



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
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Dear Colleague,

As you may know, MassHealth-enrolled children and youth under age 21 have experienced several important changes in behavioral health services. These changes have included significant improvements in behavioral health screening and assessment and the addition of *family-focused and youth-driven* behavioral health services. These services are part of the Commonwealth's newly developed coordinated system of home and community-based services and supports for MassHealth-enrolled children and youth with significant behavioral health needs and their families.

As part of the effort to reach families with this new information, MassHealth has developed a brochure for parents and caregivers, "**Worried about the way your child is acting or feeling?**" The brochure is family-friendly and contains descriptions of new and enhanced behavioral health services available to certain MassHealth-enrolled children and youth under age 21. The brochure also includes central and regional contact information for Mobile Crisis Intervention, In-Home Therapy and Intensive Care Coordination providers and other valuable support services for families.

MassHealth has also created a companion publication for staff who can help families find the right behavioral health service for their child. "**Helping Families Access MassHealth Behavioral Health Services for Children and Youth Under Age 21: A Guide for Staff Who Work with Children and Families**", provides detailed information on MassHealth coverage of new and/or enhanced behavioral health services. It also includes eligibility guidelines, statewide provider listings and other important information that staff should know.

Please join me in reaching and supporting families with children that have significant behavioral health needs. You can help by ordering copies of the brochure, sharing them with families and using the companion guide to answer questions that they have. By clicking [here](#), you will be directed to a site to view and obtain these publications.

Thank you for your help. Together, let us ensure that families and their children with significant behavioral needs obtain the services and support necessary for success in home, school and community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "JudyAnn Bigby".

JudyAnn Bigby,
Secretary