

Annual Public Forum
Virginia Governor's Access Plan for the Seriously Mentally Ill (GAP)
1115 Demonstration Waiver #11-W-00297/3
Year 1 -2017

The Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) conducted a trainings on the new ARTS benefit which included enhancing the GAP benefit plan to include the full ARTS continuum of care except inpatient/detox. DMAS staff traveled across the state to provide the public with an update on the status and progress of the ARTS implementation and the enhancement to the GAP benefit plan.

Schedule and Locations:

03/13/2017 Virginia Beach	Total Attendees: 113
3/15/17 Varina	Total Attendees 87
03/17/2017 Charlottesville	Total Attendees 80
03/27/2017 Prince William	Total Attendees 131
03/30/2017 Winchester	Total Attendees 56
4/03/2017 Richmond	Total Attendees 66
04/04/2017 Lebanon	Total Attendees 66
04/05/2017 Roanoke	Total Attendees 108
04/12/2017 Newport News	Total Attendees 99

Public Notice:

DMAS posted notification of the trainings on the ARTS website and the DMAS training unit sent email blasts to providers that had provided DMAS email contacts/addresses. DMAS also sent notification to behavioral health consumer run programs (non-Medicaid providers) and to the SMI screening entities to alert them. ARTS staff provided significant notification in a variety of arenas

Public Comment Received:

Enhancing the GAP benefit plan to include the full array of ARTS services was widely approved by the public attending the trainings. There arose confusion early in the trainings about how a provider could bill for ASAM residential services within a hospital setting since GAP does not cover inpatient services. In response, DMAS approached CMS about including language in the waiver amendment to allow this and CMS approved the September 2017 waiver amendment request which included this allowance.