



**CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
DEPARTMENT FOR MEDICAID SERVICES**

Matthew G. Bevin
Governor

275 East Main Street, 6W-A
Frankfort, KY 40621
www.chfs.ky.gov

Adam M. Meier
Secretary

Carol H. Steckel, MPH
Commissioner

TO: Medicaid Advisory Council (MAC)
Sheila Schuster, Chair, Behavioral Health TAC

FROM: Carol Steckel, Commissioner *CS*

DATE: March 7, 2019

RE: Responses to the Behavioral Health TAC Recommendations Presented during the January 24, 2019 MAC meeting

In response to recommendations provided by the Behavioral Health TAC, as presented and approved at the January 24, 2019 MAC meeting, the Department for Medicaid Services (DMS) respectfully submits the following:

RECOMMENDATION 2019(09) – We recommend that in the case of an individual who is in a 1915 (c) Waiver and who is currently hospitalized or is in residential treatment and where there is a reasonable assumption that the individual will be moving back into the community, that the assessment of the individual should be completed in the facility where the individual is housed in order to retain his/her waiver status before the waiver year expires.

DMS Response – An assessment or reassessment can be initiated in a facility prior to discharge to facilitate the initiation of services. However, it is not complete and cannot be billed until the home visit is completed. Waiver services including the assessment or reassessment cannot be billed on the same day as an inpatient hospital, nursing facility, or other inpatient stay is billed. Additionally the performing of a reassessment is not sufficient for an individual to retain his/her slot in the waiver. The individual must be accessing and receiving services to retain the slot not just be deemed to meet Level of Care. DMS agrees with the concerns identified by the Behavioral Health TAC. We will continue to research ways to address this issue.

RECOMMENDATION 2019(09) – In order to aid the MAC in fulfilling its statutory responsibility in KRS 205.550 (3) to give advice regarding how to further the participation of recipient members in the policy development and program administration of Medicaid, we recommend that all MAC meetings be made available via Facebook Live or a similar modality to educate recipients and providers, informing them about changes in policies and programs and encouraging their participation through organizations represented on the MAC and the TACs to give their input.

DMS Response – The MAC (and also the TACs) are made up of various provider organizations, advocacy groups, and members. These individuals are there to represent these organization, groups and members and should be obtaining input from said organizations on what is happening and providing these organizations with information on what is happening in Medicaid. The meetings are certainly open to the public and available for anyone to attend. DMS is open to advice on how to include stakeholders as we currently do, more robustly in our policy making process. The MAC and the TACs are not the forum for these type of stakeholder interactions. The MAC and the TACs, as stated above, are opportunities for those appointed members to advise the Department.