

South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
FY 2021 Proviso 117.70 Report – IMD Operations

117.70. (GP: IMD Operations) The Department of Health and Human Services shall produce an annual report on Medicaid-funded out-of-home placements and associated expenditures which shall be provided to the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, and the Governor no later than November first each year.

Changes to Authorization Process and Agency Match Responsibilities

On July 1, 2014, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) amended the referral process for community and facility-based behavioral health services. The requirement that child-serving state agencies be the sole referral source for Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) admissions was removed. The agency Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) continued to prior authorize the admissions. When the state agency involvement requirement was eliminated, SCDHHS assumed financial responsibility for covering the state's share of these Medicaid-covered services. As a result, the corresponding services that had previously been financed by other agencies using the Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMD) transition funds are now covered by SCDHHS and are reported here accordingly.

Changes in Utilization and Treatment Venue

The number of South Carolina Medicaid members placed in PRTFs decreased 13% from FY20 to FY21 (Table 1). This decrease could be a result of increased coordination of care since the benefit was added to managed care at the start of FY18. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic may have also contributed to the decrease as there was a 14% decrease in members placed in PRTFs between FY20 and FY21 (Table 1). There has been a decrease of 27% in paid claims to PRTFs from FY20 to FY21 (Table 2). A significant contributor to this decrease was the addition of psychiatric services to the managed care benefit: paid claims decreased by 27% between the two fiscal years (FY17 and FY18) straddled by the managed care addition (Table 2).

The number of unique South Carolina Medicaid members admitted to acute psychiatric hospitals differs significantly between public and private facilities. Since FY17, the number of members admitted to public acute psychiatric facilities have seen a bit of a saw-tooth pattern (Table 3). In FY17, 491 unique members were admitted to public acute psychiatric facilities. This dropped in FY18 by 21% (104 members) as there were 387 unique members admitted. In FY19, there were a total of 470 members admitted, an increase of 21%. In FY20, the number dropped to 378 members, a decrease of 20%. In FY21, the number of unique members admitted to public acute psychiatric facilities dropped again from 378 to 275, a decrease of 27%. Acute psychiatric inpatient services were added to the managed care benefit on July 1, 2019, which likely is a driver in the most recent decrease. Claims paid to public acute inpatient psychiatric facilities decreased 10% from FY20 to FY21 (Table 4). It is difficult to ascertain the impact of COVID-19 on acute inpatient admissions as there is a stark difference between public and private admissions for FY20 and FY21 (Tables 3 and 5).

The number of South Carolina Medicaid members admitted to private acute psychiatric facilities has increased by 16% from FY20 to FY21. (Table 5). Claims paid to private acute psychiatric facilities during that same period grew by 14% (Table 6). SCDHHS has reached out to select private acute psychiatric facilities regarding this growth and received feedback that facilities accept patients from emergency departments statewide.

Data

The tables that follow provide additional detail on the numbers of members and claims for private and public PRTFs and inpatient psychiatric hospitals.

Table 1. PRTFs, Unduplicated Patients by Year

PRTF UNDUPLICATED PATIENT COUNT BY INCURRED FISCAL YEAR					
2017-2021					
	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	*FY2021
Provider Name	Patients	Patients	Patients	Patients	Patients
ABS LINC'S SC INC	105	134	<i>see Palmetto Pines</i>	<i>see Palmetto Pines</i>	<i>see Palmetto Pines</i>
AVALONIA GROUP HOMES INC	58	74	74	62	44
BROADSTEP ACADEMY-SC INC	0	0	0	59	58
CHESTNUT HILL MENTAL HEALT	32	2	0	23	27
EXCALIBUR YOUTH SERVICES	53	42	28	39	69
GENERATIONS RESIDENTIAL PR	29	33	27	26	0
GREENVILLE HEALTH SYSTEM	34	64	26	0	0
HILLSIDE INC	0	1	1	1	1
LAUREL HEIGHTS HOSPITAL	0	0	0	3	4
LIGHTHOUSE CARE CENTER OF CONWAY	55	5	0	0	0
LIGHTHOUSE CARE CENTER OF AUGUSTA	30	48	71	82	60
NEW HOPE CAROLINAS INC	48	75	60	52	52
PALMETTO PEE DEE BH LLC	102	98	60	0	0
PALMETTO PINES BEHAVIORAL	0	0	139	158	125
PRISMA HEALTH MARSHALL I P	0	0	0	17	0
SCDMH	0	0	0	0	0
THE DEVEREUX FOUNDATION	12	2	2	9	17
THREE RIVERS BEHAVIORAL CA	0	0	0	0	0
THREE RIVERS RESIDENTIAL	107	123	116	141	123
WILLOWGLEN ACADEMY SC INC	67	62	53	0	0
WINDWOOD FARM HOME FOR CHI	31	29	30	37	32
YOUTH AND FAMILY CENTERED	0	2	1	0	0
Total Unique Patients	719	741	619	629	550
Total Patient Visits	751	742	688	710	612
*Claims and encounter data updated as of 9/10/2021					
GREENVILLE HEALTH SYSTEM closed CY20, PALMETTO PEE DEE BH LLC closed CY19, LIGHTHOUSE OF CONWAY closed CY17.					
WILLOWGLEN ACADEMY SC INC changed their name to BROADSTEP ACADEMY-SC INC					
NOTES:					
- Patient Counts include Fee-for-Service and MCOs					

Table 2. PRTFs, Claims by Incurred Year

PRTF CLAIMS PAID BY INCURRED FISCAL YEAR					
2017-2021					
	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	*FY2021
Provider Name	Amount Paid	Amount Paid	Amount Paid	Amount Paid	Amount Paid
ABS LINCS SC INC	\$ 6,025,054.13	\$ 5,151,909.77	<i>see Palmetto Pines</i>	<i>see Palmetto Pines</i>	<i>see Palmetto Pines</i>
AVALONIA GROUP HOMES INC	\$ 2,884,793.13	\$ 2,525,810.32	\$ 2,767,098.67	\$ 2,095,582.27	\$ 1,328,661.87
BROADSTEP ACADEMY-SC INC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,171,381.94	\$ 3,058,085.30
CHESTNUT HILL MENTAL HEALT	\$ 1,477,402.24	\$ 49,405.02	\$-	\$ 81,651.17	\$ 83,580.05
EXCALIBUR YOUTH SERVICES	\$ 2,203,321.05	\$ 1,040,464.74	\$ 1,024,862.39	\$ 832,499.44	\$ 2,439,601.08
GENERATIONS RESIDENTIAL PR	\$ 1,868,931.27	\$ 1,772,915.28	\$ 1,553,654.34	\$ 834,091.86	\$ -
GREENVILLE HEALTH SYSTEM	\$ 1,498,564.20	\$ 916,308.84	\$ 805,134.73	\$ -	\$ -
HILLSIDE INC	\$ 79,200.00	\$ 85,440.00	\$ 97,920.00	\$ 20,165.80	\$ 28,800.00
LAUREL HEIGHTS HOSPITAL	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,888.15	\$ 148,402.10
LIGHTHOUSE CARE CENTER OF CONWAY	\$ 1,124,959.64	\$ 11,913.38	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
LIGHTHOUSE CARE CENTER OF AUGUSTA	\$ 1,511,541.30	\$ 1,170,597.19	\$ 1,484,404.11	\$ 1,690,616.75	\$ 1,268,768.50
NEW HOPE CAROLINAS INC	\$ 1,492,611.75	\$ 2,782,424.16	\$ 1,925,427.18	\$ 1,817,584.30	\$ 1,988,752.99
PALMETTO PEE DEE BH LLC	\$ 5,563,682.52	\$ 3,946,085.66	\$ 2,612,529.58	\$ -	\$ -
PALMETTO PINES BEHAVIORAL	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,270,764.64	\$ 4,030,664.93	\$ 3,430,170.98
PRISMA HEALTH MARSHALL I P	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 258,180.41	\$ -
SCDMH	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
THE DEVEREUX FOUNDATION	\$ 617,797.80	\$ 84,026.25	\$ 75,470.85	\$ 190,663.20	\$ 835,068.15
THREE RIVERS BEHAVIORAL CA	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
THREE RIVERS RESIDENTIAL	\$ 5,420,858.70	\$ 3,922,187.64	\$ 4,174,065.25	\$ 3,467,929.06	\$ 3,503,652.33
WILLOWGLEN ACADEMY SC INC	\$ 3,876,512.85	\$ 1,962,408.06	\$ 2,933,605.50	\$ -	\$ -
WINDWOOD FARM HOME FOR CHI	\$ 1,266,504.75	\$ 1,378,914.48	\$ 1,453,607.36	\$ 1,476,277.04	\$ 1,357,432.96
YOUTH AND FAMILY CENTERED	\$ 117,150.00	\$ 220,550.00	\$ 136,950.00	\$ -	\$ -
TOTALS	\$37,028,885.33	\$27,021,360.79	\$25,315,494.60	\$20,018,176.32	\$19,470,976.31
<i>*Claims and encounter data updated as of 9/10/2021</i>					
GREENVILLE HEALTH SYSTEM closed CY20, PALMETTO PEE DEE BH LLC closed CY19, LIGHTHOUSE OF CONWAY closed CY17.					
WILLOWGLEN ACADEMY SC INC changed their name to BROADSTEP ACADEMY-SC INC					
NOTES:					
- Amounts Paid include Fee-for-Service and MCO Payments					
- All PRTFs are private, except for the DMH facility, which closed in October 2015.					

Table 3. Public Inpatient Psychiatric Hospitals, Unduplicated Patients by Year

PUBLIC INPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS - UNDUPLICATED PATIENT COUNT BY INCURRED FISCAL YEAR					
2017-2021					
	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	*FY2021
Provider Name	Patients	Patients	Patients	Patients	Patients
WILLIAM J MCCORD ADOLESCEN	95	91	75	69	69
SCDMH (Harris)	6	2	21	16	15
SCDMH (Hall)	391	291	373	285	185
SCDMH (Bryan)	5	6	10	10	7
Total Unique Patients	491	387	470	378	275
Total Patient Visits	497	390	479	380	276
<i>*Claims and encounter data updated as of 9/10/2021</i>					
<i>Includes Fee-for-Service and MCO Members</i>					

Table 4. Public Inpatient Psychiatric Hospitals, Claims by Incurred Year

PUBLIC INPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS - CLAIMS PAID BY INCURRED FISCAL YEAR					
2017-2021					
	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	*FY2021
Provider Name	Amount Paid	Amount Paid	Amount Paid	Amount Paid	Amount Paid
WILLIAM J MCCORD ADOLESCEN	\$1,533,781.21	\$1,595,701.33	\$1,282,915.87	\$1,094,046.54	\$929,222.10
SCMDH (Harris)	\$97,535.40	\$44,132.40	\$2,530,817.46	\$2,275,257.05	\$2,141,090.00
SCMDH (Hall)	\$5,450,810.37	\$4,730,147.48	\$5,181,419.54	\$3,054,085.02	\$2,301,352.92
SCDMH (Bryan)	\$129,389.25	\$191,671.41	\$399,199.23	\$232,213.29	\$644,294.10
Totals	\$7,211,516.23	\$6,561,652.62	\$9,394,352.10	\$6,655,601.90	\$6,015,959.12
<i>*Claims and encounter data updated as of 9/10/2021</i>					
<i>Includes Fee-for-Service and MCO Payments</i>					

Table 5. Private Inpatient Psychiatric Hospitals, Unduplicated Patients by Year

PRIVATE INPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS - UNDUPLICATED PATIENT COUNT BY INCURRED FISCAL YEAR					
2017-2021					
	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	*FY2021
Provider Name	Patients	Patients	Patients	Patients	Patients
PALMETTO LOWCOUNTRY BEHAVI	410	654	587	844	894
THE CAROLINA CENTER FOR BE	135	179	237	768	922
THREE RIVERS BEHAVIORAL HE	361	434	937	1,262	1,454
REBOUND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH	279	71	107	265	537
LIGHTHOUSE CARE CENTER OF	302	39	72	82	60
Total Unique Patients	1,366	1,303	1,798	2,978	3,525
Total Patient Visits	1,487	1,514	1,940	3,221	3,867
<i>*Claims and encounter data updated as of 9/10/2021</i>					
<i>Includes Fee-for-Service and MCO Members</i>					

Table 6. Private Inpatient Psychiatric Hospitals, Claims by Incurred Year

PRIVATE INPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS - CLAIMS PAID BY INCURRED FISCAL YEAR					
2017-2021					
Provider Name	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	*FY2021
	Amount Paid	Amount Paid	Amount Paid	Amount Paid	Amount Paid
PALMETTO LOWCOUNTRY BEHAVI	\$ 1,428,697.12	\$ 2,227,474.53	\$ 1,944,899.25	\$ 3,303,708.61	\$ 3,216,365.97
THE CAROLINA CENTER FOR BE	\$ 495,713.28	\$ 650,126.54	\$ 841,288.72	\$ 3,581,392.15	\$ 4,551,751.03
THREE RIVERS BEHAVIORAL HE	\$ 1,502,458.04	\$ 1,867,310.91	\$ 3,974,989.31	\$ 5,982,278.69	\$ 6,457,789.02
REBOUND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH	\$ 955,396.34	\$ 270,084.41	\$ 482,680.40	\$ 1,224,896.91	\$ 2,448,780.98
LIGHTHOUSE CARE CENTER OF	\$ 1,423,409.26	\$ 1,170,597.19	\$ 1,484,404.11	\$ 1,690,616.75	\$ 1,268,768.50
Totals	\$ 5,805,674.04	\$ 6,185,593.58	\$ 8,728,261.79	\$ 15,782,893.11	\$ 17,943,455.50
<i>*Claims and encounter data updated as of 9/10/2021</i>					
<i>Includes Fee-for-Service and MCO Payments</i>					

Treatment Trends

SCDHHS added PRTF and acute psychiatric inpatient services to its managed care benefit on July 1, 2017 and July 1, 2019 respectively. The addition of both services to managed care completed the transition of the entire complement of behavioral health services being available to managed care members. This resulted in increased care management and coordination. SCDHHS continues to provide fee-for-service oversight of PRTFs and acute inpatient services via its “Inpatient Outcomes Initiative” (IOI). IOI began in 2016 and involves a SCDHHS staff person attending monthly treatment team meetings for members with the longest stays in each PRTF. On the acute inpatient side, IOI provides oversight regarding quality assurance reviews.

There is a need for continued collaboration by SCDHHS and the managed care organizations (MCOs) with the PRTFs to ensure children and youth receive care in the least restrictive environment that increases positive treatment outcomes, ensures access to PRTFs for children in need and properly stewards taxpayer funds.