



STATE OF OKLAHOMA
OKLAHOMA HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

September 2, 2009

Dear SoonerCare Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) Providers:

You may or may not have received an email from APS Healthcare, Inc. this past week informing you of a change in the number of allowable authorized days for initials and extensions for PRTF. Normally OHCA and APS notify providers ahead of time when we are considering making a change to processes involving your group. We apologize that this message came out prematurely and prior to your notification.

As you all know the primary source of behavioral health expenditure growth in Oklahoma in recent years has been PRTF services for children. Expenditures for these PRTFs have grown from \$61 million in SFY06 to over \$112 million in SFY09, and now account for over 45 percent of all SoonerCare behavioral health expenditures for children. This growth in expenditures is of major concern to OHCA and to the state's Partnership for Children's Behavioral Health Collaborative as one of their highest goals is to decrease the state's dependency upon PRTF level of care and keep children at the lowest level of care possible. Decreasing the number of days authorized will allow APS Healthcare, Inc. to more closely care manage and prepare for discharge on these cases with you and with the community providers.

The **maximum** days that will be authorized for RTC prior authorizations will be as follows:

INITIAL RTC:	7 days
RTC EXTENSIONS:	10 days
30 DAY RTC UNITS:	21 days

These decisions do not relate in anyway to the level of quality clinical services you and your staff provide to our children, we value the services you provide to our children and the collaborative relationship between us.

We thank you for your understanding and support during this transition. Together we will continue to work to see that the services our Oklahoma SoonerCare children need are delivered. If you have any questions, then please feel free to call or email me at anytime.

Warmly,

Debbie A. Spaeth, LMFT, LPC, LADC
Behavioral Health Services Director