

## Level of Care IV: Case Management Services – Children and Adolescents

### I. Principles of Medical Necessity Criteria:

Case Management Services are provided to assist participants in gaining access to needed medical, mental health, social, educational, and other services.

When an individual has a mental disorder that requires professional evaluation and treatment, he/she should be treated at the least intensive setting able to meet the individual's medical needs.

Satisfaction of all admission and continued care criteria must be documented in the clinical record based upon the conditions and factors identified below before treatment will be authorized.

### II. Admission Criteria

#### *The following criteria are necessary for admission:*

A. The consumer has a PMHS specialty mental health DSM-IV diagnosis which requires, and is likely to respond to, therapeutic intervention.

#### *And Either:*

B. The individual is at risk of or needs continued community treatment to prevent inpatient psychiatric treatment.

#### *Or*

C. The individual is at risk of, or needs community treatment to prevent being homeless.

#### *Or*

D. The individual is at risk of incarceration or will be released from a detention center or prison.

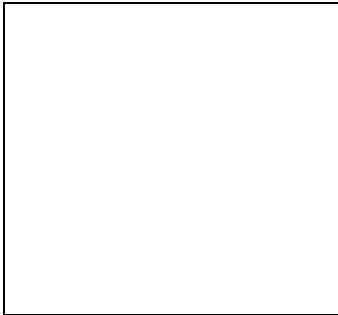
### III. Severity of Need And Intensity of Service

Medical necessity for admission to Case Management Services must be documented by the presence of all of the criteria. Active involvement of the individual, family, caretaker, or others involved in the individual's treatment should be sought.

#### **Levels of service:**

**Level I – General:** Based on the severity of the participant's mental illness, and if the participant meets at least one of the following conditions:

- i. Not linked to mental health and medical services;
- ii. Lacks basic supports for shelter, food, and income;
- iii. Transitioning from one level of care to another;
- iv. Needs to maintain community-based treatment and services.



**Level 2 – Intensive:** Based on the severity of the participant’s mental illness, and if the participant urgently meets more than one of the following conditions:

- i. Not linked to mental health and medical services; or
- ii. Lacks basic supports for shelter, food, and income; or
- iii. Transitioning from one level of care to another; or
- iv. Needs to maintain community-based treatment and services

**IV. Continued Stay Criteria:**

*The following criteria are necessary for continuing treatment at this level of care:*

- A. The consumer continues to meet admission criteria;  
**And**
- B. The individual is reassessed every six months after the initial assessment;  
**And Either**
- C. The consumer's current/available living environment continues to present barriers to stabilizing them;  
**Or**
- D. Progress toward initial mental health, medical, social, and educational goals has not facilitated transition to another mental health service and the care plan reflects the necessary changes to address the lack of progress;  
**Or**
- E. There is evidence that case management services continue to plan for linkage to specific entitlements and/or services that will meet the ongoing needs of the consumer.