NEW YORK STATE
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**
40 NORTH PEARL STREET, ALBANY, NEW YORK 12243-0001

MARY JO BANE
*Commissioner*

*(518) 474-9475*

**LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM**

**DSS-4037EL (Rev. 9/89)**

**Transmittal No:** 92 LCM-131

**Date:** August 27, 1992

**Division:** Family and Children Services

**TO:** **Local District Commissioners**

**SUBJECT:** Office of Mental Health's Children and Families Mental Health Service Plan

**ATTACHMENTS:** Letter dated July 1, 1992 from Gloria Newton-Logsdon (not available on-line)

Within the last several weeks, you should have received a copy of the Office of Mental Health's Children and Families Mental Health Service Plan. This Plan is at the heart of OMH's efforts to identify and address mental health needs of children and youth in New York State. As you know, there is a very substantial overlap between the children who need the services available from the mental health system and those who come to our attention in the child protective and child welfare systems.

The purpose of this LCM is to urge you to review the Mental Health Plan and to participate in the public review meetings which OMH is conducting across the State to promote discussion of the Plan. These hearings will be scheduled after September 1, 1992. As the attached cover letter to the Plan indicates, people interested in participating in the hearings should contact the New York State OMH Regional Office, Children and Youth Specialist. Their names and phone numbers are also included in the attachment.

If you did not receive a copy of the Mental Health Plan for Children and Families, you should also contact the OMH Regional Office.

I believe that review of this Plan and participation in these public discussions will be helpful in ensuring that the mental health system is responsive to the needs of local districts.

Joseph Semidei
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Family and
Children Services

NEW YORK STATE
OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH

44 Holland Avenue, Albany, New York 12229

RICHARD C. SURLES, Ph.D., Commissioner

BRUCE E. FEIG
Executive Deputy Commissioner

July 1, 1992

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

I am pleased to distribute the Office of Mental Health's (OMH) Children and Families Mental Health Services Plan. This Plan culminates an intensive effort by OMH to assess the needs of New York State children and youth with serious emotional disturbances and their families, and to design a comprehensive community-based system of care that is responsive to meeting those needs. The Plan outlines the Office's mission, core principles, and the components of this community-based mental health service system for children and youth.

We would like to distribute the Plan to all individuals interested in the New York State children's mental health system. It is intended to educate the public regarding the mission and goals of the agency with respect to children's mental health services. It is intended to serve as an outline for local communities in planning to meet the mental health service needs of the children and youth in their community. It is also intended to be used as a tool to foster local interagency collaboration on children's mental health issues.

A set of supplementary tables has been included with the Plan which details preliminary estimates of the projected need for mental health services between now and the year 2000. These tables have been provided as a guide to local communities in planning mental health services for their area. It must be emphasized that these tables are intended to provide guidance in determining the appropriate mix and volume of services necessary to adequately meet the needs of children and youth within a particular area. It is expected that each community will develop its own unique configuration of services to best meet local need.

The Office of Mental Health will be scheduling public review meetings across the State to promote discussion of the Children & Families Mental Health Services Plan among OMH officials, parents, consumers, mental health service providers, cross-systems representatives, advocates, and other interested citizens. These events will be held sometime after September 1, 1992 in each of the Office of Mental Health's five regions, and will be convened by the five Regional Directors. If you are interested in attending one of these meetings please call your Regional Office (contact persons and phone numbers listed on attached page) for further information. Regardless of whether you are able to attend one of these regional events, we would appreciate receiving your written ideas or comments on the Plan. Please address your comments to either your Regional Director or to me directly.

The upcoming months will be very exciting for all of us who are committed to strengthening the system of care for youngsters with serious emotional disturbance and their families in New York State. I look forward to working with you to implement New York's Mental Health Services Plan for Children and Families.

Sincerely,

Gloria Newton-Logsdon

Gloria Newton-Logsdon
Associate Commissioner for Children and Families

| New York State Office of Mental Health<br>Regional Office<br>Children and Youth Specialists | |
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| **Contact Person** | **Address/Telephone Number** |
| Anita Appel | New York City Regional Office<br>275 Seventh Avenue, 16th Floor<br>New York, New York 10001<br>(212) 633-4318 |
| Michael Hoffman | Long Island Regional Office<br>P.O. Box 600<br>West Brentwood, New York 11717<br>(516) 434-5311 |
| Margaret Moran | Hudson River Regional Office<br>Hudson River Psychiatric Center<br>Branch B<br>Poughkeepsie, New York 12601<br>(914) 452-1540 ext. 718 |
| Ken Kollmar | Western New York Regional Office<br>570 Forest Avenue<br>Buffalo, New York 14222<br>(716) 885-5014 |
| Linda Mappes | Central New York Regional Office<br>545 Cedar Street<br>Syracuse, New York 13210<br>(315) 428-4542 |