

AMENDED PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. § 447.205, the Georgia Department of Community Health is required to give public notice of any significant proposed change in its methods and standards for setting payment rates for services.

PSYCHIATRIC RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT FACILITIES

Effective January 1, 2007, Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTFs) will be reimbursed based on a prospective, provider-specific per diem subject to a maximum amount set by the Department. Rates will be based on allowable costs as reported by the PRTF to the Department. Cost information will be submitted annually using a uniform cost report form prescribed by the Department and supported by the facility's most recent certified financial audit. Rates for new PRTFs will be based on the median rate of existing PRTF providers until annual PRTF cost information can be submitted to the Department. Per Diem rates may be adjusted annually for inflation and applied to the most recent cost report data as appropriate.

The purpose of this change is to comply with federal requirements related to the provision of intensive mental health services for children in residential settings. This change is estimated to be budget neutral.

This public notice is available for review at each county Department of Family and Children Services office. An opportunity for public comment will be held on **December 5, 2006, 10 a.m.**, at the Department of Community Health, 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., 40th Floor Board Room, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Individuals who are disabled and need assistance to participate during this meeting should call (404) 656-4479. Citizens wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes should do so on or before **December 7, 2006**, to the Board of Community Health, Post Office Box 38406, Atlanta, Georgia 30334.

Comments submitted will be available for review by the public at the Department of Community Health, Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in Room 4074, 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Comments will be summarized and provided to the Board of Community Health prior to the December 14, 2006 Board meeting. The Board will vote on the proposed changes after comments have been received. The December Board meeting will be held at **10:30 a.m.** in the Floyd Room of the Twin Towers Building, 20th Floor, West Tower, 200 Piedmont Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2006

Rhonda M. Medows, M.D., Commissioner