



Detroit-Wayne County
Community Mental Health Agency

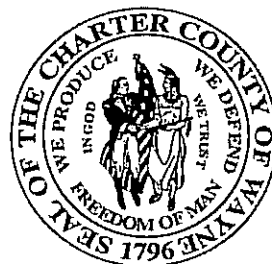
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December 4, 2012

Dear Reader:

This letter transmits the Pediatric Integrated Health Care (PIHC) Work Group's Concept Paper. The (PIHC) Work Group members reviewed the research on integrated health care models and best practices in collaborative service delivery for children and youth. As a result this concept paper presents recommendations for both physical and behavioral health care providers to consider in meeting the integrated health care needs of children and youth. It also sets forth a model framework for use in designing integrated pediatric care models. Additionally the PIHC Concept Paper provides guidance on developmentally appropriate screening tools for both pediatricians and behavioral health specialists to use to determine if problems requiring further assessment may be present.

Although, this document is intended to provide an overview of the issues related to integrated care for children and youth along with best practice recommendations, it is only a starting framework for health and behavioral health service providers. The health care landscape is rapidly changing as additional components of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) are implemented. New rules for implementing the ACA are also forthcoming at the federal level. New billing codes are being implemented in 2013 for behavioral health services and the new ICD-10 will be rolled out in 2013. At the state level the implementation of a health exchange, changes in scope of practice guidelines, and Medicaid guidelines and billing codes will continue to evolve over the next few years.

Overtime, these changes will further shape the structure of health care service delivery and payment mechanisms. All of these emerging issues require that providers be vigilant in monitoring the changing health care service delivery environment.

Sincerely,

Carlynn Nichols, LMSW

Director of Children's Initiatives

Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency

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