Office of Mental Health And Substance Abuse Services Bureau of Policy and Program Development

HealthChoices Behavioral Health Policy Clarification

Issue Clarification #:

01-10

Applicability: All Zones

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Submitted by:

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County Authority:

Southwest Six

Topic Area:

Accreditation and payment for Room & Board in non-Hospital D&A facilities

Question:

1) Are CARF and COA accreditation acceptable alternatives to JCAHO for non-hospital D&A facilities serving children in substitute care?

2) Who is responsible for payment for room and board for children who are NOT in substitute care at non-accredited, non-hospital D&A facilities?

Background:

Currently, room and board costs at non-accredited non-hospital residential D&A programs for children who are not in substitute care are not reimbursable in the HealthChoices program. However, HealthChoices covers similar costs for non-CISC children in non-accredited MH RTF and group home programs.

OMHSAS Answer/Response:

- 1) Non-hospital Drug and Alcohol residential facilities are licensed by the Department of Health. Currently there is no requirement that non-hospital residential D&A facilities serving children and adolescents be accredited by JCAHO.
- 2) Consistent with the policy for children in MH non-accredited RTF and group home placements who are <u>not</u> in substitute care, the costs of room and board for non-CISC children placed in non-accredited non-hospital residential D&A facilities will be included in the capitation rates for these providers effective July 1, 2009. Payment for room and board for children in substitute care placed in non-accredited facilities is the responsibility of the placing agency (OCYF or JPO or other non-HealthChoices funding source).

Director, Bureau of Policy, Planning, and Program Development

3-23-10

Date