



COMMISSIONER
Chris Traylor

June 3, 2011

To: Community Based Alternatives Providers in Region 1

Subject: Information Letter No. 11-70
Online Medical Home Pilot Project in Region 1

Grace Clinic, a healthcare facility based in Lubbock, Texas, will be conducting a pilot project authorized by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission to improve the health of individuals receiving Community Based Alternatives (CBA) waiver services in Region 1. Participants residing in Region 1 counties (i.e., Armstrong, Bailey, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Cochran, Collingsworth, Crosby, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Dickens, Donley, Floyd, Garza, Gray, Hale, Hall, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hockley, Hutchinson, King, Lamb, Lipscomb, Lubbock, Lynn, Moore, Motley, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher, Terry, Wheeler, Yoakum) may voluntarily enroll in the pilot project. Participation in the pilot project will not affect the individual's eligibility to receive waiver services. Also services received through the pilot project will not be considered a waiver service and therefore will not impact an individual's waiver budget.

We anticipate the pilot project to begin September 1, 2011. During the next two years, individuals who voluntarily enroll in the pilot project will receive an initial health risk assessment performed by a Grace Clinic wellness coach. In addition to a history and physical examination, the health risk assessment will include specific laboratory tests to establish a health risk profile for high probability diseases (e.g., heart attack, stroke, diabetes, cancer). This information will be shared with the participants' primary care provider (PCP).

Once the health risk assessment is completed, individuals will be assigned to a control or treatment group. The control group will receive current standard treatment for conditions identified in the health risk assessment. The treatment group will receive the following additional benefits:

- Secure online access to a personal website. This website will be used to deliver educational and motivational clinical content customized to the participant's individual needs. For those lacking online access, a low-cost Internet-enabled device and digital connectivity may be provided as part of the program, or the clinical content will be delivered by the assigned wellness coach; and
- Ongoing access to a Grace Clinic wellness coach to answer questions and reinforce lifestyle changes.

Information Letter No. 11-70
June 3, 2011
Page 2

These benefits are designed to increase access to information regarding an individual's health conditions, enhance compliance with therapeutic drug interventions, and provide long-term reinforcement of adherence to lifestyle interventions.

CBA participants in Region 1 will receive a brief information letter from the Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) regarding the pilot project and an information packet from Grace Clinic on how to enroll. Grace Clinic will coordinate with the participant's DADS case manager regarding the enrollment process.

The health risk assessment performed by Grace Clinic does not replace the CBA required assessments (DADS Form 3652).

If you would like information about the Grace Clinic pilot program, please contact Judy Stalcup via telephone at (806) 740-3314.

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

Gary Jessee
Assistant Commissioner, Access and Intake

GJ:tr