



WINTER 2008

DCMHS Kids Line

Ruth Ann Minner, Governor	A Newsletter from the Division of Child Mental Health Services Department of Service for Children, Youth and Their Families State of Delaware	Cari DeSantis, Cabinet Secretary
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A Message from the Director:

It is clear that 2007 was a busy year for everyone! As we moved ahead to increase access to care, improve the quality of treatment, and enhance the overall behavioral healthcare system, we also completed the many daily tasks required to simply maintain a complex service delivery system. The Children's Team has done a yeoman's job, that has benefited the children and families of Delaware. As the Division Director, and as a citizen of this state, I humbly **thank you all!**



Susan Cycyk,
DCMHS Director

Our Division's efforts to reach more eligible children and families continues to succeed! We served **over 2700 children in FY '07**, an increase of 11 percent over the previous year. The first quarter FY '08 data suggests we are on track to serve another 5 percent more children this fiscal year. Satisfaction rates, as measured by the Ohio Scales, remain strong, at 90 percent. Families report that their children's health and behavior has improved.

Utilization of local services remains high, particularly Intensive Outpatient, which expanded to meet the growing need. The number of children treated out-of-state has been low, as has been the length of hospital stay. We continue to work creatively with our residential treatment providers to maximize the use of residential and day treatment slots in state. Our fully CARF-accredited state-operated Intensive Outpatient, Day, Crisis and RTC services continue to produce excellent outcomes for children and youth.

Outreach activities, such as "Get the Scoop on Mental Health" with Rita's Water Ice in May, and many activities during Recovery Month in September, have done much to educate the community about mental health and substance abuse issues, and to promote our services. We have increased the percentages of children of color and of children of Hispanic descent served.

Our emphasis on promoting and providing evidence-based treatment remains strong, as demonstrated by our continued commitment to train our network and providers in best practice, our implementation of Child Development-Community Policing, our efforts in Trauma-focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and our collaborative Foster Children Screening.

While half our clients are not served by other Department divisions, half are, and often these children are the most challenging. Partnering with our sister Divisions to effectively serve these children and youth continues to be a priority. Assessments have increased, particularly for children with complex issues. Many of our assessments are for youth involved with the juvenile justice system. We now provide screening and treatment in the juvenile justice facilities and have a small pilot project for girls who are in DYRS community services. We successfully serve children and youth through the Mental Health and Drug Courts.

(continued on page 2)

Message from the Director (continued from page 1)

Within the child protection system, we focused on initial mental health screens and engagement in treatment. Early results indicate that more children in foster care are going to and staying in outpatient treatment.

Our goals for CY 2008 are familiar to you all — to increase access to our services, to improve the quality of treatment and to enhance the overall quality of our state-wide public children’s behavioral health care system.

New DCMHS activities in CY 2008 include partnering with the Mental Health Association of Delaware, OPEI and the DHSS Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health as the Delaware Suicide Coalition. We submitted a federal grant application for Youth Suicide Prevention in January. In addition, DCMHS submitted a federal grant in February to develop a system of care for young children, which will increase access for young children and their families to evidence-based mental health intervention. Shortly, we will open a new Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Service.

Speaking for our entire Division, we are grateful to the children, families and caregivers, providers and community partners who work with us each and every day of the year to help us achieve success. We look forward to your partnership in 2008.

Thank you and best wishes for a very happy 2008!

Susan

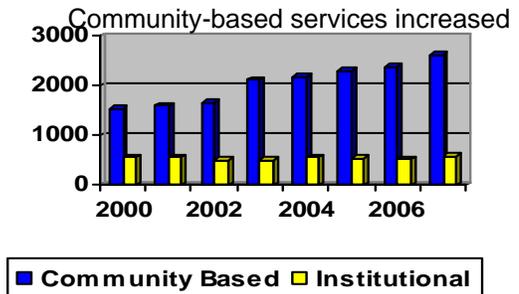
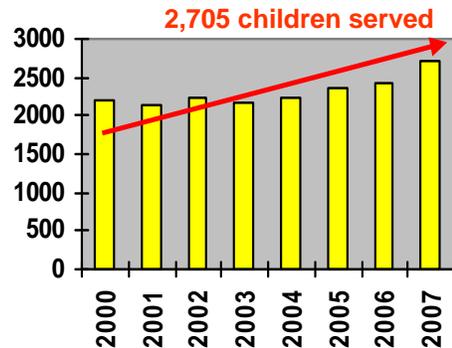
DCMHS Performance Indicators: How did we do in 2007?

DCMHS is pleased to share information on its performance in FY 2007.

ACCESS TO CHILDREN’S MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT INCREASED:

More children and families we served. During FY 07, DCMHS provided direct services to **2,705 children and their families**. This number represents an 11 percent increase over the number of children served in FY 06 (2,429) and marks a continuing trend in increasing the number of children served each year as reflected in the chart at right. **This demonstrates DCMHS success in its number one goal: increasing access to behavioral health services for Delaware children and their families.**

More children received treatment in community-based rather than institutional settings. In FY 2007 (see chart at right), DCMHS continued to make consistent progress in providing more and more treatment in the community, in non-institutional, normal settings for children and youth. This trend is consistent with the System of Care philosophy and with the wishes of Delaware children and families.

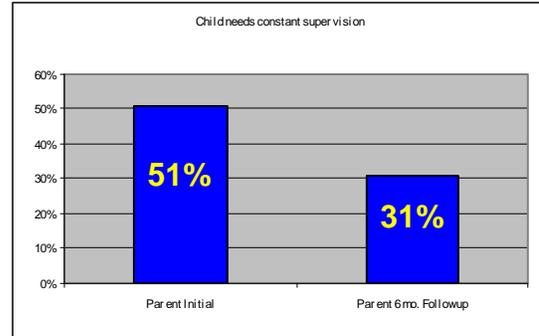


DCMHS FY 07 Performance Report

Reporters of information collected by DCMHS using the Ohio Scales instrument are youth, parent or caregiver and also the DCMHS clinical care manager. The measures are collected at admission to DCMHS, every six months thereafter, and/or at discharge from the system.

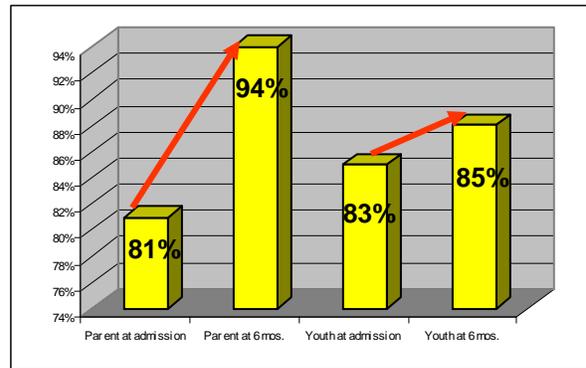
Child Functioning Improved.

Parents of children with moderate-to-severe impairment in functioning report that functioning of children improved from the point of admission to DCMHS treatment to the six month time period following admission.



Consumer Satisfaction was high.

In FY 07, for parents/caregivers, consumer satisfaction with the DCMHS service system increased from 81 percent at admission of the child to treatment to 94 percent after six months. Youth satisfaction increased from 83 percent at admission to 85 percent after six months.



In addition, DCMHS' expenditures for FY 07 were within the division's budget.

Child Traumatic Stress Treatment Grant Update

Congratulations to Chuck Webb, Ph.D., who has accepted a permanent position with DCMHS as a psychologist supervisor! Chuck has served for two years as the Project Director of the Delaware Child Traumatic Stress Treatment Center Grant awarded to DCMHS. This move represents both recognition of Chuck's expertise and a major step for Delaware in sustaining the gains accomplished through this federal grant.



DCMHS is seeking to hire a new project director for the grant, with the goal of having a new project director by March 2008.

Chuck will continue his work on the grant full time until a new project director is hired, at which point we will support and train the new project director. Over the final two years of the grant, Chuck will continue to work one day per week on grant-related efforts, demonstrating DCMHS' commitment to sustaining the use of Trauma-focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) as the treatment of choice for children with PTSD, and our commitment to quality treatment throughout our system. To date, our grant efforts have resulted in **160** youth referred to the Child Well-Being TF CBT Pilot for treatment, **79** youth enrolling in treatment and **38** successfully completing treatment. In addition, 15 therapists have been trained in TF-CBT.

Community Partners Bring Good Will and Gifts for DCMHS Children and their Families



Nationwide Financial Network once again brightened the holidays for many DCMHS children and families. Several DCMHS staff had an opportunity to be part of a joyous event on December 19th at our University Plaza Offices. For the past several years, the Nationwide Financial Network has “adopted” more than 400 children and families in need. from across the DCMHS system and donated gifts, food and cheer.



This year, Nationwide adopted another **178 children** (50 of our clients and their siblings) from across our system. Children involved with our teams at TCPC, NET, Seaford House, SLTC Consortium and our Child Development-Community Policing Project (CD-CP) were recipients. Nationwide brought a large moving truck and more than 20 associates to deliver the gifts. Our clinical services management teams were there, along with several families, to collect the gifts and begin distributing them to families across the state.



Many, many thanks to Alex Tunnell (Clinical Coordinator, DCMHS) and his sister, Judi Beamer (Nationwide) who are shown in the picture on the left with Santa. Alex and Judi led the tremendous coordination and efforts for our children and families.

DCMHS ~ Holidays full of Good Will

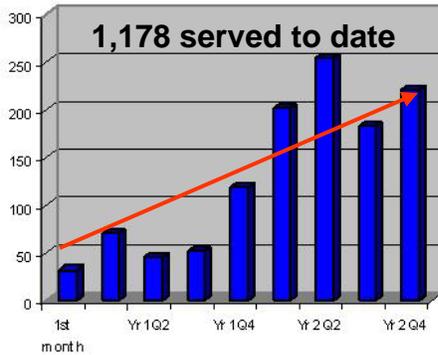
Through the generosity of staff and community partners, DCMHS' Silverlake Consortium made the holidays brighter for children and their families in the Middletown and Brenford Residential Treatment Centers. Helen Reader of Middletown RTC once again went above and beyond the call of duty to make Christmas a great holiday for youth at Silverlake. Organizing a series of fundraisers, she used contributions to get gifts for all the youth in the programs. Donations came from many individuals in the community as well as from patrons of her restaurant. Bryce Bunce, YRC Supervisor at Brenford RTC, donated a work of art for Helen's silent auction. Staff members and Dr. Borer donated funds that were used to provide gifts to youth in the program.



Left:
Some of DCMHS' community partners from the Nationwide Insurance Company.

CD-CP serves nearly 1,200 City of Wilmington children and their families!

The DCMHS-City of Wilmington partnership that is known as the Child Development-Community Policing (CD-CP) project has reached a milestone, **servicing nearly 1,200 children and their families in the City of Wilmington** in its first two years of operation.



NINETY children received holiday gifts through the generosity of Nationwide Financial Services. The gifts were delivered on Nationwide's behalf by CD-CP crisis interventionists and City of Wilmington police officers and firefighters. The heartwarming photo above says it all. What a joyous time for givers and gift recipients! Thanks again to Nationwide Financial Services!

“In the Best Interest of the Child” Conference

Sponsored in November 2007 by the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council and Child, Inc., this conference featured a keynote address by Dr. Jeffrey Edleson from the University of Minnesota. Dr. Edleson directs the Minnesota Center against Violence and Abuse, and is a published author. He included digital, audio-visual presentations of stories told by children and adults, statistics, history and research to provide an overview of children and youth who witness violence, and to suggest therapeutic approaches to use in treatment.



From Left: Bridgette Poulle, Director, DVCC, Dr. Edleson and Joe Del'Ollio, Director, CHILD, Inc.

The work in which Delaware's Children's Department is engaged, through the Child Well-being Initiative with trauma-focused cognitive behavior therapy, and through CD-CP, to quickly connect children who have witnessed violence with clinical supports, is very helpful to our children and youth, according to Dr. Edleson.

He acknowledged the work of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network and particularly noted the effectiveness of Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy as an intervention for youth with post-traumatic stress disorder.

The conference provided excellent information, and a great opportunity to network with public defenders, prosecutors, child advocates, judges, nurses, law enforcement personnel, and others interested in the well-being of children.

DCMHS' Quality Improvement Unit

The Quality Improvement Unit is a key unit within the Division of Child Mental Health Services holding responsibility for system-wide review and feedback on system functioning, including quality of services offered and client safety.

We work closely with our contracted providers, Clinical Services Teams and Program Administrators to monitor the environment in which services are provided, documentation supporting the type of services offered and frequency of direct services provided.

As in any quality monitoring, we review all client incidents, ensuring that the client is safe, the environment is safe and whether additional safeguards are required as a proactive measure.

The QI Unit is also the point of contact for formal Consumer Complaints and the contact for Appeals. We work closely with parents/guardians, providers and DCMHS staff to review and resolve complaints. We aggregate and analyze data on complaints and appeals received and report any patterns and trends to Division Leadership for system improvement.

2007 has been a very busy but productive year, as we increased our focus on quality. We want to thank our colleagues and community partners for engaging with us as a working team to ensure that the people we serve safely receive quality services. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lynn Banks at 633-2619.



(L to R) Carolyn Allen, Cheryl Wesley and Lynn Banks comprise the DCMHS QI Unit

New DCMHS hires to staff Schools/ Mental Health Integration Project in Delaware Schools

DCMHS is collaborating with the Delaware Department of Education to help schools identify and refer youth who may benefit from mental health and/or substance abuse services. The work is supported by a \$350,000, 18-month grant from the U.S Department of Education.

Linda Zervas, DCMHS Intake supervisor, has hired 3 three staff to help over 200 schools develop protocols to guide the identification and referral of children and families to mental health treatment. They are **Daniel Smith** and **Kathryn Nevin**, who will serve New Castle County and Northern Kent County, and **Maureen Andrews** who will serve Kent and Sussex Counties (left to right in photo at right). They will be working with **Pete Ferrario**, a retired guidance counselor hired by Delaware's Department of Education, to coordinate school visits and activities. *Go Team!*



DCMHS Provider News: Increased Opportunities for Treatment

Increasing Access: DCMHS Welcomes the Latin American Community Center as a Provider of Mental Health Treatment

Stephanie Traynor, Ph.D., of the Latin American Community Center (LACC), pictured at right, provided an excellent presentation on the development and growth of the mental health treatment program at LACC, to the DCMHS Child Mental Health Advisory and Advocacy Council in November. LACC's behavioral services unit is up and running!! LACC started the behavioral services program through seed funding from a Jessie Ball DuPont grant. DCMHS played an important and supportive role in providing data to LACC for their successful application. Currently, LACC has a wait list, but is hoping to expand services soon. DCMHS welcomes LACC as a provider of behavioral health services, particularly for the Hispanic community.



LACC provides bilingual and bicultural treatment services. Services include: behavioral health evaluation, psychotherapy, family and marital therapy, individual therapy for children and adults, domestic violence counseling and drug and alcohol counseling.

Welcome to LACC!

LACC has a website: www.thelatincenter.org. LACC may be reached at 302-295-2160 and is located at 301 N. Harrison Street in Wilmington, DE, 19805.

Children and Families First Receives Grant Award

Children & Families First recently received funding from the **Laffey-McHugh Foundation** to train its counseling staff, both home-based and office-based units, in Functional Family Therapy (FFT) to maximize success as they work with increasingly challenging populations. FFT is a research-based, family-focused intervention program that addresses child behavior problems. It is outcome-driven and has been designated as an exemplary national evidence-based model by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), Center for Substance Abuse, Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the US Surgeon General's Report on Youth Violence. *Congratulations to CCF!*

Dover Behavioral Health Systems Opens its Doors

Dover Behavioral Health Systems opened adolescent mental health inpatient and partial day programs in mid-November, 2007. **Dr. Sabasen** is DBHS' Medical Director and is a Board certified Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist. **Tamika Brown**, DBHS recently provided an update to the Division of Child Mental Health Services Child Mental Health Advisory and Advocacy Council on the new inpatient and day treatment program. For children in southern Delaware in need of these intensive services, having the new facility in Kent County will be helpful in increasing access. *Welcome to DBHS!*

News from the DCMHS SilverLake Treatment Consortium

Silver Lake Consortium had its Fall Festival in November. More than 100 children, family, friends and staff were on hand to enjoy the evening, with musical entertainment from the Silver Tones. **Thanks to leader Dawn Rowe and the Silver Tones!**

The premier of the SLC Media Matters Public Service Announcements was very entertaining! **Scot Michels** (Jewish Family Services) and SLC children showed five brief public service announcements on pregnancy, domestic violence and substance abuse. *Media Matters* and *Project Toward No Drug Abuse* at SLC is a collaborative effort involving JFS (Media Matters), YMCA (Project Toward No Drug Abuse) and SLC and is funded through a Departmental Grant from OPEI. We are very pleased to offer these new opportunities to youth in mental health residential treatment.



Linda Blankenship, Randal Wimberley, Harvey Doppelt and Marc Richman joined **Tom Olson** and his staff for the festival. In addition, **Sara Riffe** a current DFS case-worker and **Tracey Dencker**, also from DFS, both came as “family” for one of the residents at Brenford. As a result of great teamwork across the Department, most youth had someone who cared about them attend the festival.

News from Aquila

Mandel Much (Aquila) recently shared with DMCHS a copy of a letter sent to Aquila from a thankful Grandparent:



“To all of you at Aquila who took a part in helping my Granddaughter C,

C was a hurting teen living in a home that caused despair and loss of confidence. Words are just not enough to express my thanks to you all. You answered a prayer. All of you have played a part in C’s life. When C came to my home 5 months ago, she was a very lost teen; we thought we might lose her. Now C, my beautiful granddaughter, has come back. She smiles, laughs, sings and has just bloomed. Your gifts, food, patience working with her, and love has helped her. Please know that your work does not go unseen.

*I know there is much work still to do, but progress has been seen.
God bless you all!”*

DCMHS greatly values its providers and the wonderful work they do with children and families. This letter is just an example of the many notes from caring families.

DCMHS Intake and Assessment Unit Update

DCMHS is requesting an additional Psychologist for the Children's Department FY 2009 Budget. The assessment unit currently has offices in Dover, Milford, Laurel, Wilmington and Newark. Clients are also often seen in detention and occasionally at other sites. Assessments are provided for Department and court involved children and adolescents. Careful assessment facilitates appropriate service planning. It promotes the use of appropriate, least restrictive services that can reduce symptoms, improve child functioning and reduce recidivism.

In FY07, 69 percent of assessment cases were referred directly by the Court or from DYRS referral agents. The remainder were referred by DFS and DCMHS. The number of assessments completed by the unit for FY07 (465) is 107 percent of the FY05 number. The demand has increased. In addition, the assessments are becoming increasingly complex. Complex assessments include neuro-psychologicals, amenability evaluations for youth with sex related charges, and competency evaluations. For these assessments, the FY07 figure is 140 percent of the FY05 number. The complexity has increased.

The unit is, quite simply, having difficulty keeping up with demand.

The unit also provides consultation services. In FY07, of the 1374 consults provided, 42 percent were for DYRS. These were primarily detention reviews in which Departmental services are coordinated and discharge plans are developed. Approximately 32 percent of consults were for DFS and most of these represent DCMHS participation in the permanency review process.

We hope that the additional position is funded so that we can provide the quality assessment consults in a timely manner.

New PIC Website - Check it out!

The Parent Information Center of Delaware recently launched a new and improved website! They are particularly proud of the new online resource center which is cataloged by topic. This resource center has links to websites with more information on Section 504, No Child Left Behind, Bullying and many more important topics for families. PIC invites you to check out the new website by going to:

www.picofdel.org

Children's Department News: Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services



Since coming on board in 2007, DCMHS substance abuse specialists Lisa Ritchie, M.S., NCC, and Jennifer Showers, B.A., CADC, have been hard at work developing the substance use services for New Castle County and Stevenson House Detention Centers. Both Ms. Ritchie and Mrs. Showers provide weekly substance use psycho-education to all youth in the facilities. Topics for psycho-education include the stages of addiction, how drugs affect the brain, relapse and refusal skills. Since the staff began, over **1,000** youth have received at least one psycho-education class. In addition to the psycho-education groups, Ms. Ritchie and Mrs. Showers also provide substance use evaluations for the youth in the facilities. The youth are most often referred by their probation officers or facility staff. The Global Appraisal of Individual Needs (GAIN) is the tool used to assess the level of substance use issues and to provide recommendations for the youth regarding any needed treatment. About **40** youth have received substance use evaluation to provide families and DSCYF staff with valuable information about how to most appropriately plan for the youth in the legal system.



Delaware Girls Initiative Workshops

DGI is offering a series of free workshops. For a detailed description of the workshops, please go to: <http://www.delawaregirlsinitiative.org/calendar.pdf>. To register please contact cpetrak@dcjustice.org or call (302)657-0903 and provide your **name, phone, email, organization and position**.

Children's Department News: Division of Family Services



Why Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) for youth in foster care?

A great resource for answering this question may be found at:
www.nctsn.org/training

At the National Child Traumatic Stress Network website's training component are a series of media presentations. One offering, titled "**Use of TF-CBT with Children in Foster Care,**" presented by Shannon Dorsey who outlines why this mental health treatment is particularly effective for youth with sexual and or physical abuse or who have witnessed violence. The presentation takes less than an hour to view and provides a compelling case for how effective TF-CBT can be with youth in foster care. Dr. Dorsey also talks about working with foster parents and emphasizes specific PRACTICE components to work on with foster kids and resource parents.

Wondering if you should refer a child and family/care-giver to the Child Well-being Initiative for TF-CBT and how to do it?

Contact Chuck Webb, Ph.D. at 302-633-2598

Child Welfare Information Gateway Brief on TF-CBT

Child Welfare Information Gateway recently published an "issue brief" on the specific types of cognitive behavioral therapy designed to help traumatized and abused children and their families. Both issue briefs cover the key components and goals of the treatment, the population best served, demonstrated effectiveness, and what to look for in a therapist.

Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT): Addressing the Mental Health of Sexually Abused Children is now available to help child welfare case-workers and other professionals working with at-risk families who may be considering referral to TF-CBT. This evidence-based treatment is designed to reduce negative emotional and behavioral responses following child sexual abuse and other traumatic events by addressing distorted beliefs and attributions related to the abuse and by providing a supportive environment for children.

www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/trauma

Mental Health Association's 6th Annual People of Color Mental Health Conference



The Delaware Mental Health Association hosted its Sixth Annual People of Color Mental Health Conference on November 3, 2007. DCMHS helped sponsor the event. Keisha Zollar, a graduate of the University of California and member of the National Mental Health Awareness campaign's Speaker's Bureau, gave the keynote address. Focusing on her own experience, she shared her story of abuse, suicide attempt, depression and the stigma she faced as an African-American woman with a mental health disorder.



MHA executive director Jim Lafferty (I) with Frank Hawkins at the conference



Many local high school students attended the conference. Workshops included community youth development, sexuality and cancer, all promoting a greater understanding of mental health as it relates to people of color. Conference attendees also visited many exhibits which provided information relating to mental health, including a booth staffed by DCMHS. Thanks to Yolanda Jenkins (second from right in photo at left) for leading DCMHS' outreach effort!

Delaware's Mental Health Association Celebrates its 75th Anniversary !

Representatives from DCMHS were among those celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Mental Health Association of Delaware on Dec. 20, 2007. Former state representative Jane Maroney was honored for her long-standing efforts on behalf of Delaware's children. Ms. Maroney complimented the Department on our implementation of System of Care, and specifically recognized DCMHS in her opening remarks. The event brought together families, volunteers, state agencies and providers committed to improving the mental health of Delawareans.



M Maroney (L) with State Senator Harris McDowell and Amita Amurao, M.D., MHA Board President

In a very short period of time, DCMHS' partnership with MHA has grown substantially. DCMHS currently contracts with MHA to operate family and caregiver support groups around children's mental health across the state. MHA's children's initiative offers us a new opportunity to work in partnership with the community and address issues of stigma, access to treatment, improved quality, community capacity, school, family and local community responsibility for the well-being of our children. We look forward to continuing to work together towards better health for Delaware's children, youth and their families.

Delaware Physician's Care, Inc. Awarded NCQA Accreditation



Patricia Wright, Behavioral Health Care Director for Delaware Physician's Care, Inc. (DPCI), announced at the November 2007 DCMHS Child Mental Health Advisory and Advocacy Council Meeting that DPCI was recently awarded a three year full accreditation by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). Accreditation is a rigorous and comprehensive evaluation process through which NCQA assesses the quality of the key systems and processes that define health care organizations.

Accreditation includes an assessment of the care and service that plans deliver in important areas like childhood immunizations. NCQA began accrediting Managed Care Organizations in 1991, in response to the need for standardized, objective information about the quality of these health care organizations. *Congratulations to DPCI!*

Child Traumatic Stress Culture and Trauma Speaker Series

www.NCTSN.org/training

The National Center for Child Traumatic Stress offers a terrific resource on the topic of Culture and Trauma. The full 2007 presentation series is available **FREE** and can be accessed by going to the website in blue above.

Topics include:

- Organizational Assessment and staff Training in Cultural Competence
- Trauma among Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Youth
- Addressing the Trauma Treatment Needs of Children Who Are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing and the Hearing Children of Deaf Parents
- Working with Homeless and Runaway Youth
- The Traumatic Experiences of Border and Immigrant Youth
- American Indian Youth: Current and Historical Trauma
- Child and Adolescent Refugee Mental Health
- Child Trauma, Race and Urban Poverty
- Trauma Treatment Needs of Children and Families in Rural Communities
- Adapting Trauma-focused Treatments for Culturally Diverse Populations
- Spirituality and Trauma

For each presentation, there are powerpoint slides, biosketches of the presenters and learning objectives along with the archived video. Often materials, references and resources are available as well.

DCMHS Employee Recognition



Carol Harman DCMHS Employee of the 4th Quarter, 2007

Congratulations to Carol Harman, Crisis Service Manager for south Delaware in DCMHS, who is the Employee of the Quarter.

Carol has shown exceptional achievement, initiative and leadership by guiding crisis services in identifying and accessing appropriate services in a very timely way. Her 'System of Care' thinking makes her an excellent mediator, problem solver and consensus maker. She is able to maintain a sense of humor and humility that can make what seems like overwhelming problems manageable. She has long-standing state service in the adult system and the children's system and she holds the respect of so many people in these systems. It is people like Carol who are at the core of our success. She is one of those people who not only works hard to accomplish the tasks of her own position, but has the ability to do that while providing support to those around her, enabling them to achieve success.

Carol's courage in advocating for the rights of others is viewed as heroic by many of her peers, because she is not daunted. Her courageous support of families, children, youth and colleagues, combined with her enduring sense of hope and humor has led her colleagues to deem her 'warrior princess' of crisis services!

Delaware Healthy Children Program Info:

Many Delaware children eligible for the State Child Health Insurance Program, known in Delaware as the Delaware Health Children Program, are still not enrolled. Benefits of enrollment include primary health care equivalent to that provided to Delaware Medicaid enrollees.

Which children are eligible? Uninsured children from birth to the age of 19 who live in families with incomes at or below the 200 percent Federal Poverty Level are eligible for DHCP coverage.

How can I help children and families enroll? You can obtain an application in English or Spanish by calling DHCP at **1-800-996-9969**, or by printing the desired form from the DHCP page - <http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dmmadhcpapply.html>. You can also fill out an application on the internet using [ASSIST](#) - the State of Delaware's Application for Social Service Programs. For more information, you can read the DHCP flyer at:

<http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dmma/files/dhcpflyer.pdf>

37-03-101 N300
Delaware Youth and Family Center
1825 Faulkland Road
Wilmington, DE 19805

Phone: 302-633-2600
Fax: 302-633-5118
Email: nancy.widdoes@state.de.us

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DCMHS Child Mental Health Advisory and Advocacy Council Update:

The November 2007 Council meeting was hosted by Delaware Physician's Care, Inc. Council Co-Chair Howard Isenberg led the council through a review of the DCMHS FY07 accomplishments and FY 08 Goals. They are as follows:

- Increasing access to community based treatment;
- Improving the quality of treatment and
- Strengthening the public children's behavioral healthcare system.

The Council also heard several committee reports and an update on the financial status of the division. Julie Cutler was elected as the Family Co-Chair for the Council. Congratulations to her!

DSCYF Joint Finance Committee Legislative Budget Hearing:

Date: Tuesday, February 12

Time: 9:00 a.m. —Noon

**Place: Senate Chamber,
Legislative Hall, Dover**



UPCOMING MEETING DATES FOR CY 08: January 16, March 12, May 14, July 9,