



Coalition Briefs

A SEMI-MONTHLY UPDATE ON COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH IN NEW YORK

Adult SNP RFP Q and A

The Coalition was in the general audience at the day-long September 13th Adult Mental Health SNP RFP Offerers' Conference in Albany. State Office of Mental Health (OMH) staffers read aloud 359 questions received on the RFP along with answers to the questions. OMH cautioned the audience that their answers were not legally final and binding, but hopes to have the final Q & A text available on its Web site by around October 1st.

In its answers OMH stressed the importance of service coordination to the SNP benefits package. Service coordinators must be in place even during the SNP start-up period when low enrollment is anticipated. The SNP's MIS system must also be fully operational from day 1 of SNP operation. OMH will advise on the impact of the new Kendra's Law on mental health SNPs, as implementation of the law proceeds. Presumably, this could be reflected in the capitation rates, which are set prospectively.

However, OMH affirmed that for the mental health SNPs, there will only be sharing of gains, not losses, with the State. This differs from the HIV SNPs, which provide for both gain- and loss-sharing, within a certain corridor. OMH maintained that the initial mental health SNP rates have been set at the full fee-for-service equivalent, with no savings built in, and that with an anticipated increased use of less expensive services, the rates should be sufficient to cover the benefit package.

OMH released the State's re-
(Continued on page 2)

Coalition launches work project

WorkNet, a new project established by The Coalition under a joint grant by the New York State Office of Mental Health and by the New York City Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Alcoholism Services, will seek to help mental health providers employ an integrated approach to employment and treatment. Reflecting the high priority that both the State and City place on employment in the mental health social service delivery system, WorkNet is also consistent with the aspirations of recipients who, like everyone else, want a regular job.

The project will offer intensive technical assistance and training to New York City's mental health providers. It will provide an evaluation of employment efforts in the sector and identify the local needs. Project staff will research and identify models of supported employment around the country and bring skillful spokespeople who will lend their expertise and speak about their experiences to local practitioners.

WorkNet will encourage the development of pilot employment projects and help in the application of outcome measurements in an attempt to identify the most efficacious modalities that will lead to regular employment and high retention rates for the most number of consumers.

Plans are in the works for a WorkNet web page and other informational vehicles to insure that the latest information about vocational efforts in all the disability sectors is made available locally and has the widest possible dissemination.

A job development group will be responsible for making bridges to other government bodies charged with employment and for networking with the private sector, small businesses and large, both for-profit and nonprofit.

(Continued on page 2)

And babies make four...

The Coalition is pleased to welcome two new members to New York State's mental health community. On Sunday, September 5 New York State Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare Executive Director Gayle Farman delivered two baby girls. Both young ladies and their proud parents are healthy and happy. We are sure that when the time comes Emma Davis and her little sister Kate Tilly will vote community mental health. ☐

OMH MICA Conference

The New York State Office of Mental Health is planning a conference on MICA residences for January of 2000. Coalition staff member Joshua Rubin has been invited to join the planning committee that has already begun work. Staff from Coalition member agencies involved in the process include **PSCH's** John Benitez, **ICL's** Michael Blady and **CUCS's** Joanna Scheier. ☐

Russell J. Ackaway, MA, CSW

(212) 831-5024

Administrator and business consultant for mental health agencies

- Program design, management and development • Community outreach and relations
- Preparation and development of strategic plans, informational surveys, program plans and market analyses
- Identification of funding opportunities • Grant writing, management and compliance

Coalition Briefs

WorkNet

Questions and Answers on the Adult SNP RFP

(Continued from page 1)

gional stop-loss premium rate quotations. For New York City the rates are:

Aid Category	Payment Rate Per Enrollee, Per Month (from the Rate Book)	Stop-Loss Premium, Per Month	Adjusted Rate Per Month	Stop-Loss Premium Percentage
ADC	\$300.51	\$1.00	\$299.51	0.333%
HR	\$467.60	\$0.55	\$467.05	0.118%
SSI	\$706.62	\$3.14	\$703.48	0.444%

Contact Marilyn Kneeland at The Coalition (x14) for additional information on the Offerers' Conference. □

Director of Mental Health Work Project

The Coalition of Voluntary Mental Health Agencies seeks a director of *WorkNet*, a high visibility start-up employment project for the mental health sector. The project will help to focus community based providers on the importance of employment as an integral component of treatment—through training, information dissemination, research and job development. Must have significant management and supervisory experience. Capable of developing and directing start-up enterprise. Superb interpersonal skills essential. Responsible for staff of educators, researchers and job developers. Experience with vocational and employment opportunities for disabled populations, including mentally ill people, a plus. Salary commensurate with experience. Consumer applicants encouraged to apply. The Coalition is an equal opportunity employer. Send resumes to Search Committee, The Coalition, 120 W. 57th Street, NYC, 10019. □

The Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services, is looking for a Clinical Services Coordinator for a new alternative-to-incarceration program serving people who are seriously mentally ill. Specific duties include developing program procedures, forms and policies, assisting the director in doing the initial outreach necessary to generate referrals & educate judges and attorneys about the program. Must have exp. working with people with serious mental illness; knowledge of MH services in NYC is req; an understanding of NY's criminal justice system is helpful; MSW & other professional training pref.; excellent writing and interpersonal skills. Salary commensurate w/ exp. + excellent benefits. Send resume and cover letter to Director of Personnel, CASES, 346 Broadway, 3rd Floor west, NY, NY 10013. □

Upcoming Events

September 20	Yom Kippur - Coalition building closed
September 22	Children's Committee at CVMHA
September 23	Membership Meeting at CVMHA
September 30	MICA Committee Meeting at The Bridge
October 11	Columbus Day - Coalition Closed
October 12	PLC: Medical Necessity at CSS
October 12-13	Coalition Office Closed
October 14	Finance Committee at CVMHA
	Board of Directors Meeting at CVMHA
October 28	Membership Meeting at CVMHA
November 17	Big Apple Circus

(Continued from page 1)

WorkNet is seeking to hire a smart, aggressive and personable director who has significant management and supervisory experience along with knowledge of the vocational world. Consumers of mental health services are encouraged to apply. Please see the ad below. □

Help Wanted

Weston United has an opening for a p/t Residence Counselor. Duties include counseling adults w/ mental illness and/or substance abuse. Provides rehab an restorative services to residents. Provides services to resident in apt. visits, individual sessions, group mtgs. and off-site activities. Reports to Team Coordinator and participates in individual & group supervision, team mtgs. And staff mtgs. 20 hrs./wk. Qualifications include a High School Diploma or equivalent w/ 2 yrs. Exp. in a mental health or related field. Computer literate and good writing skills. \$9K per year. Fax Resume to: Joseph Wong, Human Resources Manager, **Weston United**, (212) 316-0789. □

Foster Family Resource Program of **Jewish Child Care Association** is looking for a Social Worker who is bilingual Spanish/English. Responsibilities include MAAAP training, Home studies, Screening, Orientation, Foster Parent Training, Certification and Recertification of Foster Home. Presently located in midtown NYC, the Program will be relocating to the Bronx. Strong supervision and clinical support services available. Family centered practice comprising a full range of clinical services. Knowledge of "Connection" will be helpful. Competitive salary and excellent benefits. Please send of fax resume to: C. Meshil, **JCCA**, 575 Lexington Avenue, NY, NY 10022. Fax (212) 371-1275 EOEM/F. □

F.E.G.S. seeks Clinical Social Workers PT/FT for Rego Park location to provide group/individual short-term treatment to adults & children in their fast-paced, highly professional counseling center. Exp. in short-term modalities pref. Some evenings req. Bilingual Spanish or Russian pref. Accessible to all transportation. Send resume to HR Dynamics, Inc., Dept JC/QCB, 161 William St., 8th Fl., NY, NY 10038. □