

28112

Date: July 13, 2012

To: Members of the Honorable Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Grant E. Mitchell, M.D., Commissioner
Department of Community Mental Health

Re: Authority to enter into an agreement with the New York State Office of Mental Health (“OMH”) pursuant to which OMH will provide the County access to Medicaid data relating to users of mental hygiene services within the County in order to improve the administration of the Medicaid program by facilitating the provision of timely and appropriate services for High Need Medicaid Persons with mental illness at no cost to the County

Authority is hereby requested from your Honorable Board for the County of Westchester (the “County”), acting by and through its Department of Community Mental Health (the “Department”), to enter into an agreement with the New York State Office of Mental Health (“NYSOMH”), pursuant to which NYSOMH will provide the County access to Medicaid data relating to users of mental hygiene services within the County by permitting individuals identified by the County to submit an application to NYSOMH to be granted access to the OMH window into E-MedNY, in order to improve the administration of the Medicaid program by facilitating the provision of timely and appropriate services for High Need Medicaid Persons with mental illness, at no cost to the County. This agreement will commence upon execution by the County and NYSOMH.

In accordance with its statutory role and responsibilities pursuant to Article 7 of the Mental Hygiene Law, NYSOMH implements and oversees the delivery of mental health services in the State of New York. The County is the unit of local government authorized in accordance with Article 41 of the Mental Hygiene Law to provide and oversee local mental health services. Pursuant to Mental Hygiene Law §§ 31.22, 41.01, 41.05, 41.13, and 41.16, the local governmental units are partners with NYSOMH and have certain powers and duties in the planning, administration and monitoring of mental health services. The purpose of this agreement is to provide the County with information on users of Medicaid mental health services in order to enable the County to implement programs to fulfill some or all of the following purposes:

- Coordination of the delivery of mental health services to Medicaid clients;

- Coordination of the delivery of mental health and chemical dependency treatment services to Medicaid clients;
- Identifying high cost, high risk, under and sub-optimally served recipients and other recipient cohorts of clinical interest and their service use to LGUs, Single Point of Access (“SPOA”) programs and providers;
- Coordination of efforts to manage the delivery of services to high cost recipients, high-risk recipients, and underserved or sub-optimally treated recipient populations;
- Establishing linkages between physical and mental health care for Medicaid recipients;
- Performing quality improvement outreach to providers to improve treatment practices.

The proposed contract will serve a public purpose by enhancing the effectiveness of the mental health delivery system by coordination of services, ensuring consistency in the quality of care provided, and improving the capacity to share information within and between the mental health providers.

The goal and objective of the proposed agreement is to improve the administration of the Medicaid program and to facilitate the provision of timely and appropriate care and identify gaps in the provision of appropriate services.

The goal and objective of the proposed agreement is in the best interests of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility, as this agreement is of no cost to the County.

The goal and objective of the proposed agreement will be tracked and monitored by the Department through monthly review of the data (or as often as needed) and site visits in the field. The Department is also responsible for ensuring that individuals get the services they need. This data will also be used as individuals in need approach the county.

This agreement with NYSOMH does not constitute a procurement and as such, the provisions of the Westchester County Procurement Policy do not apply.

An appropriate Resolution is herewith attached for your Honorable Board’s consideration.

GEM/MS/eos/nn

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of Community Mental Health, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (“County”), acting by and through its Department of Community Mental Health (the “Department”), is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the New York State Office of Mental Health (“NYSOMH”), pursuant to which NYSOMH will provide the County access to Medicaid data relating to users of mental hygiene services within the County by permitting individuals identified by the County to submit an application to NYSOMH to be granted access to the OMH window into E-MedNY, in order to improve the administration of the Medicaid program by facilitating the provision of timely and appropriate services for High Need Medicaid Persons with mental illness, at no cost to the County; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the agreement shall commence upon execution by the County and NYSOMH; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is authorized and empowered to execute and deliver all instruments and take all actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A

Budget Funding Year(s) _____ Start Date Upon execution End Date _____
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars _____
 State Aid _____
\$ 0 Federal Aid _____
 (must match resolution) Other _____