



Network Notification

Date: March 11, 2014

Number: KY-P-2014-06

To: Participating Health Care Providers

From: Humana – CareSource®

Subject: Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities - Importance of PRTF II

Overview:

A psychiatric residential treatment facility (PRTF) is a licensed program for children diagnosed with pervasive mental illness who have not been successful with less restrictive community-based services. Though not a hospital, a PRTF provides 24-hour awake staff supervision and individualized therapeutic and educational programming. A PRTF can be licensed as either level I or level II, depending on the level of care (LOC) offered. Both levels meet Kentucky licensure requirements and both adhere to system-of-care principles.

PRTF II was a concept developed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Department of Intellectual Disabilities (DBHDID) in 2010 to address the needs of more than 300 Kentucky Medicaid recipients receiving treatment in out-of-state facilities. Treatment from providers outside the state is necessary when the collective treatment resources in Kentucky have been exhausted. Specialty populations identified for PRTF services are based on the needs and clinical profiles of children receiving out-of-state care. These profiles include children that are sexually reactive, children with severe and persistent aggressive behaviors and children with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities with an intelligence quotient lower than 70.

Humana – CareSource Commitment to PRTF II:

Humana – CareSource recognizes the essential role behavioral health providers play in the continuum of care. Providers have an important role in their delivery of quality care and addressing the emotional well-being of each member. Residential and intensive behavioral health service providers are critical to the well-being of our most vulnerable members and to our comprehensive health care system. Humana – CareSource recognizes the value of PRTF II and encourages behavioral health providers to actively pursue this needed treatment service. Humana – CareSource is prepared and willing to collaborate with behavioral health agencies that are eligible to be PRTF II providers.



Level of Care and Admission Criteria for PRTF I and PRTF II:

PRTFs are less restrictive than an acute or subacute psychiatric hospital environment, but more restrictive and structured than partial hospitalization programs or outpatient services. PRTF II is less restrictive than PRTF I as there is no maximum bed number and it is not required to be a freestanding structure but can be co-located with a hospital. Provision of services is comprehensive in the treatment approach and includes multi-disciplinary, concurrent multi-modal therapies, as well as the use of community resources for planned, purposeful and therapeutic activities that encourage autonomy and the achievement of overall treatment specific goals.

PRTF program levels are differentiated in the specific clinical populations served, applicable local legislation and state licensing regulations. However, minimal criteria include residents receiving specialized and structured therapeutic interventions and programming individualized according to a resident's emotional, behavioral and educational needs. Services are provided on an inpatient (nonhospital) basis and under the supervision of a qualified physician with the goal of preventing further regression and/or improving overall age appropriate functioning.

PRTF I facilities provide inpatient psychiatric residential treatment to residents ages 6 to 21 who have experienced multiple out-of-home placements and psychiatric readmissions. PRTF I facilities have a maximum of nine beds and must be located in a freestanding structure that is not part of a hospital location.

PRTF II facilities are not restricted to nine beds and may be located in a separate part of a hospital. The PRTF II facility serves children with greater cognitive challenges that require long-term placement due to their inability to progress using standard treatment regimens. PRTF II provides inpatient psychiatric residential treatment to children ages 4 to 21 who:

- Have a severe emotional disability in addition to severe and persistent aggressive behaviors, an intellectual disability, sexually acting out behaviors or a developmental disability; and
- Do not meet the medical necessity criteria for an acute care hospital, private psychiatric hospital or state mental hospital.

The state established both PRTF I and II reimbursement rates. The per diem rates for these children vary based on 907 KAR 9:010; consideration of per diem rates takes into account the child's age, gender, severity of behaviors and level of intellectual disability with the highest per diem rates going to those children with the most severe needs.

In 2013, through collaboration with several PRTF I providers, Humana – CareSource authorized care for 23 unique members, with an average 100-day length of stay per treatment episode.

Our approval rates exceed 99 percent, with only two denials that occurred as a result of treatment no longer being medically necessary; these decisions were mutually determined with the treating provider.



Humana – CareSource works to remove barriers for providers, families and members in accessing needed care by implementing open benefits. We continually engage with our behavioral health service providers through coordination of care and administrative collaboration.

While PRTF II facilities continue to develop, should a Humana – CareSource member require intensive services, Humana – CareSource will collaborate with PRTF I and community providers to address the treatment needs of our members.

If you have questions or want more information, please contact 1-855-708-4835 or email kentuckybinfo@caresource.com.