

Bryce Hospital Project Status Report

Month of August, 2010

Installment Payments and Funding

The ADMH reported little activity for August in the Bryce Fund Account. Interest in the amount of \$1,903.00 was received in August with no disbursements reported. Ending balance as of August 31, 2010 was \$5,424,348.

As reported in previous months, the balance of the \$6.5M for development of community services will be made October 1, 2010. Additional installment payments for land purchase and new hospital construction will be made in accordance with agreed upon payment schedules.

Construction and Operations

Thirteen firms responded in August to the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Architectural and Engineering Services. Five firms were interviewed with two finalists as of the end of the month. UA and ADMH will finalize selection in September.

Clark Nexsen continued planning sessions with ADMH and UA to develop the design concept for the new hospital. Challenges of space needs consistent with the Clark Nexsen concept were encountered, which have the potential of increasing the program budget. However, UA and ADMH have been working together on an agreed upon design concept that is in keeping with the allotted funds for the new hospital. ALDOT, at the request of the Governor, also partnered with ADMH and UA in August to identify ways they could assist with the new hospital. Tentatively, ALDOT has agreed to provide supports that will yield savings of approximately \$200,000.

Groundbreaking for the new hospital is still scheduled for October 26, 2010. The ADMH Office of Public Information began work in August on the program, invitations and other activities for the groundbreaking ceremony.

Consumer Transitioning

There were a total of 5 consumers transitioned into community residential settings for the month of August with two consumers returning to the hospital. This brings the total to 46 net placements for the three month period. In August, consumers were placed in residential services developed by Cahaba,

Cheaha and JBS. The low number of placements in the month of August was due to new residential services and other supports being developed, which are scheduled to come on line in September.

Other activity reported by the Region 2 Planning Council included the hiring of a Psychiatrist, Dr. Timothy Stone, to serve as the designated Psychiatrist for all consumers outplaced in the Bryce Project and the recruitment of a Behavioral Analyst to assist in developing behavioral programs that address some of the special needs of consumers transitioning into the community. Peer Bridgers, who were trained last month, were given caseload assignments in the month of August to include completing consumer satisfaction surveys. NAMI Housing Consultants also conducted training on evidence based supportive housing with all providers planning to develop supportive housing for the Bryce Project. Due to staff changes at the Bazelon Center, no training or technical assistance has been scheduled to date.

In accordance with ADMH plans to maintain frequent follow up and monitoring of consumers placed into community settings, the staffs of the ADMH Internal Advocacy Office and ADAP made 14 visits in the month of August to former Bryce consumers in their new community settings. There were no major problems reported.

The average daily census for Bryce increased in August, which ADMH Officials attribute to the low number of consumers placed on pass/placement status during the month. Increases in admissions were again reported for August. While there continued to be increases in admissions reported for JBS (Birmingham) and Indian Rivers (Tuscaloosa), there was a decrease of seven admissions from Indian Rivers compared to the previous month. ADMH Officials indicated they have been working closely with Indian Rivers to determine causes and whether any interventions are warranted.

As in the previous months, the above outcomes evidence the hard work and collaboration of a number of entities including: ADMH, UA, Region 2 Planning Council and member Mental Health Authorities, ADAP and others. Special recognition is given to ADMH staff David Jackson, June Lynn, and Dr. Beverly Bell Shambley and the Region 2 Planning staff for their hard work and dedication to the Bryce Project.

Prepared By: Kathy E. Sawyer, PARCA Consultant

Date: September 20, 2010