



Family Services, Inc.

An affiliate of Sheppard & Erwin Pratt Foundation

Outpatient Mental Health Center

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Dear Members of the Behavioral Health Integration Steering Committee Members,

I am writing to express my support for a behavioral health carve-out model which contains the strengths of our current carve out model, but also adds behavioral health homes and performance or financial risk-sharing. These additions will improve behavioral and physical health outcomes and create cost-efficiencies. Based on my experience in Maryland I do not support Model 1 which would “carve-in” the behavioral health system for individuals with serious mental illnesses to managed care organizations.

Our current system has the expertise and resources needed to serve vulnerable high need adults and children with mental health concerns. Adding behavioral health homes and risk requirements will build on the current strengths of Maryland’s behavioral health system.

Thank you for considering this feedback.

Sincerely,

Doriska Brown, MD
Medical Director, Family Services Inc.