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Date: 9/9/2014 4:24:47 PM
Subject: Mental Health Involvement with DJJ kids

To address the concerns presented at the September 3, 2014 PCSC Leadership meeting regarding DMH mental health centers supposedly not assisting DJJ children in need, I asked my staff to follow up to address DMH involvement with these "40 DJJ kids".

DMH's active and ongoing measures to partner concerning DJJ involved youth includes:

1. DMH staff have reviewed and updated the list of DJJ cases and have documented DMH center clinical involvement in each one. I have a status on each of these cases which details the clinical treatment provided by the centers and the disposition of the cases.
2. Louise Johnson, DMH Children's Director, met with DJJ Treatment Director Kathy Speed, a week prior to the leadership meeting, to assist with any individual cases that needed DMH involvement. The main issues identified included the need for respite/crisis, which is a planned service for the System of Care and Care

Coordination.

3. DMH has had a shared staff position with DJJ for a number of years located at the DJJ Reception and Evaluation Center and this position serves as a liaison with the mental health centers to ensure treatment or assessment of DJJ youth is provided as appropriate.
4. Kathy Speed has been invited to attend the DMH monthly CAF Director's meeting, and participants have agreed to collaborate and staff difficult cases as presented by DJJ. A center contact list is being compiled for DJJ to ensure more effective communication with DMH center staff.
5. Lauri Hammond, DMH, our central office DJJ liaison, is responsible to intervene with the mental health centers on behalf of DJJ involved youth when it is necessary.
6. DMH Mental Health Center Directors and CAF Directors have been thoroughly briefed for several months on the recent Medicaid changes, and the change in our role as the gatekeeper for PRTF services. There has been no change how we work with DJJ and there is no "role confusion" on the part of the centers.
7. There was an interagency meeting on August 25th, where a number of agencies including DHHS, COC, DOE, DDSN, DMH and DJJ met in a multi-agency resolution meeting. Future Interagency staffing on DJJ special needs children are scheduled to occur quarterly, with the next meeting dates scheduled for October 29th and 30th.

I trust this clarifies and corrects the mistaken impression at the meeting that DMH mental health centers do not collaborate with their partners to serve children and families. DMH has always committed to ensuring our state's children receive the best mental health care possible and will continue to do so.

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