
"UniteOurVoices" Newsletter # 145

September 21, 2015

Dearest Advocates:

Advocacy does pay off!

As many of you are aware, I have been participating on the COMP waiver Rate Study (Phase 1) Committee representing families. In this rate study, they specifically looked at the following services categories: Community Living Supports (CLS), Respite and Community Residential Alternative-Group & Host Homes.

Many thanks to the families and providers that responded to the call to action this summer and submitted comments/concerns and participated on the webinar's in July. DBHDD heard us and listened. This is exactly why families need to have input and represented during the COMP waiver re-write, as well as, providers!

Two big changes to the waiver re-write that would have impacted our families included:

- The proposed establishment of monthly billing limits on Community Living Supports has been **withdrawn**. There will continue to be an annual limit for CLS (which has always been there for all services), but members will have flexibility in regards to how they use their budgets over the course of their plan years.
- The proposed elimination of the personal assistance retainer for Community Living Supports has been **withdrawn**. The CLS rate model was revised to exclude a productivity adjustment for missed appointments.

There is a lot of other information regarding the rate study thus far and additional provider concerns. To find out more, please go to: <http://www.burnshealthpolicy.com/CompWaiverRates/>

Specifically, if you would like to see the comments submitted from families and DBHDD response, please go to: <http://www.burnshealthpolicy.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Question-Comments-from-Family-Members-September-17-2015.pdf>

The final rate models, which incorporate the changes noted above, please go to: http://www.burnshealthpolicy.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/FinalRateModels_September-17-2015.pdf This will now be presented to Dept. of Community Health (DCH) and then submitted to Federal CMS Medicaid for final approval.

Phase 2 of the rate study will include Support Coordination, Community Access, and Supported Employment. Stay tuned for more information.

I hope you find this information helpful and continue to advocate and speak up during this COMP waiver re-write in 2015.

Please note, most of the changes proposed in the COMP waiver will be carried over into the NOW waiver as well. Stay tuned for more information and how you can get involved.

"United - We Will Make A Difference"

Sincerely,
Heidi J. Moore

Parent Advocate for Children & Adults with Disabilities and Cancer

For more information and to see previous newsletters and disability information, please go to www.UniteOurVoices.com.

Join Heidi on Twitter at www.twitter.com/UniteOurVoices and Facebook Group at https://www.facebook.com/groups/435101099921721/?ref=br_tf

To follow Jacob's Journey with Leukemia, please go to: <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/prayforjacobmoore> or www.teamjacob.org . To watch Jacob's Journey with Cancer video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=2GjPfmIZ76g

"Help The Children Now, So They Can Help Themselves Later!"

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