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The Georgia Recovery Project Has Been Extended!

In October 2020, The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) implemented the Georgia Recovery Project (GRP). Since then, the GRP has worked tirelessly to aid and serve the people of Georgia during the COVID-19 pandemic. The GRP is funded through a partnership between the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Our federal partners recently approved an extension for the GRP through December 15, 2021 allowing us to continue to provide supportive counseling services during the COVID-19 public health crisis.



"It's perfectly healthy to reach out to someone regarding anxiety, depression, substance use and mental health challenges. The Georgia Recovery Project's extension allows us to continue the conversation around mental health wellness which allows us to continue reducing the stigma. This is an opportunity for all Georgians to regain a sense of normalcy as we figure out what that looks like for the future." says DBHDD Behavioral Health Division Director Monica Johnson.

The GRP has six (6) regional liaisons and a team of counselors who connect with cultural community leaders, including religious leaders, school superintendents and helpful organizations to spread the wealth of counseling resources so that no Georgian is left behind or feels alone. For any questions, the contact information for all of the regional liaisons is listed below.

Region 1 – Rebecca Coursey – 706-331-3133
 Region 2 – Jimmy Harris – 706-830-7116
 Region 3 – Ashleigh Woods – 470-880-3712
 Regions 4/5 – Steve Herndon – 470-426-9922
 Region 6 – Jeannine Lumpkin – 706-505-6257

DBHDD Policy Information

Since June 1, 2021 DBHDD updated or developed the following policy:

Actions Necessary upon Closure, Suspension of Services, or Termination of a DBHDD Community Services Provider, 04-119

Maintenance of Records for Closed Providers, 04-117

Outcome Evaluation: "Recognize, Refer, and Act" Model, 02-435

Selection of Support Coordination/Intensive Support Coordination Provider, 02-441

All current policies can be found on [PolicyStat](#).

Please direct all policy-related questions to the Office of Provider Relations via the Provider Issues Management System (PIMS). To submit your questions [click here](#).

Training Announcements

DBHDD IN-PERSON TRAININGS POSTPONED

In response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) in Georgia, DBHDD is postponing in-person trainings. The health, safety and well-being of the individuals we serve, practitioners, and staff are DBHDD's top priority, and this decision has been made with those in mind. DBHDD is closely monitoring related developments and will provide additional information and updates related to these events in the coming weeks. Thank you for your interest and event registration, and most importantly, your dedication and commitment to those we serve.

It's important to note that DBHDD is offering virtual trainings and below are those scheduled for the month of July. For more information regarding virtual trainings, [click here](#).

- **Participant Direction New Enrollment Webinar**
- **HRST: One Day Training for Provider Raters and RNs**
- **HRST: One Day Training for Intensive/ Support Coordinators, State Service Coordinators, and Intensive SC Clinical Supervisors**

If you have any questions, please contact DBHDD.Learning@dbhdd.ga.gov.

AIME SYSTEM OF CARE EXPANSION GRANT Leadership Community Training

August 2021

The Awareness, integration, Mobilization, and Education (AIME) Project is a four year federally funded System of Care expansion grant that operates out of the Office of Children, Young Adults, and Families in the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities. The premise of the project involves working with specific providers in rural communities so that Georgia families who reside in these areas may access and benefit from a local System of Care infrastructure.

The AIME Grant is sponsoring a leadership training series in collaboration with the Georgia Parent Support Network and Leadership subject matter expert Ellen Kagen. Kagen will lead a series of workshops starting in August 2021 and ending in August 2022. **These trainings will be on a first come first serve basis and spots will go fast!**

For more information about the training topics and how to register, email Anthony Catlin, CPS-Y, at Anthony.Catlin@dbhdd.ga.gov.



Exciting Changes Coming to DBHDD Relias!

We are excited to announce a restructuring of the Relias DBHDD libraries to allow provider agencies greater access to the Relias Learning Management System's (LMS) features and support.



The decision to restructure the libraries came as result of feedback obtained from provider agencies using the DBHDD Relias LMS. The restructuring will improve the administration of the LMS by addressing limitations when creating training plans, assigning recurring training, and/or navigating the current DBHDD Relias LMS.

Over the next several months, DBHDD will be introducing Relias training sites for agencies that meet criteria for size and library usage. The training sites will be unique to each provider agency and give each assigned provider agency's training staff full administrative access to add and modify training plans, enroll and unenroll users, and add agency-specific trainings. Relias user licenses will be assigned to agencies training sites based on past usage trends of the DBHDD Relias LMS. It's important to note that advanced access to Relias Support will remain with DBHDD's Office of Human Resources and Learning.

Agencies with a presence in both Developmental Disability (DD) and Behavioral Health (BH) libraries will maintain access to the DD and BH libraries but through one training site instead of two separate sites.

We will provide monthly updates about this project through the Office of Provider Relations Network News newsletter. Stay tuned for more information about this exciting initiative!

Please contact us at relias.admin@dbhdd.ga.gov with any questions.



Georgia's COVID-19 Emotional Support Line is Here to Help!

The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) is operating the Georgia COVID-19 Emotional Support Line to assist people who have been emotionally, physically, or financially impacted by COVID-19. The Emotional Support Line is free, confidential and anonymous. Trained mental health professionals are available to provide a "listening ear" to Georgians who need emotional support and referrals to resources in their communities.

This service is made possible through funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) as a component of a DBHDD's Georgia Recovery Project for COVID-19.

The Emotional Support Line is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. and can be reached by calling or texting (866) 399-8938.

Developmental Disabilities

Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Statewide Provider Meeting

**August 12, 2021
9:00 am - 12:30 pm**

The DBHDD Division of Developmental Disabilities will be hosting an Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) Statewide Provider meeting. Due to the federal public health emergency, this meeting will be held remotely via our WebEx platform.

[Click here](#) to register for this event.

For any questions, please email DBHDDLearning@dbhdd.ga.gov.



I/DD STATE FUNDED SERVICES WEBINAR

As noted previously, DBHDD is preparing to transition the claims submission process for state-funded services into the Georgia Collaborative ASO ProviderConnect system on July 1st, 2021. On June 23rd, 2021, the Georgia Collaborative ASO hosted a training on the ProviderConnect system and the new billing process.

The PowerPoint presentation of this training and the recording is now available [here](#). Please scroll down the page and look under the section titled **"IDD Case Management System"** to view both the recording and the presentation used for the training.

Behavioral Health



SUMMER TOOLKIT

We are now moving forward into summer with (hopefully) less pandemic-induced fear, stress, and isolation. With this new hope comes new challenges. We must provide every child with safe and supportive environments with trusted adults so they can learn, stay healthy, cope with trauma from the past year, and build meaningful connections with peers and adults outside of home or school.

Summer learning and enrichment programs support kids' social and emotional development. This summer is more important than ever to promote and engage with these kinds of programs to ensure the future success, happiness, and well-being of Georgia's children.

With kids out of school, they likely have a LOT more time on their hands right now! This resource toolkit highlights a few summer learning and enrichment activities to take advantage of. Click the link below to download the toolkit.

Submitted by:

Layla Fitzgerald, Program Manager
Office of Children, Young Adults and Families
Division of Behavioral Health

During the month of June, DBHDD held the **2x2 Series: Daily Self-Care Tips and Support for Health Care and Emergency Response Workers**. This series was presented as Webex events and were designed to provide daily self-care tips and support for health care and emergency response workers. Each session provided attendees with mental health tips about managing stress, grief, work/life balance, and wellness.

If you could not attend the live sessions, each one was recorded and is available for review on the DBHDD website: <https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/2x2-series>.



Office of Provider Relations

JUST A REMINDER...

Question for your Provider Relations Team?

The Provider Issues Management System (PIMS) is your online source to have your questions answered in a consistent, reliable and timely way! In addition to providing a timely response, the information we gather from PIMS will assist DBHDD in trending common concerns, developing FAQs, and informing policy reviews.

PIMS is accessible through the [DBHDD website](#) by hovering over the **"For Provider"** tab located across the top of the page. When the drop down menu appears, click on **"Questions for your Provider Relations Team"**. You can also access the PIMS site directly by using the link below.

PROVIDER ISSUES MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Senior Provider Relations Manager

Carole Crowley

Provider Relations Manager

Sharon Pyles

For Provider Relations inquiries,
please contact us at

DBHDD.Provider@dbhdd.ga.gov.



BE WELL

