



Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority

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September 22, 2017

To: MCPNs, Provider Network, Community Stakeholders
From: Dana Lasenby, Interim CEO
Stacie Durant, Chief Financial Officer
Subject: Direct Care Worker Wages

The State of Michigan has recently provided for a \$.50/hr. increase for all Direct Care Workers effective October 1, 2017.

The Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority (DWMHA) Board of Directors saw the need for this in our community and early on implemented this increase by providing a \$1.00/hr. wage increase on January 1, 2016. We again instituted an additional \$1.00/hr. wage increase on October 1, 2016; this represents a combined increase for Wayne County Direct Care Workers of \$2.00/hr. in less than a one year period, far in excess of the \$.50/hr. requirement.

The DWMHA Board of Directors approved over \$29 million in funding to provide a network-wide pay increase for over 10,000 direct care workers in Wayne County that provide personal care, community living supports, skill-building and respite services for home supervision.

In 2015 and 2016, DWMHA worked in cooperation with its Managers of Comprehensive and Provider Networks (MCPN) and revised its contracts in order to provide for the aforementioned direct care wage increases in order for our workers to provide comprehensive mental health services to consumers through provider systems to ensure overall integrated and effective services for persons with severe mental illness, severe emotional disturbance, intellectual developmental disabilities and persons with co-occurring disorders.

As we work with the State of Michigan, we will notify you when they determine the best mechanism to attest to the increases received throughout Wayne County. DWMHA will continue to work towards common goals that positively impact the lives of the people we serve and those that care for them.

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