



February 20, 2015

TRANSITION PLAN FOR FECS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Federation of Employment and Guidance Services (FECS), a large behavioral health services provider in New York City and Long Island, is currently facing significant financial challenges. As a result, FECS is transitioning its programs to other providers, including the behavioral health programs licensed or funded by the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH).

OMH has been working very closely with FECS to develop a transition plan to safeguard FECS recipients' health and safety and to preserve the therapeutic relationships between clients and care-givers. OMH has determined that the safest, least disruptive way to achieve this transition is for one provider to replace FECS in the operation of all of its OMH licensed or funded programs.

OMH conducted a thorough selection process, first identifying those providers operating a similar array of programs within FECS' service area. These organizations were then evaluated with respect to the quality of their existing programs and their fiscal health and capacity. After a thorough review, OMH selected the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services (JBFCS) to assume responsibility for the OMH licensed or funded programs and services currently being operated by FECS in New York City and has begun the process of finalizing this agreement. JBFCS will also assume temporary responsibility for programs and services that FECS provided on Long Island.

In addition, the NYS Department of Health is reviewing a proposal from Hudson River Health Care (HRHC) to assume the role of lead Health Home in Nassau and Suffolk counties. We will continue to work closely with the counties on DOH's Health Home care management on Long Island.

The State, FECS, JBFCS, and HRHC are all working towards developing a cooperative plan to ensure the safety, well-being, and continuity of care for those individuals receiving services from FECS' OMH licensed or funded programs during this transition.