

# Hamilton County MCSA Quarterly Update - July 2005

ADAS + Choices + JFS + Juvenile Court + MHB + MRDD

## What's in this issue:

*New MCSA Website*

*Changes to Oversight Committee*

*Medicaid Success*

## Updates & Accomplishments

**Oversight Committee Changes** – Donna Saunders of ADAS took a high level position in Butler County and left the Oversight committee. Linda Gallagher is her new replacement, Welcome to Linda!

**New MCSA Website** – The MCSA has a new web site - visit the JFS home page at [www.hcjfs.hamilton-co.org/](http://www.hcjfs.hamilton-co.org/), click on Community Providers, then select MCSA. If you have any suggestions to make the site more useful please contact Joan.



**Contractual Reduced Enrollment** – As spelled out in the amended contract with Choices, the project's census is being reduced beginning July 1, 2005. The average daily number of case rate (including legacy rate) cases is being reduced from 240 to 234. The number of fee-for-service cases is dropping from 14 to 8. These reductions came about to accommodate cutbacks MRDD is implementing throughout their system in response to reduced funding.

**CANS Update** – A final "Hamilton County" version of the CANS was completed at the end of June. Choices and several providers are training staff and beginning to use the instrument for case planning and review. The MCSA Oversight Committee is beginning to examine ways in which the CANS may assist with enrollment decision making. For additional information contact Courtney.

**Medicaid Success** – Choices has a unique contract structure for Community Mental Health Medicaid because they have a set amount of local match, and if it is exceeded Choices must pay the difference. Because services are agreed to by the entire Child and Family Team at the monthly meetings, everyone is on the same page about what services will be provided and billed. These two elements combine to let Choices project how much Medicaid is being billed and work with providers

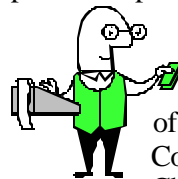
who are consistently exceeding the Child and Family Team agreed to amounts.

For State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2004 and SFY 2005 Medicaid billings are well below what was "authorized" in the Child and Family Team Meetings. These periods are not yet closed so the numbers are not final. In contrast, during SFY 2003 (just before Choices turned attention to Medicaid) billings were well in excess of "authorizations."

This is of interest statewide as an effective way to manage Community Mental Health Medicaid.

**FAST '06** – The State of Ohio included a continued FAST '06 funding stream within the ABC program. The amounts and procedures are the same as for FAST '05. About 35 Choices enrollees are enrolled in FAST at any point in time. The FAST funds are set up to provide wraparound services to multi-system youth who are not in paid placement. The program also emphasizes Parent Advocacy. Ann Klein of Choices is the lead contact for FAST.

**Review & Audit Committee** – This may sound like a dull group but participants are very interested! The met and will be working on streamlining monitoring of provider contract compliance and other shared work to prevent duplication of effort and improve collaboration.



The group includes Linda Ziegler and Evelyn Sears of the MHB, Dave Buchanan of MRDD, Lee Anne Cooksey of JFS, Maria Laib and John Shore of Juvenile Court, Nina Lewis and Temple Parker of Choices, and Courtney and Joan from the MCSA. During the coming quarter the committee will be meeting with a couple of providers for input on how to simplify procedures without compromising results.

## Coming Up

**SACWIS** - SACWIS stands for Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System and is being implemented in Ohio by the Department of Job and Family Services. The system is being designed at this time, will be piloted later this year, and will be implemented in Hamilton County in late 2006. SACWIS will allow ODJFS to more accurately track services, costs, and outcomes.



All providers and services for children with an open case in JFS Childrens Services will be entered and tracked. JFS and the MCSA will be planning and testing the best ways to enter all JFS data, including the providers and services for Choices enrollees.

You will probably be hearing more about SACWIS as implementation approaches. If you have any questions, please contact an MCSA representative.

**Mental Health Parity** – The Ohio Legislature is once again considering parity for Mental Health as a requirement for private insurance plans. Senate Bill 116 requires insurers to provide the same coverage for mental illness as physical illness with a provision of cost increases of no more than 1%. For additional information contact Joan.

**Annual Performance Report** – Choices annual performance report will be available within the next month. Trends in areas such as the use of Residential Treatment, locally based care, and other areas of interest will be included.

### Upcoming Meetings:

- MCSA Oversight Committee (Referral) 7/27 @ 1:00, 8/10 @ 1:00, 8/31 @ 1:00, September meetings to be determined.
- MCSA Director's Meeting, 7/18 @ 8:00 a.m.
- Review and Audit Committee 8/11 @ 2:00

## Other Intersystem Updates

**Parent Advocacy** – Parent advocacy is being developed in Hamilton County. Informational meetings are being scheduled for August 3 at Hamilton Choices. If you would like additional information please contact Joan.

### RT (residential treatment) Summit –

<http://www.hcjfs.hamilton-co.org/> click on community providers, summit update.

**Transitioning Services Workgroup** – The Transitioning Services Workgroup completed Phase 1 of its work, in which Choices, UM and FAP identified barriers that impact the seamless transitioning of cases between these systems and sought ways to improve collaboration. As Phase 2 begins, representatives from each of the MCSA funding agencies are joining the workgroup as it seeks to 1) pilot a Transitioning Checklist Tool, to be used as youth transition between Care Coordinating Entities, 2) clarify and operationalize referral criteria for Choices, and 3) develop strategies for improving service alternatives and delivery.

**MindPeace** – MindPeace continues to meet monthly to work on improving services in Hamilton County. For additional details and meeting information visit [www.mindpeacecincinnati.org](http://www.mindpeacecincinnati.org).

**Awards Ceremonies** – Choices held its annual awards ceremony on April 28. Sara Harperink took the “most dedicated to Choices mission” award. For additional details visit the Choices web site at [www.choicesteam.org](http://www.choicesteam.org), click on News and Events.

The Hamilton County Community Mental Health Board had its annual awards banquet on May 24. Several individuals who have made valuable contributions to Mental Health in Hamilton County were recognized.



Mary Rose Geckle of the Mental Health Board won a Career Achievement Award from the local chapter of the American Society for Public Administration on April 29.

**Referral and Census Charts** – Page 3 includes some data for your information. The top half of the page is summary data for all referrals made to Choices since January 2003, and does not include “transferred” or legacy cases. This information is from Tracy’s referral data base.

The charts at the bottom of the page show some information from the Census report by quarter. Case rate and legacy rate enrollees are those for which a flat rate is paid per day, while the fee for service enrollees are paid on an expense reimbursement arrangement. The number of enrollees over 18 is declining as is the number of legacy cases. This is due to the hard work of Choices and the Oversight Committee on improving transitions.



## MCSA Team Contact Information:

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## Referral Profile for *Hamilton Choices*: January 22, 2003 to June 30, 2005

<b>Kids Referred since 1/22/03</b>	<b>Total Referred:</b> 309 <b>Accepted &amp; Enrolled:</b> 300 <b>Accepted &amp; Waiting to Enroll:</b> 0 <b>Denied:</b> 9	
<b>Average Age</b>	<b>14.01</b>	
<b>Gender</b>	<b>Male:</b> 189 (61%)	<b>Female:</b> 120 (39%)
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>African-American:</b> 171 (55%) <b>Caucasian (non-Hispanic):</b> 116 (38%) <b>Bi-Racial:</b> 20 (6%) <b>Hispanic:</b> 1 (.5%) <b>Middle-Eastern:</b> 1 (.5%)	
<b>Parent Actively Involved?</b>	<b>Yes:</b> 232 (75%)	<b>No:</b> 77 (25%)
<b>Multi System Issues for Newly Referred Kids</b>	<b>Indicated Eligibility in:</b> 2 systems: 144 (47%) 3 systems: 128 (41%) 4 systems: 37 (11%) 5 systems: 1 (1%)	
	<b>Substance abuse issues identified:</b> 52 (17%) <b>MR/DD issues identified:</b> 88 (28%) <b>Delinquency issues identified:</b> 188 (61%) <b>Neglect/Abuse:</b> 225 (73%) <b>Mental Health:</b> 216 (70%)	
<b>Referrals by County Agency</b>	<b>ADAS:</b> 1 (1%) <b>Juvenile Court:</b> 71 (23%) <b>Job &amp; Family Services:</b> 129 (42%) <b>Mental Health Board:</b> 72 (23%) <b>MRDD:</b> 36 (11%)	
Data compiled from Tracy's Choices Referral Database.		

