Community Services Technical Update

ABX2-1 - 4-5 Bed ARM Rate Schedule

August 17, 2016

Legislative Change

On July 1, 2016, Assembly Bill X2-1 changed the traditional Alternative Residential Model (ARM) from a six bed rate to a four and five bed rate schedule. In conjunction with the rate schedule change, Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC), Section 4681.5 was amended.

Current Situation

On August 11, 2016, further clarity of the legislative change was provided by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). Unfortunately, it was provided after the CCF provider training held in Perris and differs slightly to what was stated at that training. Each community care facility’s (CCF) rate schedule as of July 1, 2016, will be established and set at either the four or five bed rate, depending on the number of clients in the facility.

In the next week, your Quality Assurance Liaison will be making contact with each CCF Licensee to discuss the current ARM rate schedule. They will ask how many clients are in the home and the desired intentions regarding the new rate schedule for each home (do you want a four bed home or one that can have up to six clients). In order to make the determination, IRC has created a spreadsheet for each ARM level showing the 4 and 5 bed rate, as well as the rate with a full 4 bed facility and the 5 bed rate for a home with 5 and 6 clients respectively.

Information will be gathered for each of the 450 CCFs. IRC will then look at the totality of the residential resources, as well as the consumer and vendor needs and make further decisions on how it will continue to implement the Placement Policy, with respect to the WIC amendment.

In the meantime, IRC has been taking calls from vendors wanting to give clients a 30 Day Notice, so they can decrease their census and obtain the four bed rate. We are not able to meet those requests, as we need to assess our available resources and determine how we can not
only meet the consumer’s needs but also meet the needs of our CCF vendor community, as a whole.

For those vendors who were improperly assessed the 5 bed rate, when you had four or less clients, your rate will be retroactively restored to the 4 bed rate to July 1, 2016. Please allow for some time for the corrections to be made. For billing, rate or general questions related to the ARM rate schedule, please contact your Quality Assurance Liaison.

Vince Toms
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