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| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |
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DSS-4037EL (Rev. 9/89)

Transmittal No: 96 LCM-47

Date: May 22, 1996

Division: Services and
Community
Development

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: TASA Client Outcomes

ATTACHMENTS: "TASA Legislative Purpose, Client Outcomes and
Benchmarks", the New York State Council on Adolescent
Pregnancy
(Not available on-line)

You may find the attached materials on adolescent pregnancy helpful in both assessing your Teenage Services Act (TASA) programs and developing ways to measure program performance. The materials are the result of a coordinated effort by the New York State Council on Adolescent Pregnancy to develop a consistent cross-provider methodology for determining provider effectiveness in achieving the statutory goals of the TASA program.

The Council worked with those TASA providers who are funded through Comprehensive Medicaid Case Management funding to develop common performance measures for TASA programs. Together, the Council and providers identified outcomes which are consistent and reflective of the statutory intent of the program: increased self-sufficiency and maintaining and strengthening family life. They added benchmarks to enable measurement of each program's success in meeting its own particular goals and priorities.

As you review the attached materials, you will see sets of benchmarks to reach the following outcomes:

<u>Increased Self-Sufficiency</u>	<u>Maintaining/Strengthening Family Life</u>
Reduced Public Assistance Dependence	Increased Healthy Pregnancy Outcomes
Increased Level of Education	Reduced Episodic/Emergency Room Care
Increased Child Support	Reduced Substance Abuse
Improved Independent Living Skills	Decreased Rate of Primary/Secondary Pregnancy
Increased Housing Stability	Reduced Sexually Transmitted Disease/HIV Infections
Reduction in Foster Care	Improved Mental Health

The goals, as well as the performance and outcome measures, reflect the current direction of the Consolidated Services Plan and are taking on increasing importance among all levels of government as a means of assuring a more effective use of current resources. We encourage your review of this approach.

If your county provides TASA case management services utilizing CMCM funds, you may wish to discuss how this approach has worked with your local project. You may also want to consider its application to your direct service program as well as the implications in other service areas. If you have questions about these attached summaries, please feel free to contact Carole Miller (518-473-6238) to discuss them further.

Rose M. Pandozy
Deputy Commissioner
Services and Community Development