

PROVIDER BULLETIN

No. 11-36

June 30, 2011

TO: All Health Care Providers

FROM: Vivianne M. Chaumont, Director 
Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care

BY: Margaret Van Dyke, R.N.
Medicaid Mental Health/Substance Abuse Unit

RE: Therapeutic Group Home Services (ThGH)

Beginning July 1, 2011, Medicaid and Long-Term Care will implement the Therapeutic Group Home (ThGH) services. This service is for children/adolescents who need community-based out of home mental health/substance abuse treatment services. These clients do not need acute inpatient hospital or inpatient residential services covered by Medicaid. Residential Treatment Centers (RTC), Treatment Group Homes (TGH) and Enhanced Treatment Group Home (ETGH) services will end on June 30, 2011. Nebraska Medicaid's changes is the result of the need to come into compliance with the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare (CMS) for children's mental health and substance abuse services.

Therapeutic Group Home is a 24 hour mental health/substance abuse treatment service located in the community in a home-like setting. Unless grandfathered as an existing residential provider, the bed number per home is limited to 4 to 8 beds and the program will incorporate research based programming for both treatment planning and service delivery.

All mental health/substance abuse services must be provided and billed by the Medicaid enrolled ThGH provider, except for pharmacy services and the services of the supervising practitioner (psychiatrist, psychologist). Medical care such as laboratory services, dental exams, etc., may be provided by the community-based health care provider of the client's guardian choosing and these services may be billed directly to Nebraska Medicaid for payment.

A future Provider Bulletin will identify the providers in Nebraska who have chosen to develop a Therapeutic Group Home Program. This information shall be available shortly before or on July 1, 2011. If you have questions regarding this memo, please contact Margaret VanDyke at 402-471-1608 or e-mail margaret.vandyke@nebraska.gov

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