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THE BEACON CENTER
Local Management Entity for Mental Health,
Developmental Disabilities & Substance Abuse Services
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Karen Salacki, Area Director

MEMORANDUM

To: Provider Network
From: Linda Hawley, Director of Quality Assurance and Provider Relations
Date: September 2, 2010

As Hurricane Earl is coming towards our state this week it is a good reminder of our need to be prepared for Disasters. In order to ensure that all consumers receive adequate services during a disaster The Beacon Center collects the following items from all providers who have a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) or Contract with The Beacon Center:

- 1. An Annual copy of the Provider Participants for Disaster Shelters Form and submit it to the PR/QM Department (on website).**
- 2. An Annual copy of the agency's Disaster Plan. If you have an out of catchment MOA, then you submit the Disaster Plan only.**

In case of a disaster The Beacon Center will identify staff to contact the provider network to make arrangements for coverage at the local shelters (excerpted from page 58 of The Provider Operations Manual for the Beacon Center).

The following section in your current Memorandum of Agreement directs your cooperation in this matter:

“2.17 Response to Survivors of Disasters and other Hazards, If designated by Area Authority/County Program, Provider, under the direction of the Area Authority/County Program and in coordination with the local Emergency Management agency (ies) shall deploy behavioral health disaster responders to deliver behavioral health disaster services to survivors and other responders within the counties served by Area Authority/County Program. Behavioral health disaster services may be required at the site of a disaster, in emergency shelters, on the telephone/TTY machine, and other sites in which other disaster response agencies provide information or services to survivors and responders (e.g., FEMA Disaster Application Centers, emergency medical intervention, decontamination or quarantine sites). When it is determined that survivors or other disaster responders are in need of longer term mental health, developmental disabilities, and/or substance abuse services, Provider's behavioral health_disaster responders shall refer such persons in need to the Area Authority/County Program or its designee for further assistance.”

The above documents were due to our agency July 1, 2010. We have sent email requests, made announcements at Provider Meetings, sent letters and as of today we have still not received the documents from 28 of our Providers. If you have not submitted this for your agency please do so today. You can remit these documents to Gail Bieber, Provider Relations at the Beacon Center via email at GailBieber@thebeaconcenter.net or fax to her attention at 252-407-2450.

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