

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. § 447.205, the Georgia Department of Community Health is required to give public notice of any significant proposed change in its methods and standards for setting payment rates for services.

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Effective for dates of service on and after July 1, 2007 and subject to payment at fee for service rates, the Department is proposing to modify the payment method and rate for Intensive Family Intervention (IFI) Services within the Community Mental Health Services as follows:

- The IFI rates are based on FY 2006 service costs and utilization and are stratified according to professional and paraprofessional services.
- The current statewide, fee-for-service rate of \$20.11 per fifteen minutes will be changed to pay IFI professionals \$31.85 per 15 minutes and IFI paraprofessionals \$20.93 per 15 minutes.

The purpose of this change is to more accurately match payments to the level of services being provided by IFI professional and paraprofessionals. These changes will be cost neutral in the context of all services provided in the Community Mental Health Services Program.

This change is contingent on approval of available federal financial participation by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

This public notice is available for review at each county Department of Family and Children Services office. An opportunity for public comment will be held on **April 25, 2007**, 1 p.m., at the Department of Community Health, 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., 40th Floor Board Room, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Individuals who are disabled and need assistance to participate during this meeting should call (404) 656-4479. Citizens wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes should do so on or before **May 2, 2007** to the Board of Community Health, Post Office Box 38406, Atlanta, Georgia 30334. Comments submitted will be available for review by the public at the Department of Community Health, Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in Room 4074, 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Comments from written and public testimony will be summarized and provided to the Board of Community Health prior to the **May 10, 2007** Board meeting. The Board will vote on the proposed changes at the May meeting which will be held 10:30 a.m., at the Twin Towers Building, 20th Floor, West Tower, Floyd Room, 200 Piedmont Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia 30334.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 12TH DAY OF APRIL, 2007
Rhonda M. Medows, M.D., Commissioner