

**DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
HEALTH RESOURCES DIVISION**



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RESPECT, VALUE, SERVICE

Date: September 12, 2008

To: Senator Trudi Schmidt, Chair
Legislative Finance Committee

Representative Edith Clark, Chair
Children, Families, Health and Human Services Interim Committee

From: Mary E. Dalton, Administrator
Health Resources Division

Subject: HB 98 - Systems of Care Account for SFY 2008

The following information is provided to fulfill the reporting requirement of HB 98. This bill was sponsored by Representative Eve Franklin and passed by the 2007 Legislature. It has been codified at MCA 52-2-309.

HB 98 allows the Department of Public Health and Human Services (Children's Mental Health Bureau of the Health Resources Division) to better serve high-risk seriously emotionally disturbed children who have multi-agency service needs. The bill grew out of a very simple concept that we heard repeatedly from families, advocates, and providers. The state could provide better treatment if we had more flexibility to purchase non-traditional services for youth who have a serious emotional disturbance. HB 98 establishes a vehicle for flexible funding through the establishment of a System of Care Account. This account allows DPHHS to utilize a small portion of the general fund allocated to the Medicaid budget to purchase services that Medicaid does not pay for. No new funds were appropriated. The bill limits the account to no more than \$500,000 in state funds in each year of the biennium (SFY08 and SFY09).

\$46,232.52 was expended in SFY 2008. Services were prior authorized based on an individual plan of care for a specific child. The services purchased with this general fund were used in conjunction with other Medicaid or other agency services.

Eleven children were served in SFY 2008. Nine of these children would have been served in a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) without the use of this fund. (A PRTF is a very intensive 24 hour residential treatment facility.) One child was at risk for return to state custody from an adoptive family. One child would have been sent out of state to a therapeutic group home.

Region	Youth served	Age	Partners	Expenditure	Service(s) purchased	Services avoided
1	1	14	NA	\$ 893.20	1:1 aide to assist youth in activities of daily living – allowed youth to stay in TGH	Admission to out of state PRTF
	2	15	NA	\$ 871.08	R&B for Therapeutic Foster Care (TFC) to help youth develop coping skills to be able to return home to family member.	At risk to be admitted to TGH or PRTF if behaviors continue to escalate.
	3	11	NA	\$1,198.50	R&B for TGH to provide structure and intense treatment	At risk to be admitted to PRTF if behaviors escalate.
	4	13	CFS	\$5,144.89	TGH bed hold to allow youth to remain in state after brief admission to PRTF for further assessment	Original plan was to send youth to out of state PRTF
2	5	16	NA	\$3,156.05	R&B for TGH to allow youth to step down from PRTF and return home	Continued stay in PRTF
3	6	12	CFS; family through SSI	\$2,677.16	R&B to allow family more time to prepare for youth's discharge from TGH and return home	At risk to be admitted to PRTF if behaviors escalate.
4	7	15	CFS; OPI; family (adoption subsidy)	\$3,912.54	R&B for TGH while family receive therapy to avoid adoption breaking down	Return to state custody
	8	14	OPI; youth court; KMA	\$1,272.23	R&B for TGH so youth receives therapy and family can participate	Would have gone to out of state TGH
	9	16	CFS; family (adoption subsidy)	\$8,143.05	R&B for TGH to allow youth to continue treatment	At risk to return to out of state PRTF
	10	16	NA	\$18,108.60	R&B for TGH to allow youth to transition to home school and family	Was in out of state PRTF without access to TGH
5	11	15	CFS; youth court; family (adoption subsidy)	\$ 855.22	R&B for TGH to allow family to participate while youth receives intensive treatment	At risk to be admitted to PRTF if behaviors escalate.
Total	11			\$ 46,232.52		

R & B = Room and Board TGH=Therapeutic Group Home PRTF=Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility
CFS=Child and Family Services OPI=Office of Public Instruction/School

Please feel free to contact me via phone at 444-4458 or by e-mail at mdalton@mt.gov if you have further questions. On behalf of these children, their families, and the Department, I want to thank you for passing this legislation. The availability of the System of Care Account Fund has made a tremendous difference in being able to serve children closer to home and in a less restrictive setting.

cc: Joan Miles
John Chappuis
1.2 HRD

Pat Sullivan
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Scott Sim
Sue O'Connell

Representative Eve Franklin
Lois Steinbeck

Med/SOCA report SFY2008