

CARBON-MONROE-PIKE MH/DS
DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES STATUS REPORT

June 2020

Early Intervention

During the COVID-19 pandemic as PA counties have been moving from red to yellow to green phases, the Office of Child Development and Early Learning has provided guidance. Our next steps include collaborating with service contractors and our neighboring Early Intervention programs, in order to plan consistent processes and information for families as our counties move to "Reopen Pennsylvania."

In an effort to institute coaching of parents and caregivers as the preferred method of service delivery to families of children who demonstrate developmental delays, CMP EI is completing our year under the Exploratory Coaching Award. In conjunction with that we are preparing for the FY 20-21 when our program will move to the Installation stage. During this stage, a group of Interventionists will commit to intensive training offered through the state by completing modules, practicing best practices of routines-based intervention, and participating in a Professional Learning Community. This process will be directed by OCDEL and overseen by our Early Intervention program.

Developmental Services

This is an extremely busy time of the year for the Developmental Services department. We are actively involved with completing the fiscal year renewal process. Currently, there are approximately 250 ISPs pending approval from the Administrative Entity. In addition to fiscal year renewal, the Support Coordinators are working closely with families and providers to develop individual plans for services post-COVID. The department has been making contact with day programs to determine what they are doing to prepare for their re-opening and offer support as needed. We are also moving through the routine matters of locating respite in crisis situations, further complicated by COVID and many providers closing off their residential programs out of safety concerns.

Additionally, we have been working diligently to enroll eligible 2020 graduates into the waiver program. Nine out of fourteen graduates are currently moving through the waiver enrollment process. A plan has been developed to address the remaining five graduates. Despite Kalahari being closed due to COVID, Project Search conducted interviews for the next school year. Four individuals enrolled with CMP MH/DS have been accepted into the program, which is the highest number we have seen in quite some time.

In May, the Administrative Entity completed six intakes for individuals interested in Support Coordination. The Carbon-Monroe-Pike Regional Collaborative hosted two events to provide social activities for individuals during COVID-19. The first event was an art contest where 41 entries were received. The top three winners were recognized, and their artwork has been submitted as an attachment to this report. The second event was a virtual variety show where individuals were given an opportunity to showcase their talents. One individual played the piano while others sang and danced. The Regional Collaborative is looking to host a virtual karaoke session in upcoming weeks.

Personnel

In Monroe County, one Support Coordinator position was filled and two remain vacant. Kristy Trautman was announced as the Deputy DS Administrator, leaving her position of Intake and Eligibility Coordinator vacant. Interviews will be scheduled to fill this opening in the near future.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy Trautman

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Deputy DS Administrator
CMP MH/DS