



Department of Health  
and Human Services

Maine People Living  
Safe, Healthy and Productive Lives

John E. Baldacci, Governor

Brenda M. Harvey, Commissioner

Department of Health and Human Services  
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July 1, 2008

Dear Community Mental Health Service Providers:

Effective July 1, 2008 the Department will eliminate the contract requirement for the completion of all quarterly performance indicators for both Adult Mental Health and Children's Behavioral Health Services for community mental health services.

With the data collection process recently established by the Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization, APS Healthcare, Inc., that provides a more efficient and reliable mechanism for the collection of individual client-level information, along with the improved use of other departmental administrative data sources we are now able to discontinue all quarterly performance indicator data collection requirements. The monthly reporting requirements for adult and child crisis service providers will remain in effect. However some service areas will require the collection of additional data elements as delineated within their contracts.

As you are aware, the quarterly performance indicator process has been labor intensive for both providers and the Department and despite efforts to improve the data quality. Despite efforts to improve the data quality, the end result was data that was frequently inconsistent and difficult to verify.

We are confident that the new data collection systems that are designed to capture information on individual service recipients will improve the overall quality and usefulness of the data and provide valuable information to guide and inform mental health service system planning and development efforts.

Thank you all for your continued data collection efforts to improve the quality of service for adults and children who experience mental health challenges in Maine.

Sincerely,

Ronald Welch,  
Director,  
Office of Adult Mental Health  
Services

Joan Smyrski  
Director,  
Children's Behavioral Health  
Services

James T. Yoe  
Director,  
Office of Quality  
Improvement Services