



AspireMN

An association of resources and advocacy for children, youth and families

www.aspiremn.org

~ Pass this to colleagues and staff who would enjoy the updates, and encourage them to sign up to receive future updates by emailing rpeterson@aspiremn.org. ~

SEPTEMBER 7, 2018

FIRST FRIDAY – updates and ideas to share

MN LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

Fund Children’s Residential Mental Health – The first priority for the 2019 legislature is funding the \$550,725 needed to fund the gap for Children’s Residential Mental Health Treatment. A bill to address the deficiency funding for this critical service needs to pass in the first weeks of the session. **Please share this priority with legislative candidates and current legislators.** AspireMN is glad to support you to host site visits, meetings or engage informally as possible with your legislative representatives and candidates for office. An updated fact sheet is posted [here](#) for your use.

Say Yes & Invest – An initiative to address the need for sustainable community based mental health services is being designed by AspireMN and MACMHP. Once we have the basic framework for the initiative, we will be actively welcoming key partners and stakeholders to help fully shape and lead the efforts. Activities will include grassroots, media, and legislative engagement – all AspireMN members and supporters are needed to momentum and pass the legislation. The legislation will include a rate increase, establishment of a rate methodology and a payment floor to assure quality mental health services are accessible to all Minnesotans in need of mental health care. If you are interested in contributing communications or other campaign expertise from your organization, please contact Kirsten at kanderson@aspiremn.org.

FEDERAL UPDATES

The Federal Budget requires attention by the September 30 end of the federal fiscal year. Appropriators are working on a negotiated agreement between the Senate and House on the Labor/HHS/Education proposals. Concern continues around the Aderholt amendment that would allow organizations to discriminate against same sex couples and families in child welfare services based on the organization’s religious affiliation and beliefs. AspireMN has communicated our concerns to the MN delegation and continue to advocate for the final negotiation to not include this language.

EVENTS

AspireMN Leadership Retreat will be held at Madden’s Resort in Brainerd, MN Sept 13-14.

Youth Worker Conference, Oct 8-9 and [registration](#) has been extended to Sept 21. This agenda is not to miss – valuable content, inspiring stories, networking, and fun! Please register and share the opportunity with others in your network.

DON'T MISS THIS!

The National Council for Behavioral Health has released the advocacy guide, [Medicaid Managed Care Contracting](#) to provide community behavioral health providers and associations talking points and sample contract language related to each issue they may face to use with their state Medicaid agency to ensure Medicaid managed care will enhance behavioral health access. It also presents key challenges to help address common contracting issues. Access the full guide [here](#).

Save the Dates – 2018 Member Meetings and Conferences

- Annual Membership Meeting – November 8-9, Radisson in St Paul

FIELD-RELATED UPDATES

Update from the Behavioral Health Division of DHS We made the following update to the MHCP Provider Manual – Mental Health Services – [Adult Mental Health Targeted Case Management \(AMH-TCM\) and Children's Mental Health Targeted Case Management \(CMH-TCM\)](#) – The MHCP Provider Manual pages for adult and children's mental health targeted case management (AMH-TCM and CMH-TCM) have merged to form one resource for mental health targeted case management information.

COA Accreditation Savings Offered Based On the Family First Prevention Services Act -

COA is pleased to announce financial relief for organizations that are impacted by the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). We will provide an application fee refund for organizations that are mandated by FFPSA and are pursuing accreditation for the first time.

An organization must complete its application by **October 3rd, 2018** and fully execute its accreditation agreement by **October 31, 2018** in order to receive this benefit. Don't delay! [Request an application today!](#)

Important details (aka, the small print):

- A completed application includes the submission of the application, all required attachments and the application fee.
- A fully executed accreditation agreement includes electronically signing the accreditation agreement and receiving a countersigned agreement from COA. We countersign the accreditation agreement upon receipt of the initial payment of the accreditation fee. Accreditation fees must be paid by check.
- We will credit you the application fee (\$750) against a future fee and will do our best to process all credits by the end of 2018.
- Organizations that have already met this criteria since the passing of FFPSA will also receive this benefit.
- Only applicable to organizations pursuing accreditation for the first time. Organizations pursuing reaccreditation do not pay application fees and therefore are not eligible.

Other helpful hints:

- Determine if your organization is a member of a COA Sponsoring Organization. We will ask for this information on your application and membership entitles you to a 25% discount on the accreditation fee.
- Plan ahead for sending in your accreditation fee payment - account for the time it takes to cut a check at your organization and 2-4 days for delivery in the mail to COA.

Please send questions to zhutchinson@coanet.org or at 212-871-1972.

First Fridays will be shared monthly with members. Contributions are welcome. Please send your ideas for content to rpeteron@aspiremn.org.