



STATE OF MARYLAND
DHMH

**Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Mental Hygiene Administration**

**Spring Grove Hospital Center • Dix Building
55 Wade Avenue • Catonsville, Maryland 21228**

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary
Brian M. Hepburn, M.D., Executive Director

To: PMHS Providers, ValueOptions, CSA Directors

From: Daryl Plevy, Deputy Director, Mental Hygiene Administration

Date: May 3, 2012

Re: Clarification of funding for vocational services that are the primary responsibility of DORS

Supported employment, the only vocational service for which reimbursement exists within the PMHS, is jointly funded by Mental Hygiene Administration (MHA) and the Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS) through an innovative, nationally recognized braided funding mechanism. The current rate structure and reimbursement for supported employment takes into account both MHA-funded and DORS-funded components. MHA has limited reimbursement of vocational services to supported employment, because an ever mounting body of research evidence shows clearly and convincingly that supported employment, when applied with fidelity to evidence-based practices and principles, is superior to other vocational approaches in facilitating competitive employment at greater levels of competitive employment and at faster rates of job placement. Maryland has been recognized nationally for the outcomes achieved by consumers participating in supported employment programs.

Therefore, effective July 1, 2013, the Mental Hygiene Administration (MHA) will no longer fund programs or services, either through grants to the Core Service Agencies or through the fee-for-service public mental health system (PMHS), which are the exclusive or primary responsibility of the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS). In particular, occupational skills training, which includes any and all educational or related training activities that are designed to equip consumers with the knowledge, technical skills, and ability to perform a particular job function within a specific occupational role or classification, is the responsibility of DORS. Therefore, no further occupational skills training services will be funded by the PMHS and any funding for existing programs and services will be discontinued, subject to the provisions of this directive, as outlined above.

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Web Site: www.dhmh.state.md.us