

MARICOPA COUNTY RHBA UPDATE

By: Will Humble

Read more: The next few weeks are very important in the continued transition to the implementation of the Integrated Care RBHA in Maricopa County. Most of you know that the Department awarded the contract to Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care (MMIC) earlier this year after a competitive bid process. Our current contractor Magellan has exercised their due process under the procurement code and contested the award. A hearing in front of an Administrative Law Judge starts tomorrow (9/18) and will continue for at least seven days. All parties involved will have an opportunity to present their evidence to the judge who will then make a recommendation based on that evidence to the Department of Administration.

In the meantime the current contract for RBHA services in Maricopa County was set to expire on September 30th. To avoid any disruption in service to members ADHS has extended the current Magellan contract for up to six months. The contract extension does have a standard clause that allows either party to exit the contract with 30 days' notice after January 1, 2014. This contract extension takes into account the length of time it may take for the judge to hear the case and make a recommendation, the ADOA to make a ruling based on that recommendation and for ADHS to make appropriate plans following that ADOA ruling. We want to make sure that members remain as the focus of our efforts and do not get overlooked during these complex administrative processes.

Watch for updates down the road as key decision points are reached.