CHAPTER 4

Assertive Community Treatment Overview

Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) is a set of intensive clinical, medical and psychosocial services provided by a mobile multi-disciplinary treatment team. Michigan adopted a modified ACT model in the 1980’s tailored to Michigan service needs. While a PIHP is free to use either the Michigan ACT model or the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) ACT model, with prior Department approval, the use of the Michigan model is strongly encouraged. The Michigan ACT Manual is provided below.

There is a website that has been developed by MDHHS for healthcare practitioners to assist in the development of clinical skills. The website, www.improvingmipractices.org has a practice area devoted to ACT.

ACT provides basic services and supports essential to maintaining the individual’s ability to function in community settings, including assistance with accessing basic needs through available community resources, such as food, housing, and medical care and supports to allow individuals to function in social, educational, and vocational settings. ACT services are based on the principles of recovery and person-centered practice and are individually tailored to meet the needs of the person. Services are provided in the individual’s residence or other community locations by all members of the ACT team. All ACT team staff must have a basic knowledge of ACT programs and principles acquired through MDHHS approved ACT specific training within six months of hire, and then at least one MDHHS approved ACT specific training annually. The Michigan Medicaid Provider Manual has a full description of this service and is available at the NorthCare Website.