

**CARBON-MONROE-PIKE MHDS PROGRAM
HEALTHCHOICES DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORT**

March 2021

I. HealthChoices Department

The HealthChoices Department and Community Care are working to implement the Community Based Care Management (CBCM) requirements. We are in the process of contracting with the Pocono Mountains United Way to assist in directing members to housing and transportation resources. The goal is to work with ambulatory and inpatient mental health (IPMH) providers across the three counties to insure better connection to services at discharge and to prevent readmissions to IPMH facilities.

II. Community Care

CMP HC and Community Care continue to hold regular meetings to review program operations, fiscal monitoring, network development, quality and clinical issues. These meetings occur at varying intervals and on an ad hoc basis to insure the HealthChoices program continues to operate successfully in CMP.

Community Care is also working to address other CBCM requirements. They will be responsible for hiring and overseeing the work of regional Care Managers to address the specific needs of high risk members. A primary focus will be on maternal behavioral health. The regional Care Manager will work closely with the maternal and family health providers in the joinder to address any behavioral health issues pregnant women and new mothers may face.

III. Operations Update

We continue to monitor the network of providers (inpatient and ambulatory) to insure that members' needs can be addressed as the requirements of the pandemic ease. We are still seeing a predominate amount of services being delivered "virtually," but do expect to see that increase. We are also watching employment trends that all employers seem to be facing and are working with CCBH and the Department of Human Services to figure a way to improve the rates in a way that will allow providers to increase salaries/attract and maintain staff.

Respectfully submitted,

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