

HB 1289

2015

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to substance abuse and mental health
3 services; amending s. 394.4573, F.S.; defining the
4 term "supportive services"; revising the Department of
5 Children and Families continuity of care system to
6 provide supportive services; requiring county intake
7 agencies to use an electronic shared information
8 platform for community referrals; requiring contracts
9 to include additional information; amending s. 394.66,
10 F.S.; revising legislative intent with respect to the
11 provision of substance abuse and mental health
12 services; providing an effective date.

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14 WHEREAS, substance use and mental illness do not
15 discriminate based on age, class, or ethnicity and affect all
16 segments of society, and

17 WHEREAS, a comprehensive, coordinated public and behavioral
18 health system that includes community-based organizations can
19 help maximize resources and minimize duplication of services,
20 and

21 WHEREAS, technology exists that can assess an individual's
22 need for supportive services in the community, connect the
23 individual to the appropriate services, link multidisciplinary
24 teams together to increase the level of service and decrease
25 service duplication, and provide transparent real-time data
26 reporting, NOW, THEREFORE,

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 394.4573, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

394.4573 Continuity of care management system; measures of performance; reports.—

(1) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Case management" means those activities aimed at assessing client needs, planning services, linking the service system to a client, coordinating the various system components, monitoring service delivery, and evaluating the effect of service delivery.

(b) "Case manager" means an individual who works with clients, and their families and significant others, to provide case management.

(c) "Client manager" means an employee of the department who is assigned to specific provider agencies and geographic areas to ensure that the full range of needed services is available to clients.

(d) "Continuity of care management system" means a system that assures, within available resources, that clients have access to the full array of services within the mental health services delivery system.

(e) "Supportive services" means services offered by a governmental, quasi-governmental, private sector, or community-

53 based organization that addresses the needs of a client,
54 including housing, food assistance, education, employment, and
55 social support needs.

56 (2) The department is directed to implement a continuity
57 of care management system for the provision of mental health
58 care, through the provision of client and case management,
59 including clients referred from state treatment facilities to
60 community mental health facilities. Such system shall include a
61 network of client managers and case managers throughout the
62 state designed to:

63 (a) Reduce the possibility of a client's admission or
64 readmission to a state treatment facility or a prison, jail, or
65 other criminal detention facility, and reduce a client's
66 reliance on emergency medical services and state and local
67 services that assist the homeless.

68 (b) Provide for the creation or designation of an agency
69 in each county to provide single intake services for each person
70 seeking mental health services. Such agency shall provide
71 information and referral services necessary to ensure that
72 clients receive the most appropriate and least restrictive form
73 of care and have access to the most appropriate supportive
74 services in the local community, based on the individual needs
75 of the person seeking treatment. Such agency shall have a single
76 telephone number, operating 24 hours per day, 7 days per week,
77 where practicable, at a central location, where each client will
78 have a central record. Such agency shall use an electronic

79 shared information platform to provide the most appropriate
 80 community referrals and provide reports on the rate of
 81 successful delivery of services to clients based on those
 82 referrals.

83 (c) Advocate on behalf of the client to ensure that all
 84 appropriate services are afforded to the client in a timely and
 85 dignified manner.

86 (d) Require that any public receiving facility initiating
 87 a patient transfer to a licensed hospital for acute care mental
 88 health services not accessible through the public receiving
 89 facility shall notify the hospital of such transfer and send all
 90 records relating to the emergency psychiatric or medical
 91 condition.

92 (3) The department is directed to develop and include in
 93 contracts with service providers measures of performance with
 94 regard to goals and objectives as specified in the state plan,
 95 including data on the delivery of supportive services to
 96 clients, that shall be available to the department in real-time
 97 electronic format. ~~Such measures shall use, to the extent~~
 98 ~~practical, existing data collection methods and reports and~~
 99 ~~shall not require, as a result of this subsection, additional~~
 100 ~~reports on the part of service providers.~~ The department shall
 101 plan monitoring visits of community mental health facilities
 102 with other state, federal, and local governmental and private
 103 agencies charged with monitoring such facilities.

104 Section 2. Subsection (17) is added to section 394.66,

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105 Florida Statutes, to read:

106 394.66 Legislative intent with respect to substance abuse
107 and mental health services.—It is the intent of the Legislature
108 to:

109 (17) Provide a shared platform for service delivery
110 providers to have access to real-time referral information
111 regarding appropriate supportive services, as defined in s.
112 394.4573, for clients in their communities.

113 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.