



COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

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DATE: October 19, 2006

TO: Executive Staff
Managers
Program Supervisors
Authorized Administrative Manual Holders

FROM: Donald I. Habkirk, Jr.,
Executive Director

RE: **EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVE 10 / 2006**
Guiding Principles of Integrated Dual-Diagnosis Treatment -
Co-Occurring Disorders - Evidence-Based Practice

Donald I. Habkirk, Jr.
Executive Director

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In the near future, every network provider within the MCCMH service system, including MCOSA Substance Abuse contract agencies, will be expected to become capable of engaging consumers regarding co-occurring disorders and empowering them to move along the continuum of change toward recovery, through the implementation of Integrated Dual-Diagnosis Treatment - Co-Occurring Disorders - Evidence-Based Practice (IDDT-COD-EBP). The following will be the Guiding Principles for the IDDT-COD-EBP program. The Principles will apply to both Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse service provider staff.



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1. MCCMH will provide integrated treatment for individuals with co-occurring serious mental health and substance use disorders. Integrated treatment is delivered by one treatment team in one setting and assumes that when mental health and substance use disorders co-exist simultaneously, each is primary. In every clinical contact, MCCMH providers will welcome individuals with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders by approaching and engaging them in an on-going treatment relationship that will facilitate overall recovery. MCCMH and its providers will incorporate integrated treatment of these co-occurring disorders in system planning, program design, clinical procedure, and clinical competency.
2. MCCMH will implement treatment for individuals with these co-occurring disorders throughout all levels and modes of care within its behavioral health and substance abuse provider panels. All providers will be capable of initiating dual disorder interventions that engage individuals with co-occurring disorders in the recovery process. Specific providers at each level of care will also be able to provide substance abuse treatment along with mental health services (enhanced dual disorder treatment capability). Select providers on the behavioral health panel will implement the SAMHSA "tool-kit" for treating co-occurring disorders among adults with

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serious mental illness.

3. Recovery from mental illness and substance use conditions occurs in stages. MCCMH providers will match treatment interventions to the individual's stage of recovery and his / her cultural background. Treatment providers must accommodate stages of recovery for both mental health and substance use conditions.
4. MCCMH providers shall engage individuals in on-going relationships that continue across multiple treatment episodes and interruptions in care. These relationships shall instill hope for recovery from co-occurring disorders and shall be tailored to individuals' recovery processes.
5. The goal of integrated dual disorder treatment is to reduce symptoms of both mental health and substance use disorders and improve individuals' functioning. This may include improvement in disease management skills, increase in treatment participation, reduction in risk of harm, and other positive outcomes.

Please retain this Executive Directive (10 / 2006) in your Administrative Manual following Divider "A".

DIH:lfm