Michigan Chippewa County Substance Abuse/Child Welfare Protocol -Sample Interagency Communication Protocol

## CHIPPEWA COUNTY SUBSTANCE ABUSE/CHILD WELFARE PROTOCOL

Collaborative Agreement between Court Systems, Tribal Entities, Local Substance Abuse Providers, Community Mental Health Systems and the Chippewa County Family Independence Agency.

## PURPOSE:

To ensure Child Safety and Well-being through effective substance abuse treatment for mutual customers of Chippewa County Tribal Entities, Court Systems, Community Mental Health Systems and the Family Independence Agency.

# GOALS:

- To maintain effective communication\*, while meeting all Federal 42 CFR Part 2 Regulations and HIPAA Requirements
- To enhance service delivery for individuals and families
- To provide training and continuing education opportunities for staff
- To allow for regularly scheduled meetings to address issues/concerns of all parties
- To identify and address gaps in service delivery

# REFERRAL PROCESS:

A referral process will be developed in conjunction with all parties to ensure the availability of services and to determine a realistic expectation of service delivery response and to determine reporting elements.\*

### **REPORTING/CONFIDENTIALITY:**

Specific guidelines for sharing information will be developed, in accordance with State and Federal requirements for confidentiality/HIPAA compliance (to include, but not limit to MH Code, Child Welfare policy, Tribal Codes, and 42CFR Part2 regulations) to assure the safety and well-being of children through effective service delivery.

### CONTINUING EDUCATION:

Within the first six months of this protocol being signed, a joint orientation will be organized and provided for individual agency staff and substance abuse providers to discuss the referral process, reporting process and confidentiality/HIPAA guidelines, as well as the continuing education planning process. Thereafter, protocol members will meet a minimum of two times per year to review and discuss relative issues or areas of concern, and to address any gaps in services. Annual training will be organized and offered to protocol members to address needs, changes in laws or procedures, and pertinent current practices.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION:

This group will act in concert with agencies or providers in addressing complaints regarding substance abuse/child welfare issues that cannot be resolved at the agency or provider level. It is the intent of this partnership to resolve disputes at the level closest to the onset of the concern, following Federal 42 CFR Part 2 Regulations and HIPAA requirements. If concerns arise that cannot be resolved at the worker or middle management level, the directors of the respective agencies will meet to review and resolve any issues.

\*REFERENCE: INTERAGENCY COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL DOCUMENT

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CHIPPEWA COUNTY SUBSTANCE ABUSE/CHILD WELFARE PROTOCOLS SIGNATURE PAGE

PROBATE COURT REPRESENTATIVE

DATE

DATE

SAULT TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS-ANISHNABEK COMMUNITY/FAMILY SERVICES

SAULT TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS/TRIBAL COURT

DATE

BAY MILLS INDIAN COMMUNITY

A NEW LEAF-SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROVIDER

DATE

DATE

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CHIPPEWA COUNTY SUBSTANCE ABUSE/CHILD WELFARE PROTOCOLS SIGNATURE PAGE

NEW HOPE HOUSE-SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROVIDER DATE UPPER MICHIGAN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DATE SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROVIDER DIANE PEPPLER RESOURCE CENTER DATE FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY DATE HIAWATHA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DATE