Policy Statement

The Addictive and Mental Disorders Division (AMDD) of DPHHS administers funds allocated for inpatient chemical dependency treatment of youth. Priorities for the use of these funds are:

- youth who are in the custody of the CFSD;
- youth who, by court order, are under the supervision of the Department of Corrections (DOC) or youth court probation; and
- indigent youth (as defined below) referred by other resources, including, but not limited to schools, parents, private or state funded chemical dependency programs, CD counselors and mental health professionals.

Youth who are sentenced to incarceration in correctional facilities, such as Pine Hills, are not eligible for payment of inpatient chemical dependency treatment under AMDD funding until they are discharged from the correctional facility.

Definitions

**Indigent youth** means a person under age 18 who is receiving Medicaid, is in the custody of the Department or DOC and has no other source of payment, or a youth whose family income is under 200% of federal poverty level as determined by AMDD or its designated representative.

**Residential alcohol and drug treatment** means chemical dependency treatment provided either in a hospital licensed by DPHHS or in-patient hospital care or in-patient free standing component approved by the DPHHS pursuant to Title XX, Chapter 3, subchapter 2, Mont. Admin. R.

**Provider** means a State approved residential alcohol and drug treatment facility.

**Chemical dependency counselor** means a counselor licensed as an Addiction Counselor by the Department of Labor and Industry.

Referral Process

The referring party must contact the local state-approved Outpatient Community Chemical Dependency Program serving the geographic area in which the youth resides. This list is updated monthly. A copy may be obtained by logging on to

Click on “Looking for Services?-State approved CD Program List”.

The state-approved Outpatient Chemical Dependency Program has the following responsibilities:

- to complete the referral information packet;
- to submit the appropriate paperwork for approval/denial;
- to ensure completion of a comprehensive coordinated treatment plan for continued care services for the youth prior to an inpatient/residential stay and upon return to the community;
- to ensure coordination of community based services delivered to the youth;
- to assess the parents’ ability to pay pursuant to the sliding scale; and
- to provide chemical dependency services directly or through subcontracts per the comprehensive treatment plan for the youth.

Referral Packet

To be eligible for payment of inpatient services by AMDD, each youth must have a complete referral packet submitted by the local state-approved Outpatient Chemical Dependency Program. The referral packet must contain:

- an assessment which includes a bio/psycho/social assessment and a placement determination based upon ASAM which justifies why the youth cannot be served in the community and why there is a need for inpatient/residential care;
- other psychological testing or reports regarding the youth. (If the youth is on probation or pending court action, complete information on the reasons for the referral...
should accompany the referral); and

- a plan for continued treatment after inpatient/residential care. The plan is expected to be the product of an interdisciplinary team which may include the youth’s parents.

**Referrals without a viable continued care plan will be denied payment of inpatient treatment.**

**Treatment Teams**

If an interdisciplinary treatment team already exists for a youth, an additional treatment team is not necessary. The expansion of an existing team to include the Licensed Addiction Counselor and program serving the youth may be all that is needed to meet the requirements of an interdisciplinary team.

If there is no existing team, it is the responsibility of the state-approved Chemical Dependency Program to organize and facilitate the team.

**Availability of Funds**

Payments for inpatient/residential alcohol and drug treatment for indigent youth are subject to the availability of funds appropriated to the Department by the legislature. The AMDD will not approve care in excess of these funds. All inpatient/residential care provided under this funding requires prior written approval of the AMDD.

The chemical dependency funds of the AMDD will be used to pay for chemical dependency treatment of youth only when other sources of funding cannot be found. Medicaid, private insurance and parental participation are expected to be utilized before AMDD funds.

**References**

Mont. Code Ann. § 52-2-603
Mont. Admin. R. 37.25.107, et.seq.