

Columbus County

ADMINISTRATION

TELEPHONE
910-640-6630



TELEFAX
910-640-1654

COLUMBUS COUNTY PLAN TO DISENGAGE FROM EASTPOINTE AND JOIN TRILLIUM HEALTH RESOURCES

On January 17, 2017, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to seek permission from the Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to disengage from Eastpointe, a twelve county Local Management Entity/Managed Care Organization (LME/MCO) managing mental health, developmental disability and substance abuse services. North Carolina statute 122C-115 (a3) permits a county to request disengagement from a LME/MCO and to join another LME/MCO. Columbus County has chosen to join Trillium Health Resources. The Board of Trillium Health Resources voted unanimously to accept Columbus County as a member.

We do not know how quickly this change will occur. Columbus County and Trillium Health Resources had requested an effective date of May 1, 2017. New administrative rules that went into effect February 1, 2017 mandate that the change cannot occur earlier than nine (9) months following a request, but we have requested an earlier date since our request was made before the rule went into effect.

Actions Taken To Date:

- The Columbus County Board of Commissioners unanimously adopted a resolution to disengage from Eastpointe and join Trillium Health Resources. A letter making the request was sent to Secretary Mandy Cohen of DHHS on January 23, 2017.
- The Trillium Health Resources Board voted unanimously to accept Columbus County as a member on January 30, 2017 and sent a letter to Dr. Cohen that same day.
- Columbus County has notified the other counties served by Eastpointe and the Co-Chairs of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee of the North Carolina General Assembly of our decision.
- Columbus County and Trillium Health Resources have jointly developed this plan to ensure a smooth transition for Columbus County residents and providers which ensure continuity of services as the county transitions to Trillium.
- Columbus County affirms that it has no outstanding financial liabilities to Eastpointe.
- Columbus County affirms that there is no real property impacted by this proposed change.
- Columbus County will remain a member of Eastpointe until the effective date of its realignment with Trillium, thereby ensuring no loss of services to residents.
- Columbus County has determined that Trillium Health Resources meets the population requirements for a LME/MCO, outlined in NC statute and that its disengagement from Eastpointe will not cause Eastpointe to fall below those requirements.

Actions To Be Taken Immediately:

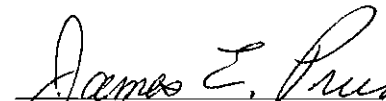
- Columbus County and Trillium Health Resources will publish this plan on their respective websites.
- Columbus County will issue a press release and post to its website and Facebook page a notification of its plan to disengage from Eastpointe and join Trillium and will solicit public comment in the plan for sixty (60) days. Columbus County will post the public comments on its website for thirty (30) days following the end of the public comment period. Columbus County will specifically request public comment from providers, consumers, advocates, self advocates and the State and Local Consumer and Family Advisory Committees.
- This same press release will serve as written notification to all Columbus County providers of this proposed change.

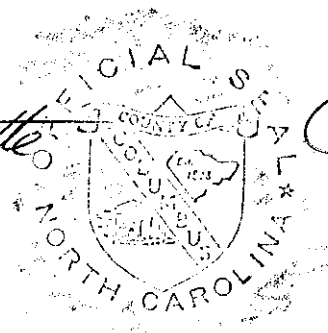
Actions To Be Taken Upon Approval by DHHS:


- Trillium Health Resources will hold Provider Fairs to enter into contracts with all providers in good standing currently serving Columbus County residents. Trillium plans to contract with all current providers.
- Trillium Health Resources and Columbus County will hold public meetings, at least one of which will be in the evening, to introduce Trillium to consumers, families and stakeholders and answer any questions about Trillium and this change.
- Trillium and Columbus County will hold at least one public meeting targeted to other public agencies in Columbus County, such as schools, the Department of Social Services, law enforcement, courts, Public Health, etc. to discuss this change and answer any questions.
- Trillium will assess the current gaps in services in Columbus County and recruit providers to address any identified gaps.

Adopted this the 17th day of July, 2017.

Attested By:


James E. Prevatte, Chairman




June B. Hall, Clerk to the Board