

# York/Adams HealthChoices Management Unit

York County Human Services Center  
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## **SOLICITATION OF INTEREST**

**Date: July 16, 2015**

The York/Adams HealthChoices Management Unit (HCMU) and Community Care Behavioral Health Organization (Community Care) are soliciting letters of interest from licensed outpatient drug and alcohol clinics or those able to secure appropriate licensing and certification, to provide Drug and Alcohol Outpatient- Methadone Maintenance in the Hanover area of Western York County Pennsylvania.

The target population for this letter of interest is for adults eligible for Medical Assistance (HealthChoices members) with Drug and Alcohol treatment needs. Specifically, this service would provide treatment to those individuals with opiate addictions, commonly Heroin. The purpose of this program is to expand this level of care to the Hanover area to service HealthChoices members in Western York County and Adams County, Pennsylvania.

Inclusion of a Methadone Maintenance Program located in the Hanover area will improve access to this level of care and appropriate treatment options for HealthChoices members. Moreover, we anticipate that member recovery outcomes will significantly improve.

The York/Adams HealthChoices is able to provide the following data: the target area's population (2011 and 2012), medical assistance population 18 and older (as of 1/1/15), Methadone utilization (for the selected area), and historical data for HealthChoices members receiving services with an Opioid Abuse/Dependence Diagnosis. Please see the Attachment for details related to this data.

The current letter of interest will focus on providing a methadone outpatient clinic which would likely serve many members in Adams County Pennsylvania and Western York County (zip codes: 17331, 17360, 17362, 17364, 17311, 17329, 17301, 17355, 17360, and 17346). It is estimated that there are 143,383 persons in the targeted area are 18 years of age and older. Refer to Table 1

The Medical Assistance/HealthChoices Population that is 18 years of age and older is estimated to be 6,680 individuals as of 1/1/15. This number is expected to increase slightly as of 7/1/15, with the expansion of the Pennsylvania Medical Assistance Program, but the exact amount

of the increase is unknown. Ultimately, it is understood that the census population for this area is low, and census need for the program may not reach over 200 clients.

Medical Assistance recipients in the targeted area with an Opioid Abuse/Dependence Diagnoses that have received either a substance use or behavioral health services has steadily increased each fiscal year, as identified through HealthChoices claims data. (Refer to Table 2)

In Fiscal Year 2013-2014, there were 22 HealthChoices members in Adams County and 30 HealthChoices members in Western York County receiving services from a Methadone Maintenance program. Due to the regularity of which these services are provided and the fact that the current York County provider is 30 to 60 minutes away for many of these individuals, it can be assumed that access issues may be a barrier for individuals receiving this treatment. The number of Medical Assistance recipients in the targeted area who received Methadone Clinic Services has steadily increased each fiscal year for York County and remained stable for Adams County. Currently, the five (5) closest in network providers for Methadone range from 10.8 miles (Westminster, Maryland) to 36.8 miles (Lancaster County, Pennsylvania) from Hanover, Pennsylvania.

HealthChoices utilization of Methadone Maintenance is available for review for the previous five (5) fiscal years. Detailed is the distinct member utilization by all of Adams County and Western York County and total units paid by Medical Assistance Dollars. (Refer to Table 3)

Community Care Behavioral Health, the Managed Care Organization has standard rates for this level of care. These rates should be considered when reviewing this letter of interest to determine project feasibility. The rates for this level of care are a weekly service rate. The current contract rate for PROMISE Provider Type 08Clinic (OP D&A), PROMISE Specialty Type -084 Methadone Maintenance, Service Description "Methadone Maintenance Comprehensive Services" (T1015 GH) is \$100.00 per weekly service unit.

All treatment should be guided by the use of recovery based approaches and supports. This approach includes implementation of the most promising approaches for a member who is diagnosed with a substance use disorders. Intervention strategies should attempt to improve the member's quality of life as well as alleviate his/her symptoms. This should be accomplished by a clinician that is appropriately supervised by senior clinicians or psychiatrist or other appropriately trained clinicians. Additionally, providers are expected to offer appointment times that will meet the member's needs, including evening and/or weekend appointment times to accommodate those who work, attend school, or are otherwise unable to attend appointments offered during traditional office hours. Providers must have the ability to deliver services at the frequency deemed clinically appropriate for methadone outpatient, or a referral should be made for other services.

Providers must also have the ability to make referrals for psychiatric evaluations if the member presents with a diagnostic picture that might benefit from medication intervention or if the member presents with significant diagnostic complexity to support a psychiatric evaluations. The provider should coordinate with behavioral health and substance use providers as appropriate.

Services delivered to members enrolled in the Medical Assistance Program will be reimbursed based on current outpatient service rates established by the HCMU and Community Care (see above, unless a prior agreement has been made). Services delivered to persons not enrolled in the Medical Assistance Program must be reimbursed through other funding sources

Letter of Interest  
D&A Outpatient- Methadone Outpatient  
such as private pay arrangements and/or the York/Adams Drug & Alcohol Commission.

### **Submission Requirements**

Interested parties must submit a letter of interest to the HealthChoices Management Unit no later than the close of business on Monday, **August 31, 2015**. Letters shall not exceed four (4) pages and include the following:

1. Identification of a contact person, including Name, Title, Phone Number, Fax Number, and E-mail Address.
2. A narrative description including:
  - a. Your agency's experience with delivering methadone outpatient services and or addiction services. (No more than one (1) Paragraph)
  - b. Current methadone outpatient locations. (List Name, Address and if currently in network with Community Care)
  - c. Please provide your agency's expectations of what is required in order to start and maintain the methadone outpatient clinic for year one and year two. This would include staffing requirements and physical requirements for the site. (No more than two (2) Paragraphs)
  - d. Please detail requirements that would be needed for your agency to start and maintain a program. This can include startup assistance, rate adjustment, and other information/requests. Identify your specific needs to implement and sustain services.
3. Please provide a timeline for your proposed implementation schedule, including any meetings with the community your agency may feel is necessary as well as the licensing process, PROMISE enrollment, etc.
4. Please provide any information regarding your experience and ability to engage this community. (No more than two (2) Paragraphs)
5. Please provide any additional information you feel supports why we should consider your agency for this service. (No more than three (3) Paragraphs)

#### Resources:

Commonwealth Of Pennsylvania – Department of Health Chapter 715 Standards for Approval of Narcotic Treatment Program

[http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/028/chapter715/028\\_0715.pdf](http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/028/chapter715/028_0715.pdf)

“Supporting Recovery From Opioid Addiction: Community Care Best Practice Guidelines for Recovery-Oriented methadone Maintenance”, Community Care Behavioral Health, <http://www.ccbh.com/pdfs/providers/healthchoices/bestpractice/MethadoneBestPracticeGuideline.pdf>

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The County of York and The York/Adams HealthChoices Management Unit, along with Community Care Behavioral Health reserves the right to continue discussions with providers based on responses that meet program standards, provide a good fit for this area, and with available funding. The County may also choose not to proceed with any expansion as a result of this outreach.

Letters and/or questions shall be addressed to the following person:

Mark B. Durgin, Director of Program Development  
Y/A HealthChoices Management Unit  
100 W. Market St., Suite B-01  
York, Pennsylvania 17401  
[mbdurgin@yorkcountypa.gov](mailto:mbdurgin@yorkcountypa.gov)  
(717) 771-9900

Sincerely,

*Mark B. Durgin*

Mark B. Durgin,  
Director of Program Development

Cc: Michelle Hovis, Executive Director, York County Human Services  
James Myers, Regional Director, Community Care  
Robin Nace, Network Manager, Community Care

Enclosure:  
Attachment A