

SEACOAST
MENTAL
HEALTH
CENTER
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April 1, 2016

Deborah Fournier

Delivered via e-mail to deborah.fournier@dhhs.state.nh.us

Dear Ms. Fournier,

Please accept this Letter of Intent for Seacoast Mental Health Center to be the Administrative Lead Organization for an IDN that would encompass the towns in IDN Service Region #6 that are part of Rockingham County.

Members of our Public Health Advisory Council met on 3/23/2016 including representatives of Exeter Hospital and Portsmouth Regional Hospital who own, either directly or through subsidiary entities, a significant percentage of this region's primary care practices. The meeting also included Seacoast Pathways (Peer Agency), Families First Health and Support Center (FQHC), Lamprey Health Center (FQHC), Safe Harbor Recovery Center (SUD Peer Recovery), Rockingham County Corrections, a Rockingham County Commissioner, Easter Seals and a number of other providers. We are a network of providers who meet and work together on a regular basis as part of the PHAC, Seacoast Community Collaborative, Care Coordination, Correctional Wrap, Exeter Hospital Community Needs Assessment, Greater Seacoast Coalition on Homelessness and a number of other region-wide initiatives.

Seacoast Mental Health Center volunteered to be the Administrative Lead. There were no other agencies that requested to be considered for this role and the tone of the group was supportive. There were agencies that were not represented at that meeting who have been or will be outreached as this process moves forward to ensure that we encompass all of the available services that the identified population requires to best meet their needs. It should be noted that the Rockingham County Commissioner who attended has since communicated a concern for how the state has divided up the regions causing Rockingham County to be part of split pairings with both Strafford and Hillsborough Counties. The Rockingham County Commissioners have submitted a letter to Katie Dunn which I will include as an attachment with this letter.

The Seacoast PHAC agreed at our meeting on 3/23/2016 that there would be discussion with the Strafford County PHAC following their meeting on 3/24/2016. There have been several discussions with members of that PHAC since that time, but it would seem to be in the best interests of the consumers in our region to focus on our current service area in the eastern half of Rockingham County to continue to expand and build upon the successful relationships that exist.

Seacoast Mental Health Center is a financially stable agency with many years of experience overseeing the statewide Referral Education Assistance and Prevention Program (REAP) for Elders. This involves managing subcontracts, training, data

reporting and accountability to multiple funders of the program. State, payer and CPA audits of clinical and financial records show that we are a strong and compliant organization. We believe that we would be capable of fulfilling the responsibilities of an Administrative Lead Organization.

We do not request to be our own IDN lightly. There are significant differences in the health status indicators and rankings for Rockingham and Strafford Counties. It is very possible that our IDN projects would not be the same in order to meet identified needs in each of our areas of service. We believe that standing on our own is in the best interest of those we serve and respectfully request that you consider amending your 15,000 minimum attributed lives to allow us to be established as an IDN for the eastern Rockingham County towns of Region #6. Should this be deemed not acceptable to the state we would be open to discussing other configurations, but in the current mapping of regions this is the one that seems to best serve the needs of our communities.

Respectfully submitted,



Jay Couture, MHA
Executive Director

Rockingham County Commissioners

Thomas Tombarello, Chair
Kevin L. Coyle, Vice Chair
Kevin St. James, Clerk

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Office of Medicaid Business & Policy
NH Department of Health & Human Services
129 Pleasant Street
Concord, NH 03301

April 1, 2016

RE: 1115 Transformation Waiver

Dear Ms. Dunn:

Regarding the 1115 Transformation Waiver, we don't believe the proposed timeline is appropriate, and we formally ask for an extension beyond Monday, April 4, 2016.

We are concerned with the State's matrix, specifically the division of Rockingham County as it relates to the proposed seven regions. Rockingham County is split, with the Derry area tied to Hillsborough County, and the seacoast area tied to Strafford County. That being said, Rockingham County has Drug Court, while Hillsborough County does not. Stafford County has transitional housing, while Rockingham County does not.

Although we are aware that Seacoast Mental Health Center is submitting a letter of interest to be the lead organization, we have not had time to evaluate our potential role or that of other organizations. We are aware other counties, such as Strafford County, have similar concerns.

We respectfully ask that this letter be considered a formal request for our future involvement in the 1115 Transformation Waiver process.

Sincerely,

Thomas Tombarello, Chair