



ALCOHOL, DRUG & MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
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Memorandum

Date: November 16, 2011

To: Children System of Care and Transitional Age Youth System of Care Providers

From: Kyree Klimist, MFT, Quality Assurance Associate Administrator
Quality Assurance Office, ACBHCS

Re: Katie A. et al v. State Defendants Class Action Settlement Agreement

Purpose of this Memo

This memo alerts you to your responsibilities as a contracted provider with Alameda County Behavioral Health Services in regard to the *Settlement Agreement*¹ that has been reached in the Class Action lawsuit, ***Katie A., et al v. State of California Defendants***.

1. It is your responsibility per United States District Court, to post and make easily accessible to consumers, the *Settlement Agreement* and the *Notice of Proposed Settlement Agreement and Settlement Hearing*².
2. The notice and the settlement with all its appendices must be made available in both English and Spanish.
3. The notice and entire settlement must be posted in prominent locations in all county and county contracted providers' offices that provide mental health services to children and youth.

Description of the Group of People this Decision may Affect

1. Children and youth who are in foster care or are at imminent risk³ of foster care placement, and
2. Children and youth who have a mental illness or condition that has been documented or, had an assessment already been conducted, would have been documented, and
3. Children and youth who need individualized mental health services, including but not limited to professionally acceptable assessments, behavioral support and case management services, family support, crisis support, therapeutic foster care, and other medically necessary services in the home or in a home-like setting, to treat or ameliorate their illness or condition.

¹ See attached "Settlement Agreement"

² See attached "Notice of Proposed Settlement Agreement and Settlement Hearing"

³For the purpose of this case "imminent risk of foster care placement" means that within the last 180 days a child has been participating in voluntary family maintenance services or voluntary family reunification placements and/or has been the subject of either a telephone call to the Child Protective Services agency regarding suspicions of abuse, neglect, or abandonment.



Lawsuit Summary

The plaintiffs filed a class action suit on July 18, 2002 alleging violations of federal Medicaid laws, the American with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and California Government Code Section 11135. The suit sought to improve the mental health and supportive service for children and youth in foster care in California or at imminent risk of placement in foster care. A copy of the entire settlement agreement and accompanying proposed Stipulated Judgment can be found at the following websites:

http://www.dmh.ca.gov/Services_and_Programs/Children_and_Youth/KatieA.asp.

If you have questions about this notice or the settlement, you may also contact lawyers for the children and young adults by: (1) calling the following toll-free number-1-800-405-8759-and leaving a message, (2) sending a letter addressed to *Katie A. Counsel*, P.O. Box 70040, Los Angeles, CA 90070, or (3) sending an email to: **KatieA.Settlement@gmail.com**.