



North Country Community Mental Health Provider Skype Meeting

COVID-19 PROVIDER RESPONSE

April 22, 2020

1 pm – 2 pm

THE PURPOSE OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING: is to address changes and answer questions during COVID-19 pandemic.

Presenters: Brian Babbitt, Brandy Marvin, Christine Gebhard, Debra Erber, Lani Laporte, Kimberly Rappleyea, and Stacey Chipman, and Linda Kleiber.

Attendance: Alternative Services, Inc.; Beacon Specialized Living Services, Inc.; Bedford Specialized Care, Inc.; Bedford Transitional Living, LLC; Crisis Center, Inc. d.b.a. Listening Ear; Crossroads Industries, Inc., Erber AFC; Summertree Residential Center, Inc.; Spectrum Community Services; Guardiantrac, LLC dba GT Independence; Lighthouse, Inc.; Straits Area Services, Inc.; Howard, Thomas and Suzan AFC; Jenny Bishop, Matthew Moore, and Talyssa.

Brian Babbitt: opened the meeting by reviewing where to locate pertinent information and directives on the COVID-19 pandemic. This information is posted online at the NCCMH Website, www.norccmh.org. Find it under the Provider Manual vertical menu item. He reviewed several items for those new to the meetings; also new additions concerning ordering masks and other Resources that are currently available.

Brian presented information on Appendix K – For additional information on Appendix K, please see the NCCMH website, under NCCMH Contract Provider Manual, under Shared Resources. Look for 'Summary update on recent MDHHS request related to COVID-19'.

Questions on this topic: Alan (Bedford Specialized): Was the increase for DCW's approved yet? Answer: No.

Additional Questions:

Monica (Spectrum): Question: The Health Dept is doing screenings and has PPE available for AFC settings, but nothing is available for CLS settings. Does CMH have access to PPE? Answer: The CMH does not have supplies of PPE. However, provider staff entering the home to perform CLS should call ahead and practice all the required safety measures.

Brian asked for Feedback concerning whether providers have reopening plans?

Feedback: They have had a lot of success using the video means and continuing intervention during this time. The majority of people are doing well with the new normal.

Brian: The expanded list to be videoed or telephoned goes 30-days beyond the expiration of the executive order. It will give us a month to achieve some level of normal operations.

Brian asked if there is anything we (NCCMH) should be thinking about concerning phasing back into operations?

Vikki Otto with Crossroads: Question: What are your thoughts on Day Services?

Answer: Congregative settings were some of the first settings to be shut down. They will probably take the longest to resume. It will be necessary to avoid cross-exposure. Day Services are doing supportive employment. That will start again when there is a need for it based on employers. Most likely there will be a limited phased approach to coming back; perhaps a staggered approach to seeing the different homes. Community Based Activity will most likely be considered as non-essential and be very limited for a period of time.

Q & A:

Carla (Spectrum): Is NCCMH doing anything with additional reporting that licensed facilities are supposed to be doing? This was a news release that came out Monday, April 20. There is different criteria that is to be sent to the state daily. It concerns reporting on COVID cases for long-term care facilities, which includes licensed AFC homes. It's not clear who is to submit the information. Please see Attachment A and B for more information.

Roxanne asked about gloves and masks: Their office manager is having trouble order. **Answer:** The information is listed under the [www.norcocmh.org/NCCMH Contract Provider Manual/Shared Responses/American Molecular Laboratories](http://www.norcocmh.org/NCCMH_Contract_Provider_Manual/Shared_Responses/American_Molecular_Laboratories). If you have any problems or questions, you can contact Deb Erber at derber@norcocmh.org.

Brian: There will be follow up via email concerning the reporting for the long-term care facilities and whether we think that should go through us or the AFC's.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: Clarification of MDHHS Order Implementing EO 2020-50 for Required Reporting

Attachment B: Implementing Executive Order 2020-50

The next meeting will be our May 5 regularly scheduled Quarterly Provider Meeting.

It will be held via 'SKYPE' only at the regular 10 am time.

Please look for your invite in your email and for the link to skype in.

The first Constant Contact invite has been sent out. Please let us know if you did not receive it at providerrelations@norcocmh.org.

If you have concerns, please feel free to contact Brian Babbitt 231/439-1240 or Lani Laporte 231/439-1297.