# Children's Service Center Partial Hospitalization Services Luzerne/Wyoming Counties

# Introduction:

In FY 2015-2016, **Partial Hospitalization Services** at CSC served 97 children and adolescents. We project serving approximately 35 in 6 month calendar year January 1, 2017 to June 31, 2017 and 99 children and adolescents July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

CSC's Plan for development of a resiliency oriented system:

# **System Indictors:**

- 1. Affirmative Action hiring policy that supports accommodations: Children's Service Center's hiring policy is one of affirmative action; in addition, our HR department has an established track record of providing accommodations for staff that request them, both for physical as well as mental health needs.
- 2. Resiliency oriented mission statement: Children's Service Center continues to review our mission statement to ensure a resiliency oriented mission statement drives our services.
- 3. Board Representation:

Children's Service Center is proud that consumers have representation on our Board. A significant officer on our Board of Directors is a consumer of services here at CSC. We are planning to increase consumer participation on our Board.

# 1. Soundness of Approach:

#### A. Project Description:

The Partial Hospitalization program is a nonresidential treatment modality that includes psychiatric, psychological, social and educational components under medical supervision. It is designed for children and adolescents with moderate to severe mental or emotional disorders, including behavioral symptoms that are interfering with their ability to function within their family, community, or educational setting. The Partial Hospitalization Program incorporates the Sanctuary Model into the milieu. The mission statement of the Sanctuary Model implementation team highlights the Seven Commitments of Sanctuary, and these commitments are supported by staff and are integrated into all of the activities in the Partial Hospitalization Program. The Seven Commitments are: Non-violence,

Emotional Intelligence, Social Learning, Shared Governance, Open Communication, Social Responsibility, and Growth and Change.

Partial Hospitalization clients require less than 24-hour care, but more intensive and comprehensive services than are available in outpatient treatment. This service must be recommended by a psychiatrist as being medically necessary, clinically appropriate, and the least-restrictive level of care able to have a positive impact on the youth and his or her family.

The primary focus of the Partial Hospitalization program at Children's Service Center is to provide this coordinated, intensive and comprehensive treatment program, which is integrated with education, to meet the educational and mental health needs of each child/adolescent who is admitted to the program. Close collaboration and open communication with the school system is important in every child's treatment, and is conducted throughout the entire stay in the Partial Program. The educational component within the Partial Hospitalization is the Milford E. Barnes, Jr. School; it is a Pennsylvania Department of Education licensed non-public private school and Milford E Barnes, Jr. School adheres to all guidelines and requirements set forth by the Pennsylvania Department of Education State Board of Private Academic Schools. The teachers are dually certified in Special Education and Regular Education.

Treatment approaches include individual, family, and group therapy, positive behavior modification through the therapeutic milieu, psychopharmacology, expressive arts, and movement therapy. A behavior modification system is utilized at all times in the therapeutic classrooms to shape and reinforce desired behaviors. Social-skill building, recreational activities, and cooperative play are built into the therapeutic milieu. The integration of the Sanctuary Model into the treatment program ensures that therapists are providing trauma-informed care to those clients who have experienced any traumatic event(s), whether or not the event is being actively processed, and helps each client feel physically and emotionally safe while working on treatment issues. All staff are trained in safe crisis management interventions with an emphasis on verbal de- escalation techniques.

Treatment is formulated on the treatment plan, which is strengths-based and developed in collaboration with the child, his or her family, and the treatment team. The treatment plan highlights risk factors as well as protective factors both present and needed consistent with our focus on resiliency. Treatment is reviewed every 15 Program days on a treatment plan review that is completed with the child/adolescent, the parent(s), and the treatment team.

The Partial Hospitalization Program has seven therapeutic classrooms, and the decision about where a client is to be placed is made after assessment of the child/adolescent's age, grade level, and level of functioning. Clients are expected to attend the Program Monday through Friday for the full day unless the day is split because of attendance at a vocational-technical school program or another type of vocational training program, or because of a therapeutic reason identified by the

treatment team. Days of operation are Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM. Evening hours are 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM by appointment.

# **B.** Description of target population:

The Partial Hospitalization service is designed to provide treatment for children and adolescents between the ages of four and eighteen years old. Treatment may continue until age twenty-one if the adolescent is still in high school. The seven classrooms are:

Kindergarten: grades K and 1
Primary: grades 2 and 3
Intermediate One: grades 4 and 5
Intermediate Two: grades 6 and 7
Intermediate Three: grades 8 and 9
Adolescent One: grades 9 and 12

The children/adolescents who attend the Program are residents of Luzerne or Wyoming County and surrounding counties. They reside in homes with a biological parent(s) or with extended family members or they may be in foster care placement, Community Residential Rehabilitation programs, group homes, or various shelter programs.

#### C. Statement of need:

The Partial Hospitalization service may reduce a child's need for a more restrictive therapeutic setting for treatment such as hospitalization or placement in a residential treatment facility. It may be used as a step up on the continuum of care from least restrictive to most restrictive setting if the child/adolescent has been in an outpatient service or in BHRS services. The Partial Hospitalization service also offers a step down option on the continuum as an opportunity to transition gradually into the public school and community after inpatient or residential treatment. In the last fiscal year, 2015-2016, 97 children/adolescents received services in the Partial Hospitalization program.

#### D. Project Outcomes:

For fiscal year 2015-2016, 52 of the 97 clients served returned to a less restrictive school setting.

Of the 97 children/adolescents treated, 94% remained out of inpatient care.

Of the 43 children/adolescents admitted to the Partial Hospitalization program from an inpatient hospital setting, 81% were not readmitted for inpatient care.

Satisfaction rated by families was 99% satisfied. There were no complaints registered with CCBH for this service in fiscal year 2015-2016.

#### E. Potential for Success:

The Partial Hospitalization Service offers a highly structured, multi-modal treatment approach designed to improve a child's functioning and behavior in the home, school, and community. Within the service is an atmosphere that supports trust, affect management, high expectations, recognition for positive effort, and safety. These are key concepts for learning and enhancing wellness, self-reliance and resiliency. The Partial Hospitalization Program has a four-person Resource Team to support the program-wide behavior modification program. This team intervenes with clients who are in need of one-to-one attention for behavioral issues, thereby allowing the teaching and treatment staff to continue with uninterrupted academics and therapy. Treatment, which includes individual and family meetings with the Program Psychiatrist, group therapy, treatment sessions for individuals, and family therapy sessions, as well as the general milieu, contribute to increasing the child/adolescent's confidence in his or her ability to cope with issues encountered with family, peers, at school, and in the community.

The Partial Hospitalization service continues to collaborate effectively with many public agencies in the community such as school districts, private providers, and hospitals. The staff receives ongoing in-service training to enhance their knowledge and skills, promote Sanctuary and they have the opportunity to take advantage of outside conferences that offer education related to the work they do in the Partial Hospitalization program.

# 2. Overall Qualifications of the Agency:

Children's Service Center is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) and is Sanctuary Certified. Children's Service Center has an extensive history of providing quality behavioral health care to the youth in our community and is committed to the highest standard of availability and continuity of care. We have been committed to the needs of children, adolescents and families for 154 years and currently serve over 5,000 individuals.

#### A. Experience with this service:

The Partial Hospitalization Service has been operational for approximately fifty years (since the mid 1960's).

# B. Experience working with the proposed population:

Children's Service Center has been offering services to children and families for seventy years.

#### C. Experience coordinating community resources:

Children's Service Center continues to provide and promote quality service with care and compassion to enhance the emotional well-being and mental health of children, adolescents and their families. The agency provides children/adolescents with a continuum of care that flows from least-restrictive to most restrictive, as well as a referral system that utilizes other services in the community as needed to meet the needs of the child/adolescent and his or her family.

#### D. Current, valid license or certifications:

Children's Service Center is a JCAHO-accredited (Joint Commission for Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations) agency. The Department of Public Welfare, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) licenses the Partial Hospitalization Service on an annual basis. The program also meets the standards of Community Care Behavioral Health Care Organization (CCBHO), the managed care organization that oversees the authorization of service for the majority of the children/adolescents admitted to the Partial Hospitalization program.

The educational component, the Milford E. Barnes, Jr. School, is licensed as a Private Academic School. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Education/State Board of Private Academic Schools, reviews the license annually through formal application. The Children's Service Center employs an educational consultant to ensure the continued quality of the educational staff and curriculum provided to the clients attending the Partial Hospitalization Program.

# 3. Qualifications of Individuals Performing the Service:

The staff of the Partial Hospitalization program consists of a Director, who is a mental health professional, three additional mental health professionals, six mental health staff members, seven aides, a four-person Resource Team, a Board Certified Psychiatrist, a nurse, music therapist, seven certified teachers, an educational consultant. All staff are required to maintain whatever licenses and/or certifications are required for their positions, and attend a number of continuing education hours. These requirements are verified at the employee's annual

evaluation with his or her supervisor. The Human Resources department also verifies training, licenses, and certifications during routine management of personnel files, and the credentialing coordinator verifies information in files as needed. Credentialed/certified staff from Intermediate Unit 18 provides the students with services and assistance in areas identified in the students' Individualized Education Plan. Examples of these services are: English as a second language; speech therapy; occupational therapy, and physical therapy.

# 4. Budget:

### A. Overall analysis of budget:

Please see attached