



B. J. Walker, Commissioner
Gwendolyn B. Skinner, Division Director

Georgia Department of Human Resources • Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Addictive Diseases
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March 2, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mark Washington, Assistant Commissioner, DFCS
DFCS State Office Staff
DFCS Regional Directors
DFCS County Directors
DFCS contracted CCI and CPA Providers

FROM: Gwendolyn Skinner, Director
Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Addictive Diseases

SUBJECT: **Planned Changes for In-patient Adolescent DMHDDAD Services**

The purpose of this memo is to notify you of changes in our service delivery system. We are presently operating two C&A hospital units; one at Atlanta Regional Hospital serving youth ages 15 and older and the other at Central State Hospital serving youth under age 15. Our program at Atlanta Regional Hospital will close on March 16, 2009. Children under age 15 will still be admitted to the in-patient facility at Central State Hospital in Milledgeville. The Adolescent Unit closure at Atlanta Regional Hospital will allow us to serve youth closer to their communities in Crisis Stabilization Programs. DMHDDAD has developed a network of Crisis Stabilization Programs throughout the state with the capacity of 84 beds. The Crisis Stabilization Programs are located in the following areas of the state and are emergency receiving facilities that accommodate the evaluation and treatment planning needs of youth in crisis who need treatment outside of the home:

- Gwinnett/Rockdale/Newton Community Service Board will operate a Crisis Stabilization Program that will be temporarily housed at Georgia Regional Hospital/Atlanta until their new facility is completed. They will have an enhanced 24 hour, medically supervised, 28 bed crisis stabilization program and will begin services at 7:00 a.m. on **March 16, 2009**. This program will serve youth above age 15 in the greater metropolitan area, primarily, and statewide as needed
- Highland Rivers Community Service Board operates a Crisis Stabilization Program in Rome and has 16 beds
- Serenity Behavioral Health Services operates a Crisis Stabilization Program in Augusta and has 16 beds
- Bridgeway Crisis Stabilization Program, operated by West Central Regional Hospital in Columbus, has 8 beds
- Lakeside Crisis Stabilization Program, operated by Georgia Regional Hospital/Savannah, located in Savannah, has 16 beds

All other services at Georgia Regional Hospital/ Atlanta will continue.

As with all of the programs funded by the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Addictive Diseases, services can be accessed through the BHL/Georgia Crisis and Access Line: **1-800-715-4225**. Should you have questions about the changes in our service delivery system regarding hospital crisis services for adolescents, please feel free to contact Valerie Ann Tuttle at vatuttle@dhr.state.ga.us.

GS/vat