



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

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May 19, 2015

To: Local Mental Health Authority (LMHA)
Executive Directors

From: Trina Ita, Director 
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Division, Program Services Section

Re: Youth Empowerment Services (YES) Waiver Denial of Clinical Eligibility

Purpose

The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) YES waiver implemented a change to the Clinical Management for Behavioral Health Services (CMBHS) that affects the level of care (LOC) authorization when clinical eligibility for Youth Empowerment Service (YES) is denied. This change was effective May 18, 2015.

YES Waiver Denial of Clinical Eligibility

As part of the enrollment/re-enrollment process for YES, the Local Mental Health Authority (LMHA) submits the clinical eligibility document through CMBHS to DSHS for approval.

When a clinical eligibility for YES is denied by DSHS, CMBHS will change the LOC-A from LOC-YES to LOC-4. LOC-4 has been identified as the most appropriate option as this is most reflective of the array of services available in LOC-YES. If the LMHA determines that LOC-4 is not the appropriate LOC the LMHA must authorize a different LOC; this may require a new Texas Resilience and Recovery (TRR) Uniform Assessment and authorization.

This change will prevent children with Medicaid from being placed on the waitlist due to a CMBHS business rule that currently changes the LOC-A YES to LOC-A of 8.

For questions or further information regarding the YES Waiver, please contact Jennifer Martinez at JenniferM.Martinez@dshs.state.tx.us or (512) 206-5864.