



## **Report to the Legislature**

### Medicaid Treatment Child Care (MTCC)

ESSB 6386 Section 202(19), Chapter 372, Laws of 2006

September 2006

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## **INTRODUCTION**

A budget proviso was included in the final 2006 Supplemental budget (ESSB 6386, Section 202(19)) that requires the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Children's Administration (CA) to design a referral process for public health nurses and TANF workers to access services for children and families from the Medicaid Treatment Child Care (MTCC) program beginning July 1, 2006.

The proviso states, "The department shall authorize children referred to the MTCC program by local public health nurses and case workers from the temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) program, as long the children meet the eligibility requirements outlined in the Washington State plan for the MTCC program."

The proviso also requires the department to compile quarterly reports that are due to the legislature and are to include information regarding "(a) the number of referrals, (b) the number of authorized referrals and child enrollments and (c) program expenditure levels." This is the second quarterly report and covers the period April - June 2006.

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## **BACKGROUND**

Medicaid Treatment Child Care (MTCC) is a contracted service that provides medically necessary psycho-social services to young children at risk of child abuse and neglect. Providers conduct a process to admit, assess and diagnose each child authorized by CA. A Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meets after the child has an assigned diagnosis to generate the child's Individual Treatment Plan (ITP). An ITP is developed to address the needs identified in this process. The services provided under the ITP include, but are not be limited to, the following:

- therapeutic play;
- individual counseling for behavior modification;
- family counseling;
- group interventions with both child and parent; monthly home visits; and
- facilitated groups for caregivers.

Currently there are four contractors in four CA regions providing MTCC services. Qualified providers may apply at any time to become an MTCC contractor. During the first quarter of calendar year 2006 (January through March 2006) an average of 258 children were served per month. During the second quarter of calendar year 2006 (April through June 2006) an average of 263 children were served per month. For Fiscal Year 2006 (July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006) CA had sufficient funding to serve approximately 327 children on average per month.

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## **DEVELOPMENT**

In order to implement the MTCC proviso, a workgroup was convened in May 2006 which included CA staff, contractors, legislative staff, local public health districts, Economic Services Administration and Children's Administration. A charter was drafted which identified the issues to be addressed and the tasks to be completed in order to facilitate referrals to MTCC services from public health nurses and TANF case workers.

The work group developed the following:

- guidelines for identifying potential qualified cases for MTCC services,
- a referral criteria and procedures,
- an authorization form and process,
- additional reporting requirements/data needs related to this report,
- roles and responsibilities for all involved parties; and
- a communication plan.

Criteria, Referral and Authorization Process:

The workgroup devised a referral and authorization process that would facilitate access for all the administrations into the MTCC program. Local Public Health Districts and TANF social workers have the ability to screen potential clients, talk with the provider about appropriateness and make referrals for potential children in need and send referrals to Children's Administration. An authorization process within Children's Administration has been implemented. Criterion for referrals was established that reflects at-risk populations for Children's Administration.

The work group reconvened in September 2006 to review the implementation and problem solve any issues and will meet again in early 2007.

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## **SEPTEMBER REPORT UPDATE**

### **Training**

The workgroup agreed that each new referral source would train their own staff. The trainings included discussion of the MTCC program, target population and the referral and authorization process. The training materials included the information package developed by the workgroup.

ESA/CSO's trained all of their human services supervisory staff in a statewide meeting. These supervisors trained line staff in their regions. Public Health has also provided training to their staff. Some regions are working together to train Public Health and ESA/TANF staff. For example, in Region 1 there have been a series of collaborative trainings at the regional level which included ESA staff, DCFS program staff and the provider to discuss the program and clarify the referral/authorization process.

### **Referrals**

New referrals for Public Health and TANF will be reported in the third quarterly report in December 2006 covering the period July 2006 through September 2006. However, we can provide the following information. Referrals from Public Health and ESA/TANF are being made to MTCC providers. King County Public Health reports sending eight referrals to date that have been accepted into the Childhaven program and that the referral process is working smoothly. The Region 2 TANF program referred two children to EPIC's MTCC program in the Yakima area. Both referrals were accepted for services. The Spokane County Public Health program contacted TLC, the MTCC provider in Spokane, regarding nine potential referrals. Of those nine children, six did not meet the age requirements (either too young or too old) and one child was outside the geographical catchment area. Two children were referred and accepted into the program.

### **Implementation Review**

A follow up meeting with the MTCC proviso implementation workgroup was convened on September 28, 2006. The meeting focused on reviewing the referral and authorization process, data collection for the next report and problem solving minor implementation issues.

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## SERVICE UTILIZATION

The following information responds to the proviso requirement that "Starting in June 2006, the department shall report quarterly...on the MTCC program and include...information on: (a) The number of referrals; (b) the number of authorized referrals and child enrollments; and (c) program expenditures levels. Currently the number of children referred to the program and the number authorized are the same. There has not been a separate reporting mechanism that captures referrals within Children's Administration prior to the proviso implementation. With the implementation of the new referral procedures to support this proviso, new referral data will be provided by the contractors for service which began July 1<sup>st</sup> 2006. The new mechanism captures new referrals, eligibility and authorizations from CA/TANF and PH. In an effort to gather relevant data for the legislature, CA is providing a hand count for new referrals for those children entering MTCC programs during the April – June 2006 time period prior to the proviso implementation for CA referrals only. Subsequent reports, beginning with the next quarterly report, will reflect the number of new referrals, number of referrals found eligible and those that were authorized for all three referral sources.

See the attached Service Utilization charts, Attachment #1 and Attachment #2.

## MTCC Service Expenditures by Region

	<b>April through June 2006 Expenditures by Month of Service</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2006 Expenditures To Date July 2005 – June 2006</b>	<b>Total CA Allotment for FY 2006</b>
Region 1	\$24,095	\$75,579	
Region 2	\$211,141	\$704,175	
Region 3	\$55,087	\$55,087	
Region 4	\$796,762	\$3,045,725	
Region 5	\$55,694	\$159,088	
<b>Total</b>	\$1,142,779	\$4,039,655	\$6,741,095

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Attachment #1

**Authorized Referrals and Child Enrollments**

Calendar Year 2006

First Quarter: January – March 2006

Children Served*	Region 1	Region 2	Region 4	Region 5
Jan-06	4	51	191	12
Feb-06	5	57	188	11
Mar-06	5	55	183	13

\*This table reflects the number of children per CA region that received service and the contractor has received payment.

**Authorized Referrals and Child Enrollments**

Calendar Year 2006

Second Quarter: April – June 2006

Children Served*	Region 1	Region 2	Region 4	Region 5
April-06	4	50	187	10
May-06	7	50	193	12
June-06	9	49	204	13

\*This table reflects the number of children per CA region that received service and the contractor has received payment.

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Attachment #2

**MTCC Proviso Implementation**

New Referrals, Eligible and Authorizations

Second Quarter: April - June 2006

**NEW REFERRALS**

Number of new cases Referred by CA only	Region 1	Region 2	Region 4	Region 5	Total
April-06	0	4	21	1	
May-06	2	6	16	2	
June-06	2	3	21	1	
<b>Total</b>	4	13	58	4	79

**ELIGIBLE**

Number found eligible	Region 1	Region 2	Region 4	Region 5	Total
April-06	0	4	21	1	
May-06	2	6	16	2	
June-06	2	3	21	1	
<b>Total</b>	4	13	58	4	79

**AUTHORIZATION**

Number authorized	Region 1	Region 2	Region 4	Region 5	Total
April-06	0	4	21	1	
May-06	2	6	16	2	
June-06	2	3	21	1	
<b>Total</b>	4	13	58	4	79

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter** – Data is hand counted, (April – June 2006). Numbers reflect CA referrals only as this is prior to the proviso implementation.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter** – data will reflect CA, with TANF and Public Health as new partners in the referral process. (July – September 2006).