



Department of Public Welfare

JUL 3 1 2006

Department of Health

Dear Interested Party:

Thank you for your interest in becoming approved as a Co-Occurring Disorder Competent program. This correspondence is to inform you of the current status of the program approval process for the Departments. Currently, the criteria and the approval process are being piloted in various levels of care across the Commonwealth. Based upon the initial pilot reviews, the Departments of Health (DOH) and Public Welfare (DPW) are making any necessary revisions to the process prior to the inception of the statewide approval process.

To date, three providers have participated in the pilot and two additional site reviews will be scheduled to complete the process within the next two months. Additionally, trainings are being scheduled to familiarize interested providers with the criteria and provide any clarification requested. Upon completion of the pilot process, both Departments will begin to schedule site reviews for the co-occurring competency approval criteria with any facility interested in pursuing the co-occurring competent approval certification. In the interim, you can continue to submit letters of interest as described on page 6 of the co-occurring competency bulletin under the Approval Procedure to each Department.

As we move the entire behavioral health system toward the achievement of core competency to serve individuals with co-occurring psychiatric and substance use disorders, the Departments will begin the next phase of the process with the development of standard criteria for integrated treatment services within the Commonwealth. If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact Ms. Jean Rush at (717) 346-3361.

Thank you for your support and willingness to participate in the development of a statewide system of care for individuals with co-occurring psychiatric and substance use disorders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert Primrose".

Robert Primrose
COSIG Project Director
OMHSAS
DPW

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cheryl Williams".

Cheryl Williams, Director
Program Licensure
Division of Drug and Alcohol
DOH