



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES  
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*Assistant Commissioner*

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Dear Stakeholders, Providers, Consumers & Families:

The Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) is pleased to announce the publication of the revised DMHAS' Olmstead Plan, also known as the Home to Recovery 2 Plan. The initial plan was published in January 2008, and has since been updated to reflect the Division's accomplishments, policy changes, and new initiatives implemented over the course of the Olmstead lawsuit and settlement (SFY 2006 through 2016).

DMHAS and Disability Rights of New Jersey (DRNJ) reached a settlement on July 29, 2009 ending a four year lawsuit. The settlement agreement outlined policy enhancements, processes, time frames for timely discharge of consumers placed on CEPP status, and monitoring and reporting requirements. The initial Home to Recovery Plan focused on state psychiatric hospital census reduction and targeted reduction of length of stay for patients holding a Conditional Extending Pending Placement status (CEPP), and creation of new community living opportunities for individuals hospitalized in the state psychiatric hospitals.

Home to Recovery 2 represents the implementation plan for DMHAS' current systems level initiatives and reforms. There are several initiatives that build from the original Home to Recovery Plan. There is continued focus on improvement and transformation of the discharge process in the state psychiatric hospitals. A new element that is reflected in Home to Recovery 2 builds on the infrastructure improvements to the state psychiatric hospitals and the community mental health system. One focus is on a fee for service delivery system which leverages new federal funding streams to create broader community access to services and more efficient delivery systems. Equally important is the utilization of the Housing Mortgage and Finance Agency (HMFA) and the Supportive Housing Connection to increase access for consumers to housing in the community as well as allow for greater administrative flexibility in managing these resources. Most importantly, Home to Recovery 2 has as its goal the continued movement towards community integration. It is the mission of DMHAS to assure that New Jersey residents with a serious mental illness can have a meaningful life in the community of their choosing in the most integrated setting possible.

Through its ongoing process of internal review and quality improvement, DMHAS will be able to monitor existing barriers to community integration as well as identify and address new issues as they arise. As part of this goal, the Division has included an Outcomes section in its updates to the Plan, which details quantitative goals for improvements in the delivery of services.

The Home to Recovery 2 Plan can be found on DMHAS' website at the following link:

<http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmhas/initiatives/olmstead/>

Sincerely,



Valerie L. Mielke, MSW  
Assistant Commissioner

VLM:pjt