

# STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES  
DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

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June 20, 2011

Dear DBH Grantee Provider:

**RE: New Target Date for Integrated Regulations Implementation  
Prior Authorization Approvals for Recipient Support Service (RSS) ending 6/30/11**

This is to inform you that a new target date for the implementation of the Integrated Behavioral Health Regulations has been set for October 1, 2011. This effectively sets the stage for regulations training with your agency and/or region. Division staff will contact you to coordinate a training schedule.

One unintended consequence of the delay in implementation of the regulations has impacted Prior Authorization approvals for Recipient Support Services (RSS). Given the change in implementation date, the Division will **extend the approval period for all RSS Prior Authorizations ending 6/30/11 up through 9/30/11**. If a provider believes they will need to request additional units of service for a particular client they will need to do so with a new RSS Prior Authorization request to DBH.

The Division recognizes that providers have been actively engaged in preparations for the implementation of these regulations, and that this delay may create additional burdens and challenges. The Division will work with you to identify opportunities to mitigate any impacts this delay may create for you; contact me directly at 907-269-3410 or Mark Haines-Simeon at 907-269-3408. We appreciate your work and your patience during this transition period.

Sincerely,



Melissa Witzler Stone  
Director