### DAUPHIN COUNTY MH/MR PROGRAM
**POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

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<th>Department</th>
<th>MH</th>
<th>Policy No. 05-03</th>
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<td>Effective Date: June 1, 2005</td>
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**Title:** Harrisburg State Hospital Closure and Consolidation Consumer Treatment Planning and Aftercare

**Policy:** The Dauphin County MH/MR Program will assure compliance with OMHSAS requirements for the safe and successful discharge of consumers from Harrisburg State Hospital (HSH) to the community. The Dauphin County MH/MR Program will assure that consumers who are discharged from HSH receive all necessary and appropriate treatment, services, and supports. The Dauphin County MH/MR Program will also assure that consumers discharged from HSH are not rejected from participation in or discharged from mental health services or programs without prior planning and intervention.

**Definitions:**

- CTT – Community Treatment Team – Integrated team of psychiatrist, nurse, mental health professionals and case management staff who deliver team and individual services to consumers with serious mental illness in community settings.

- HSH – Harrisburg State Hospital

- HSH discharged consumer – A consumer who is approved for discharge planning, or who is discharged from HSH on or after January 7, 2005.

- ICM – Intensive Case Management

- Interagency Team – A multi-disciplinary group that consists of all the key people and agencies in the consumer's life, including family members and professionals from all of the service systems involved.

- Person Centered Plan - A process-oriented approach to empowering people with disability labels. It focuses on the people and their needs by putting them in charge of defining the direction for their lives, not on the systems that may or may not be available to serve them.
Discharge or Change in Treatment or Service Plan Procedure:

1. When the assigned ICM or CTT staff member make referrals for a consumer who will be discharged from HSH, the referring staff person will notify each provider during the referral process, and on the referral form, that the consumer is a “HSH discharged consumer” for whom HSH closure related monitoring and reporting is required.

2. When a provider is proposing a modification to the type or frequency of a service for a Harrisburg State Hospital discharged consumer, the provider shall convene a treatment team meeting that includes the consumer, their ICM or CTT staff member, other involved service providers or community agencies, and involved family members prior to implementing any change in type, frequency or level of care.

3. The treatment team will identify the reason for the recommendation for the change. If the proposed change is to a less restrictive level of care secondary to consumer improvement, the team shall agree upon the timeframe and transition plan for the change in services. If the reason for a proposed change in service type or frequency is based on a consumer’s lack of participation or lack of progress in the current service, the team will either form consensus and shall agree upon the timeframe and transition plan for the change in services, or the team will formulate interventions and solutions to continue treatment in order to address the consumer’s level of participation or modifications to the treatment plan to allow for consumer success in the service.

4. Providers shall not discharge a HSH closure consumer from any level of service for “non-compliance” or for any behaviors related to the person’s mental illness without first convening a treatment team meeting and achieving consensus on such recommendation and also assuring availability of the next recommended level of care.

5. In the event the team cannot find amenable solutions to continue an approved level or type of service or treatment, the provider requesting a change in service shall contact the Dauphin County Deputy Mental Health Administrator, the Dauphin County MH Residential Coordinator, or the Dauphin County MH Quality Assurance Specialist via E-mail or phone at 780-7050 to request a review of the consumer’s disposition.

6. The Deputy MH Administrator or designee will conduct a review of treatment information and recommendation for change and arrange for a resolution of the treatment and service planning.

7. The Dauphin County MH Program will provide technical assistance, as required by the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) to contracted providers to assure that discharges do not occur without appropriate planning. Such technical assistance may be requested by contacting the Deputy Mental Health Administrator.

8. Providers shall continue to serve the consumer at the existing service level until the Dauphin County MH Program and/or OMHSAS has had an opportunity to resolve any differences of opinion in proposed changes in level of treatment or service among team members.

9. When the treatment team has achieved consensus on any change in service, the assigned case manager will be responsible to communicate the planned change in service to the Dauphin County MH Residential Coordinator, and the assigned case manager will make appropriate referrals and transition plans for the recommended service change. The team
will also agree upon the date of change in the service at a team meeting.

10. This policy and procedure does not apply to situations that require that a consumer be assessed for inpatient treatment on either a voluntary or an involuntary basis. When inpatient treatment is being considered for a HSH discharged consumer, the ICM or CTT on-call staff member shall be included in the discussion about whether or not to pursue inpatient treatment.