

FACT FINDER

**This publication will answer frequently asked questions,
address rumors that have been heard and
separate the myths from the facts.**

What we recently have heard.....

October 2009 Issue

Art therapy has been cut.

Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority (OCCMHA) has not directed its core provider agencies to cut art therapy programs. Due to cuts received in our General Fund dollars OCCMHA did have to stop providing funding for dental services not covered by Medicaid and summer recreational opportunities for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2009 and Fiscal Year 2010. Art therapy should only have been reduced for an individual through the persons centered planning process.

Fund for camps have been cut.

Not necessarily. Due to cuts in the General Fund dollars, OCCMHA cut summer recreation funding. Summer recreation funding included funding for activities such as sporting events, concerts, park & recreation programs, or other items outside of the mental health service array. This was in effect for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2009 and 2010.

Administration employees should take pay cuts.

The current Fiscal Year 2010 budget does not provide for pay wage cuts. OCCMHA employees have not received any cost of living raises for the past 3 years and Fiscal Year 2010.

Administration waste money.

OCCMHA's administration cost is less than 4% of the budget. The average administrative cost for our Core Provider Agencies is about 6%. The total administrative cost across the system is less than 10% which is lower than most insurance agencies. Nearly 95% of the community mental health budget in Oakland County goes to the Core Provider Agencies to provide services or for hospitalization expenses.

Services are already being cut.

The only services discontinued thus far is the dental services not covered by Medicaid and summer recreational funding. It is also now required that individuals with Medicaid requesting respite care meet the Medicaid respite care criteria so that this respite care can be paid with Medicaid dollars rather than General Fund dollars. This process went into effect October 1, 2009. OCCMHA will work with each Core Provider Agency to determine where efficiencies or reduction need to occur if we receive additional funding cuts.

If you have a question, heard a rumor, or want the facts about an issue contact Debbie Wisser at (248) 858-0929. Visit our website at www.occmha.org for updates of FACT FINDER.

