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Office of Dixon Court Monitor

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May 7, 2010

Mr. Stephen T. Baron, Director
Division of Mental Health
64 New York Avenue NE
4th Floor
Washington, DC 20002

Re: Evidence of Compliance with Exit Criterion #14 – Provision of Services to Children & Youth with Serious Emotion Disturbance (SED) in Natural Settings

Dear Mr. Baron,

I have reviewed your letter of March 9, 2010, which requests that the Court Monitor find that DMH has achieved the required performance levels for Exit Criterion #14 and that the Court Monitor should therefore cease active monitoring on #14.

In review of the March 9, 2010, letter the Court Monitor finds that: 1) the DMH has met the requirements for policy and practice; 2) the DMH has met the data validation requirements for this measure; and 3) DMH has achieved the required performance levels for this Criterion. The performance requirements for #14 are two-fold. First, the DMH must achieve a penetration rate for SED children/youth of at least 2.5%. The DMH has documented that for the four quarters of FY '09 it has achieved a penetration rate of 2.56%; this rate is based upon MHR'S claims submitted as of March 4, 2010. The second performance requirement is that DMH must document that a minimum of 75% of children/youth who are served by DMH had a service in a natural setting. For the same FY '09 period, DMH has documented that 2226 (out of the total of 2925 SED children/youth served) were provided a service in a natural setting. This 76.1% performance level exceeds the required 75% performance threshold.

Based on these findings, the Court Monitor finds that the District has met all of the required performance elements for Exit Criterion #14 and should therefore move to inactive status on this measure.

Sincerely,

Dennis R. Jones, MSW, MBA
Dixon Court Monitor

cc: Anthony Herman, Counsel to the Plaintiffs
Iris Gonzales, Counsel to the Plaintiffs
Grace Graham, Counsel for the Defendants
Robert Duncan, Counsel for the Court Monitor