



Department of Alcohol &
Drug Addiction Services



Department of
Mental Health

Orman Hall, ODADAS Director • John R. Kasich, Governor • Tracy J. Plouck, ODMH Director

July 10, 2012

Dear Stakeholders:

Since the announcement of the consolidation of ODADAS and ODMH, we have been busy with several important projects, including the transition of Medicaid payments from MACSIS to MITS, statewide opiate town hall meetings, state hospital bed day planning and preparation to begin State Fiscal Year 13. We've also worked with Governor Kasich and the Office of Health Transformation to achieve benefits for the field in the administration's Mid-Biennium Review, including additional funding of \$6 million total in subsidy for non-Medicaid services, new Medicaid services to help with the treatment of opiate addiction, and a significant capital investment of \$10 million to help improve housing stock for individuals with mental illness.

In addition, discussion and planning for the consolidation of ODADAS and ODMH has continued. In order to maintain our commitment to keep you updated on the progress of the consolidation efforts, we wanted to provide you with a status check on how things are going so far. We are very excited about the consolidation of functions between the two departments and the resulting opportunities for streamlining our work and providing better service to the field.

Fiscal Update

The first back office function to be consolidated was fiscal management. The fiscal divisions have been co-located since October 2011 and have developed a very close working relationship that includes streamlining work processes. One example of the work resulted in a joint allocation guidelines communication to the field that gives a broader cross-agency fiscal picture. The community should see additional benefits from this consolidation in FY13 including:

- A single approach to reporting.
- An integrated method of communication that is responsive to community needs; and
- A single point of accountability.

Beginning FY 13, ODMH and ODADAS will perform one unified sub-recipient monitoring onsite review at least once every three years and issue one integrated summary report per board visit; however, rare circumstances may warrant additional focused reviews. The combined review process will not result in additional board preparation or extend the length of the onsite review. Additionally, there will be a single point of contact for document submissions required to perform the review and for responding to the summary report. During FY 13, options that may reduce the length and depth of the current review process will be explored and implemented. Stay tuned for more detailed information from the fiscal divisions around these processes and new points of contacts.

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Rules and Policy

In July, ODMH will be adopting the ODADAS approach to policy discussions with stakeholders prior to Ohio Administrative Code rules being introduced or amended. As you may be aware, ODADAS hosts a public meeting where concerns or question related to upcoming rule and policy changes are discussed. With ODMH adopting this approach, we will provide a single place for stakeholders to express ideas and concerns and this should lead to a consistent approach that will help set priorities and foster partnerships.

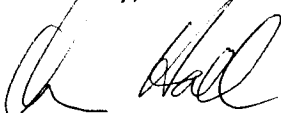
The next ODADAS Rules and Policy is scheduled for July 20, 2012, at 10:00 am in the training room at ODADAS. The committee typically meets on a monthly basis. If you are interested in being part of this joint collaborative please contact Jim Lapczynski at james.lapczynski@ada.ohio.gov or Michaela Peterson at michaela.peterson@mh.ohio.gov.

Constituency Outreach

The establishment of a single public affairs team has already resulted in several collaborative efforts. Most recently, our team worked together on the launch of a new website that will provide you with the most up-to-date information about the merger. Please take some time to view the website at <http://adamh.ohio.gov/> and provide us with feedback.

We remain committed to a thoughtful approach to agency consolidation that is focused on better outcomes for the people we serve. In closing, we would encourage you to share your feedback with us via the consolidation survey, which can be accessed from the consolidation website or via a direct link at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ConsolidationSurvey>. Please note that survey responses are anonymous. If you have a question for which you would like a direct answer, please email us at consolidationquestions@mh.ohio.gov. The survey will be open until July 13, 2012.

Sincerely,



Orman Hall
Director



Tracy Plouck
Director