursing Association (DDNA)

Sara Birkhead

There seems to be a wide variety of opinions and questions regarding the role of nurses in the MR/DD Waiver Program. Should all members have a nurse assigned to them? Should all members with health care issues or questions be referred to their Primary Care Physician and not utilize nursing services? What are the rules/guidelines for Waiver nurses? What tasks may or should Waiver nurses delegate?

The Nurse Practice Act of West Virginia offers guidelines, but still leaves nurses and the agencies for which they work with many questions.

As a member of the DDNA, I believe this organization can help us with these opinions and questions. The DDNA offers a structure and a context for making decisions regarding nursing with individuals with developmental disabilities. The national organization offers contact with nurses in other states to see how others might be solving the same problem with which your agency is struggling. The DDNA also offers a set of nursing practice standards for working with people with developmental disabilities. There are also newsletters and a yearly conference offering the latest information on health care for people with developmental disabilities.

The National Organization is made up of State Networks and their members. Some states have several networks depending on the size of the state, and interest of the nurses in that state. Any individual or group can start a statewide, countywide etc. network. The national organization will help with start up guidelines.

Examples of issues addressed and presented at state network meetings include: the latest information on psychotropic medications and people with developmental disabilities, delegation questions, establishing statewide nursing protocols, preventive care issues, questions regarding supervision, documentation, legal issues in nursing, dementia in people with developmental disabilities, Self-injurious behavior, performing a nursing exam on someone who doesn't understand what you're trying to do. In South Indiana, they created a tool for determining the amount of nursing hours individuals may need to remain healthy and safe in the community. The possibilities are as limitless as your imagination.



DDNA - Continued

The nursing network(s) offer nurses working with the developmental disabilities population an opportunity to support, educate, and entertain each other. The networks could offer an opportunity for statewide guidelines and protocols. Often CEUs can be made available.

If anyone would like more information on forming a network, call the DDNA office at 800-888-6733 or E-mail ddnahq@aol.com.

CIB Requirement for All Service Providers

Cecilia Brown

MR/DD Waiver providers have 2 sets of rules to follow. One is Medicaid and the second is Office of Health Facility Licensure and Certification (OHFLAC). Medicaid is often referred to as "policy" while OHFLAC is often referred to as "licensing rules". Provider agencies are expected to comply with both sets of rules in order to provide Waiver services. OHFLAC rules primarily address health, safety, treatment, and the facility (group home). Therefore, regulations through OHFLAC impact the services provided in the Waiver program. Providers are expected to comply with the licensing rules in order to maintain a "behavioral health license". This license is required for all MR/DD Waiver providers.

One of the recent questions from a provider conference call addressed the need for CIB (criminal investigation background check) for service providers. CIB's are required by Medicaid Waiver (policy) for day or residential habilitation providers, pre-vocational or supported employment providers, service coordinators, adult companion or respite providers (both level 1 and 2), therapeutic consultants, extended professional service providers and nurses. Providers are expected to have CIB's prior to the provision of the service and billing for the service.

In accordance with OHFLAC regulations, CIB's are required for all service providers. Therefore, community residential habilitation providers will be expected to have CIB's since they are considered a service provider. Although Medicaid policy does not specifically address the need for a CIB for this type of provider, providers still need to follow OHFLAC's rules which require the CIB. When OFLAC monitors the provider, reviewers will

refer to the files for verification that the provider did indeed have a CIB. This is not a new rule for OHFLAC but is merely a clarification of an existing rule.

For further information, you may review the web sites below:

OHFLAC-Behavioral Health
<http://www.wvdhhr.org/ohflac/BH/default.htm>

MR/DD Waiver Policy Manual-Chapter 500- "Manuals and Instructions"
<http://www.wvdhhr.org/bms/>

For further questions, you may contact the following:

Steve Brady, MR/DD Waiver (304) 558-0627
Rose Lowther-Berman, OHFLAC (304) 558-0050

BHHF Makes Funding Available for Cost of Application

Frank Kirkland

Effective November 1, 2006 The Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities set aside funding to assist in reimbursing providers for required assessments of individuals with developmental disabilities for initial eligibility determination for the MR/DD Waiver Program. Up to \$500 is available for payment for evaluations of individuals who do not have a Medicaid card and up to \$100 is available for payment for evaluations of individuals with a Medicaid card to assist with case management costs not covered by Medicaid.

Invoices for the application costs are to be sent in by the provider with the complete application packet. Application packets must be complete in order for the payments to be processed. Payment for incomplete applications will be not be processed until all information is received by the MR/DD Waiver Office. You can contact Stephen Brady, Operations Coordinator of the MR/DD Waiver Program at 558-0627 if you have any questions.



Crisis Services Training:

Kristie Byrd

Crisis Prevention, Planning & Resources

Presented by
WVDHHR Bureau for Behavioral Health & The Center
for Excellence in Disabilities

What can you do to prevent a crisis?
What do you do when a crisis occurs?
How do you stop a crisis once it starts?
What is my responsibility as a "team" member if there is
a crisis?

These challenging questions and more will be discussed
during a series of seven (7) upcoming trainings across
the state between April and July, 2007 for Agency
service providers.

As a result of having participated in this training, Agency
providers will have knowledge of the roles and
responsibilities of all vested parties, available resources,
less restrictive alternatives, how to prevent crisis
situations and how to reduce the impact of a crisis.

Don't miss it!!

**Future trainings may include Children's Service
providers, WV guardians and advocates.

Questions regarding this training may be directed to:

Kristie Byrd, Crisis Coordinator, WV Division of
Developmental Disabilities @ (304) 558-3634.

New Providers

Bev Dorcas

Last year was a very good year for the addition of
these eight new providers were added to our provider
lists.

Provider Agencies for Title XIX MR/DD Waiver. In 2006

New providers of comprehensive services are:

1. Council of the Southern Mountains in Keystone,
WV; (304) 862-3144;
Randal Johnson randalcsm@hotmail.com
2. Starlight Behavioral Health Services in
Barboursville, WV; (304) 302-2078;
Amy Searls asearls@starlightbhs.com

New providers of therapeutic consultative services are:

1. Behavioral Health Solutions, LLC in St. Albans,
Sam Walker-Mathews
samwmedcon@hughes.net
2. Global*Access, LLC in Charleston, WV;
(304) 344-1459;
Christine Dickson globalaccessllc@gmail.com

New providers of day habilitation, pre-vocation and
supported employment services are:

1. Clay County Services Unlimited, Inc. in
Lizemore WV;(304) 587-7852;
Elizabeth Sampson
claycoservicesunlimited@frontiernet.net
2. Gateway Industries, Inc. in Ronceverte, WV;
(304) 645-3165;
Phyllis F. Cantrell gii@gatewayind.com
3. Goodwill Industries of Kanawha Valley, Inc. in
Charleston, WV (304) 346-0811;
Jennifer Logan jlogan@goodwillkv.com
4. Martinsburg Work Center in Hedgesville, WV
(304) 754-5900;
Brenda Koontz bwitchey@hotmail.com

You can access a list of all MR/DD Waiver providers
(WV MR/DD Waiver Program Provider resource guide)
at www.wvdhhr.org/bhhf/resources.asp.

REMINDER

The Quarterly Provider meeting is scheduled for
May 21, 2007, 9 – 4 at the Flatwoods-Sutton
Days Inn.

Registration forms are due to Tiffany Angel by
May 1, 2007.

Any items you would like to see on the agenda
are due to Tiffany by **April 16, 2007**.

APS Healthcare Update

Randy Hill

The majority of questions asked of APS continue to be related to the assessment process. This is not surprising since the assessment process involves so many of the stakeholders in the MR/DD Waiver program. To date, over 1,000 consumers, parents, family members, friends, legal guardians, direct care staff and professional staff have participated as a respondent in an assessment.

Often respondents are unsure of the purpose of the assessment—many think that the assessment findings will be used to determine if the consumer should remain on the MR/DD Waiver program. This is not true. APS' assessment process is in no way connected to program eligibility.

APS assessments serve several purposes including:

! Education: Meeting with every consumer/family participating in the MR/DD Waiver program and their chosen respondents gives APS the opportunity to provide individualized education tailored to the needs of each assessment group. This ensures that all consumers/families have current information regarding MR/DD Waiver services and available providers in their communities.

! Individualized Budgets: The assessment findings will be one source of information used to determine an individualized budget amount for each consumer. The budget represents the amount of money available to a consumer for purchasing MR/DD Waiver supports and services.

! Data Analysis: The assessments capture aggregate data that APS will analyze and share with the State and other stakeholders. This data will be valuable for determining the effectiveness of the MR/DD Waiver program.

The assessments completed between August 2006 and January 2007 were based upon a sample of MR/DD Waiver consumers. The data obtained from these assessments is currently being used to develop the algorithm that will eventually calculate an individualized budget for each MR/DD Waiver consumer. In the meantime, APS is issuing "claims-based" budgets that are calculated from services the consumers received between July 2004 and December 2005. In response to requests

from various stakeholders, APS will continue providing claims-based budgets until December, 2007. This will allow all consumers and their interdisciplinary teams the opportunity to purchase services using a claims-based budget before transitioning to the "assessment-based" budget.

APS continues to conduct assessments to give more stakeholders the opportunity to experience the assessment process. The assessment results are available to consumers, families and providers to use in the development of their IPP's. APS is currently conducting training with providers throughout the state on the use of assessments for planning purposes. This training is particularly recommended for Service Coordinators and Therapeutic Consultants.

Name the Newsletter

Cecilia Brown

The MR/DD Waiver Program is issuing a newsletter on a regular basis in an effort to provide information to families, consumers, provider, and advocates. As you will notice, the newsletter does not have a name yet. We would like to solicit suggestions from you regarding a name for the newsletter. The intent of the newsletter is to increase communication from the state to you. We welcome suggestions. Please forward all your ideas for "Name the Newsletter" by May 15, 2007, to the following:

Tiffany Angel – tiffanyfooce@wvdhhr.org

Or

Tiffany Angel
350 Capitol Street, Room 350
Charleston, WV 25301

IMPORTANT DATES

Date	Time	Place	Meeting	Attending
4/18/07	10 – 3	Bureau for Senior Services, Town Center Mall	Quality Assurance & Improvement Advisory Council	Open to Public
4/18/07	1 – 4:15	Valley Health Care (Morgantown)	Crisis Services Training	Providers
5/15/07	1 – 4:15	East Ridge Health Systems (Martinsburg)	Crisis Services Training	Providers
5/21/07	9 – 4	Flatwoods-Sutton Days Inn	Quarterly Provider Meeting	Providers
5/29/07	1 – 4:15	Blue Jay Center (Beckley)	Crisis Services Training	Providers
6/26/07	1 – 4:15	DHHR, Big Room # 2 (Flatwoods)	Crisis Services Training	Providers
6/27/07	1 – 4:15	Starlight (Huntington)	Crisis Services Training	Providers
7/25/07	1 – 4:15	Westbrook Health Services (Parkersburg)	Crisis Services Training	Providers
10/26-28/07	2 pm Friday through 1 pm Sunday	Lakeview Golf & Spa Resort, Morgantown	Families Conference	Families



**Division of Developmental Disabilities
Title XIX MR/DD Waiver Program
350 Capitol Street, Room 350
Charleston, West Virginia 25301
PHONE: (304) 558-3628
FAX: (304) 558-1008**