

December 4, 2015

Stefan Gildemeister Director, Health Economics Program Minnesota Department of Health PO Box 64882 St. Paul, MN 55164-0882

Dear Mr. Gildemeister:

The Minnesota Department of Human Services, Children's Mental Health Division issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a Qualified Grantee to Provide Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital Treatment for Mental Illness Under the Continuing Care Benefit Program November 9, 2015 in the State Register. Proposals due December 1, 2015.

Prior to the release of the RFP, the Children's Mental Health Division had been working with PrairieCare on a draft contract for extended bed services at their Maple Grove Facility as a response to the 2015 Legislature. However, it was determined by the Department of Human Services that the Medicaid Continuing Care Benefit Program must be made available to qualified grantees through a public solicitation process.

Proposals submitted to the Department will be reviewed and considered for negotiation and a contract agreement. Any public interest review to expand hospital beds in Minnesota will be on hold until the RFP process is complete. The Department is targeting February 2016 for the start date for the contract to deliver the Continuing Care Benefit to children and youth who meet criteria for psychiatric inpatient hospital treatment.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at: (651) 431-2364 or bill.wyss@state.mn.us.

Sincerely,

Bill Wyss, Deputy Director Children's Mental Health Division Community Supports Administration