

Medicaid and Mental Health Technical Advisory Group: Improving Collaboration Between Medicaid and Mental Health

**Renata J. Henry, M.Ed.
Director
Delaware Division of
Substance Abuse and Mental Health**

December 11, 2007

Mental Health Perspective on Medicaid Issues

- Largest source of funding for MH system with no control in setting policy.
- Medical necessity vs. best practice.
- Complicated rules and regulations.
- Appropriate use of resources.

What the MMTAG Means to MH Directors

- Opportunity to develop consistent mental health policy.
- Updates from SAMHSA and CMS on efforts related to Medicaid/MH/SA.
- Discussion on emerging policy issues.
- Sharing of information on innovative programming.

Moving Forward

- NASMHPD priority
- Collaboration at the state level
- New ways of financing MH system
- Educating MH and Medicaid Directors