



Frequently Asked Questions about the Future of the DC Community Services Agency (DC CSA)

Part Two
October 6, 2008

1. What part/role did the DC CSA play in this decision or did they just allow it to happen?

Employees, labor leaders, and consumers of the DC CSA were active participants in focus groups and discussions during the six months of review and analysis conducted by KPMG. As DMH develops the implementation plan over the next three months, DC CSA will be included in all the transition teams, with particular focus on consumer transition and care coordination.

2. Why is the DCCSA compared to the other agencies in the KPMG Report?

In preparing the report to the Council regarding the future governance of the DC CSA, DMH conducted an evaluation of the public mental health system that was contemplated more than seven years ago by the Council and the Court. This required a comparative analysis of DC CSA and DMH private providers to determine whether there was a difference between consumers served by the DC CSA and private providers, access to care issues and cost factors. The Report did not indicate any differences except that the DC CSA served about 10% more uninsured individuals.

3. Will additional resources be allocated to the Human Resources Department during the transition?

Yes. Wanda Green, senior manager in Human Resources Office, has been designated the operations manager for the employee assistance program. In addition, two human resources staff members will be on site within ten days.

4. What happens to staff with only a few years of service – no early out or incentive plan?

All rights associated with a Reduction-in-Force as outlined in the District's personnel regulations, including payment of severance and accrued leave, will apply. In addition, the Human Resources Office is seeking opportunities for job placement within DMH and other government agencies with similar positions as well as outside the government. At this time, the early out retirement plan now offered through December 31, 2008 does not include an incentive payment.

5. How will resources be allocated for the indigent population?

No consumer currently receiving care will be denied service due to inability to pay. In fact, under a redesigned public mental health system, the number of people eligible to be served will increase with an expanded mental health benefit under the District's Healthcare Alliance.

6. Is DMH going to take an active role in the improvement of these new agencies?

DMH will be responsible for monitoring, licensing and regulating private providers as it does now. The Office of Accountability has a vigorous system of certification, audits and reviews in place and will have stepped up oversight during the first years of implementation.

We will post other Frequently Asked Questions as they are received. You can direct questions to Cathy Anderson at the Mental Health Authority who will be leading the transition office. She can be reached at (202) 673.7513 and Catherine.anderson@dc.gov.