

System Transformation Update

June 1, 2009



**Infant & Toddler
Connection of Virginia**

A NOTE ABOUT THIS UPDATE:

This Update is prepared by the Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia State Team at DMHMRSAS and is reviewed for accuracy and thoroughness by our partners at DMAS and VDH. Updates will be issued on or about the 1st and 16th of each month.

IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE:

- The System Transformation Implementation Task Force met on May 20. Issues discussed at this meeting included the following:
 - Provider choice requirements.
 - Medicaid reimbursement for services when the child is dually insured through Medicaid and private insurance and the family declines access to private insurance. DMAS has developed a process to allow for Medicaid reimbursement of medically necessary Part C services in this situation.
 - Medicaid reimbursement codes.
 - The draft State Fiscal Year 2010 Local Contract.
- Notes from the meeting have been posted on the Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia Website at <http://www.infantva.org/ovw-Transformation.htm#TaskForce>.
- Future task force meetings are scheduled for:
 - May 28 - by teleconference to discuss revisions to the budget/revenue-expense reporting form; and
 - June 1 – Medicaid managed care (MCO) issues.
- The Family Cost Share Subgroup of the Implementation Task Force met on May 21 to begin discussing additional details needed in the family cost share practices to promote consistency in implementation across local systems. At this first meeting, the subgroup focused on practices for determining family size and income for the purposes of using the family cost share fee scale. The subgroup will meet again on June 2. Minutes from all subgroup meetings will be posted on the Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia website in the same section as the meeting notes from the Implementation Task Force (see website link above).

DATA SYSTEM:

- ITOTS Version 1.5 was released on May 27, but encountered technical issues. Since State procedures require that we go back through weeks of development and testing before re-releasing Version 1.5, the changes that were included in Version 1.5 will now be included in Version 1.6. Version

1.6, which also will include the practitioner database, is scheduled for release in August.

PRACTICE MANUAL:

- The nine local systems that volunteered as early implementers of the service pathway and *Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia Practice Manual* have been asked to provide feedback to the Part C Office on the practice manual by June 30.
- The practice manual will be revised based on this feedback and will be available to all local systems as a working document this summer in conjunction with the Service Pathway online training module and early enough that local system managers and practitioners can become familiar with it in preparation for October 1 implementation.
- If there are any practice manual issues identified by early implementers that the Part C Office determines require additional stakeholder discussion, then those issues will be addressed through the Implementation Task Force. The Implementation Task Force is already addressing a number of practice/implementation issues related to reimbursement/family cost share and personnel, which will be included in Chapters 11 and 12 of the Practice Manual and, in some cases, in sections of other chapters as well.
- The working draft of the practice manual that will be released this summer will be implemented statewide for 6 months (October 1, 2009 – March 31, 2010). At the end of that 6-month period, the Part C Office will solicit feedback from all users of the manual to identify any needed clarifications. Revisions will be made, as needed, based on user feedback, and the practice manual will then be considered in final form (with the understanding that it will be reviewed and revised on an ongoing basis to reflect changes in federal or state regulations or guidance and to remain current with evidence-based practices).

OTHER:

- In response to discussion and questions in recent weeks related to maintenance of effort requirements under Part C and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), Frank Tetrick, DMHMRSAS Assistant Commissioner, Community Services, sent an email to a number of Part C stakeholders, including local system managers, on May 22. If you did not receive this email and wish to review the clarifications it provides, please contact your local system manager or a member of the Part C staff at DMHMRSAS to receive a copy.
- The Part C Office will be hiring additional personnel in the coming months to address expanded State responsibilities:
 - An additional Part C monitoring consultant will be hired since Part C monitoring consultants will now be responsible for not only meeting the monitoring and supervision requirements associated with Part C

but also conducting Medicaid quality assurance reviews related to provision of early intervention services.

- A Certification Specialist will be hired to implement the early intervention certification process, including the review of certification applications.

STATEWIDE TELECONFERENCE INFORMATION SERIES:

- The statewide teleconference call that was originally scheduled for May 18 to provide information on a variety of monitoring and supervision topics will be re-scheduled.
- A training session for system managers regarding the system transformation is being planned for August.
- Fiscal training related to the new revenue-expense reporting form and ARRA reporting requirements is being developed.