



From: Sarah Grey, Director of Service Management
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RE: Service Authorization Update

October 27th, 2008

This memo is to inform consumers, families, CFAC, providers and other stakeholders that The Durham Center has determined the need to institute new authorization guidelines on some specific services that are listed below. These guidelines are intended to meet the majority of individual's service needs. Exceptions may be granted based on identifiable clinical need and funding availability. To receive an exception, the provider must submit the same authorization request forms and PCP as usual. Either within those forms or on a separate piece of paper, please make clear any clinical factors that you especially wish the reviewer to consider. Also please note that these guidelines apply to services funded through State and Local dollars, and do not apply to services under Medicaid or HealthChoice.

Community Support Team -- Effective November 1st, new requests for CST will be authorized at no more than 6 hours/week for a 12 week period. The expected outcome of the 12 weeks of intensive service is that the consumer is ready for WMR. CST is not intended as a long term support service. Reauthorization past the 12 weeks requires an updated PCP with specific step-down goals, and it is expected that any extension of the service will be short-term and less intensive than the first 12 weeks.

For any consumers currently receiving CST, providers should review the case and develop a meaningful plan for step-down from the service. It is expected that any reauthorization of CST for a consumer currently receiving the service will be requested on an ITR with an updated PCP that contains time-limited and specific goals and interventions to reduce the need for this intensive service.

Independent Living/Supervised Living -- Effective November 1, 2008, all new requests for Independent Living or Supervised Living Services must complete an Adult Care Review to look at the possibilities for alternate services.

IDDT --The Durham Center has determined that the maximum number of consumers served on IDDT at any point during the year is 12. Easter Seals UCP may accept and screen any additional referrals, but providers should not end any current services to IDDT referred consumers until a treatment slot is available.

Developmental Therapies/Personal Assistance -- On October 1, 2008, we informed stakeholders of the need for a waiting list for new services under Developmental Therapies (DT) and Personal Assistance (PA), based on our current year budget and spending level to date. At this time, this waiting list continues in place as we anticipate beginning the new CAP waiver system implementation scheduled to begin soon.

The Durham Center will continue to evaluate spending in all service areas as well as the impact of the new CAP waiver and make adjustments as necessary to meet service needs.