Topic: Developmental Disabilities

Subject: ODDS Extension of COVID-19 Related Exceptions

Applies to (check all that apply):

- All DHS employees
- Area Agencies on Aging: {Select type}
- Aging and People with Disabilities
- Self Sufficiency Programs
- County DD program managers
- Support Service Brokerage Directors
- ODDS Children’s Residential Services
- Child Welfare Programs
- County Mental Health Directors
- Health Services
- Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS)
- ODDS Children’s Intensive In Home Services
- Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU)
- Other (please specify): Support Services Brokerages; Providers and Provider Organizations, including ORA, CPAO, and SEIU

Action required: Case Management Entities (CMEs) must update the service authorization in eXPRS for service hours or service rates based on a COVID-19-related exception for residential settings and in-home plans.

Authorization end dates may be updated to extend up to the end of the CPA or Plan of Care period, as necessary and appropriate. For example, if an individual has a CPA ending April 30, 2021, then the COVID-related exception may be extended to align with this date- April 30, 2021. New CPAs or Plans of Care created should authorize the exceptional hours or rates until further notice, with the end date aligning with the planned authorization period.

Services Coordinators and Personal Agents need to conduct a review to determine if the individual continues to require the additional support hours or increased funding before authorizing an extension.

For exceptions specific to residential services settings, the following conditions must apply for the exception to remain valid:
• The condition or situation requiring the exceptional funding continues to apply to the individual;
• The individual continues to need an exceptional level of support, consistent with the amount of additional support as approved in the original exception request approved by the Department; AND
• The provider continues to provide the level of exceptional support as indicated in the exceptional funding request.

For those individuals who no longer require exceptional supports, the end date of the exception funding should coincide with the date the additional support was no longer needed, or the provider no longer provided the exceptional support, whichever is earlier.

**Reason for action:** The current state of emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact communities. CARES Act and other state of emergency resources are available until the end of 2020. In many situations, the conditions that resulted in the need for an exception continue to apply. Services Coordinators and Personal Agents may authorize the extension of the COVID-19-related exceptions that continue to be needed.

Please note: Extensions are being authorized through the current or next CPA or POC period, but the exception authorization may be ended prior to the dates in eXPRS at the discretion and direction of ODDS.

**Field/stakeholder review:** □ Yes ☒ No

If yes, reviewed by:

*If you have any questions about this action request, contact:*

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