

POLICY

CUMBERLAND COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER	Section No. 53 Page 1 of 1
Subject: Continuity of Care Effective Date: Responsible Official: Assistant Area Director of Clinical Services	Supersedes: New Dated:
Approved by the Area Board on _____. Recorded in Area Board Minutes, dated _____, paragraph _____, page ____.	

1. Cumberland County Mental Health Center shall ensure that the local service delivery system provides for continuity of care for persons served. All members of the Qualified Provider Network shall have policies and procedures to ensure an orderly transition and termination of persons being served. Consumers and family members shall be key players in the development of such plans. The Local Management Entity (LME) shall work with providers to ensure that the process is well coordinated and consumer friendly.
2. The LME shall assume responsibility for service provision in the event of unexpected disruption of services to consumers by a provider. In order to accomplish this, the LME shall have staff available, either through the LME or the provider network, who can assume service provision in the event that a service provider abandons the consumer, loses his/her license, has a license suspended, is unable to meet staffing requirements to serve the consumer, or other catastrophic event occurs. Guidelines will be developed to allow management to utilize LME funds on a time limited basis to ensure continuation of care to a consumer. Such funds shall be managed through a utilization management system that has specific standards in place to address continuation of care concerns.
3. The LME shall ensure that active and collaborative discharge planning occurs for those individuals in hospital-based settings. Agency liaisons to hospitals and other state/regional residential programs shall facilitate continuity of care for individuals discharged from these facilities, including ensuring that appropriate individuals from the community are participating in Olmstead planning meetings and other discharge/transition planning meetings.

