



ALCOHOL, DRUG & MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
MARYE L. THOMAS, M.D., DIRECTOR

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May 1st, 2007

Dear Program Directors,

The Peer Review Process for both Community Based and County Operated Programs funded through BHCS has been a mandatory function which historically has had little if any impact either on the operation of individual programs or the mental health system as a whole. Many programs have used the process to focus on individual cases or aspects of individual cases. While this may have lead to increased clinical insight and effectiveness in the specific cases or practice areas reviewed; this valuable dialogue has not been cultivated or mined for the benefit of a larger effort toward Quality Improvement in our Mental Health system.

A committee comprised of program directors, line staff, Q.A. staff and other interested parties has worked over the last 8 months to develop a Peer Review Plan which we believe will be an important piece in the effort to truly integrate our services for clients, learn from each other how best to meet their needs, and cultivate a culture of learning and continuous improvement throughout our entire system of care.

The Q.A. Department has scheduled the following meeting times to orient clinical management staff to the New Peer Review process which will be implemented July 1, 2007. Staff who attend these trainings should be those who are identified within their agencies as Peer Review Coordinators and will be responsible for implementation and training at their individual sites. Each agency can send one employee. This training will be the first in a Series of 4 trainings that will be done during the coming fiscal year. The expectation is for the same staff to attend all four meetings.

Please select the first training that you wish to attend from the following list and RSVP to Tiffany Lynch, QA Secretary, 510.567.8105 Seats at each training will be limited to 8-10/session to provide plenty of time and space for questions, answers.
We look forward to the process!

Sincerely,

Kyree Klimist, LMFT, BHCS
Clint Nix, LCSW, BHCS
Carla Danby, LCSW, BHCS
Ellen Muir, LCSW, BHCS

Grace Oakes, MFTI, BACS
Basil Bernstein, M.D., Consultant
Art Hom, LCSW, BHCS



A Department of Alameda County Health Care Service Agency