

DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES

Notice of Public Meeting to Seek Public Input on:

Proposed N.J.A.C. 10:37A, Community Residences for Adults with Mental Illness, and N.J.A.C. 10:37B, Community Support Services for Adults with Mental Illness, with Amendments to Related Licensing Provisions at N.J.A.C. 10:190

Date: January 5, 2015

Time: 1-4 p.m.

Location: New Jersey Forensic Science Technology Center, 1200 Negron Drive, Hamilton, NJ 08691

The Department of Human Services', Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (Division) will submit a Notice of Proposed New Rules, Proposed Repeals and New Rules, and Proposed Recodifications with Amendment regulating Supervised Residences and Community Support Services for persons with mental illnesses.

The Division anticipates the proposal to be published in the New Jersey Register. Pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act, the public will have 60 days following the publication to submit written comments regarding this proposal.

However, because the contributions of all stakeholders in the mental health system and of the general public is vital to the process and because this proposal represents certain changes from the existing system, the Division is holding the above referenced public meeting, as additional opportunity to obtain and consider public input.

At this public meeting, the public will be invited to present verbal commentary, which will be recorded by a court stenographer. The Division encourages commenters to also submit their comments in writing, either at the public meeting or by mailing them to:

Lisa Ciaston, Legal Liaison
Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services
PO Box 700
Trenton, NJ 08625-0700

Written comments that are mailed must be received no later than January 31, 2015, to be considered by the Division.

The proposed rulemaking includes the following areas of change:

- Codifies standards that reflect the transformation from merged housing and treatment services to services and housing supports determined by individuals' need that was initiated by the Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid in

June of 2011, as well as changes introduced through Federal and State initiatives and regulations. The SPA approved the creation of specific rehabilitation services, that is, community support services for adults with mental illness.

- Reflects federal law and current trends in the field requiring that consumers be afforded greater autonomy and choice (where feasible) in their recovery process.
- Makes greater distinctions between supervised housing, the traditional form of community housing with treatment initiated under the Community Mental Health Services Act, and supportive housing, an evidence based intervention for people living with mental illness in the community. Supervised housing includes the programs funded by the state historically to house people in group and individual homes and apartments and permits economies of scale and careful monitoring of treatment, and so is still a necessary component of the safety net for consumers to live in the most integrated setting possible. However, supportive housing provides rehabilitation services (supportive housing services, some of which will hereby be called community support services and be reimbursable under the Medicaid program) provided at the level needed by each consumer while the consumer lives in housing that is more normalized than the traditional group housing model. A consumer receiving supportive housing or community support services ideally will reside in a home or apartment which s/he owns or leases with or without a subsidy from the state or the federal government.

During the public meeting, commenters may offer input on the above items and/or other issues regarding the community support system.

Register to attend the public meeting: <https://njsams.rutgers.edu/training/npm/register.aspx>