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Date: February 4, 2011 DQA Memo 11-005
To: Certified Outpatient Mental Health Clinics CMHA 01
From: Mark Hale M.S.S.W., LCSW, ICS
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Listing of Mental Health Practitioners using Individual Provider Status Confirmation Letters

The Department of Health Services, Division of Quality Assurance, Behavioral Health Certification Section (BHCS) and the Bureau of Prevention, Treatment and Recovery (BPTR) have participated in a series of meetings with the Joint Board of Marriage and Family Therapy, Professional Counseling and Social Work (MPSW) and Department of Regulation and Licensing (DRL) staff regarding credentialing options for mental health practitioners currently providing psychotherapy, following confirmation of their training and clinical experience via the Individual Provider Status Application process.

Chapter DHS 35.03 (10) defines the “Mental Health Practitioner” as a “person who before January 1, 2012, holds a graduate degree from an accredited college or university in psychology, counseling, marriage and family therapy, social work, nursing or closely related field, and either has completed the applicable supervised practice requirements under ch. MPSW 4, 12, or 16, or Psy 2 or has 3,000 hours of supervised clinical post-graduate degree experience including at least 1,000 hours of face-to-face contact with consumers, and who commences work at a clinic required to be certified under this chapter no later than January 1, 2013.” Professionals meeting these requirements may continue to provide psychotherapy in State certified clinics.

The proposal under consideration of DRL and DHS representatives is to develop a category of “certification” for those mental health professionals with Individual Provider Status approval that would permit future movement into one of the MPSW licensure paths. The purpose of the proposed certification is to ensure that in the future such individuals will be required to complete continuing education requirements similar to those of licensed mental health professionals and to provide DRL the authority to discipline such certified individuals for acts of unprofessional conduct.

DRL and DHS staff request your assistance in identifying the number of professionals that practice psychotherapy in your certified clinic **using only the Individual Provider Status confirmation letter from BHCS**. This information will help to establish the number of

practitioners that provide psychotherapy services and help us disseminate important updates regarding the transition process. To avail yourself of this opportunity, please complete the short survey at the following link:

<http://4.selectsurve.net/DHS/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=72M0n58K>

Thank you for your assistance.

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