

County of Financial Responsibility (COFR) Dispute Resolution Committee - Case 2007-1

Committee:	Mark Kielhorn	Department of Community Health
	Pam Pekelder	Ottawa Community Mental Health
	Doug Ward	Community Mental Health for Central Michigan

The Committee met in Lansing on January 13, 2007 concerning a dispute between two adjoining county CMHSPs. CMHSP representatives from the two counties participated to explain the case and the rationale for each CMHSP's position.

Issue: A consumer was living with his parents and receiving CMH services in County A. He had at least one placement there in a residential home that was not successful. Other opportunities were offered to the family, but they did not follow up on them. In August 2004, he moved to his brother's home in County B to provide a respite for the parents. The brother was concerned that the parents were at risk. The consumer received an intake assessment from County B CMH, followed by discussions about moving to a specialized residential facility in County B. In October 2004, he had health problems and moved back in with his parents in County A to be near his primary physician. In March 2005, discussions were reopened by the family with County B CMH about moving to a specialized residential home in County B. In May 2005, the consumer moved from the parents' home in County A to the specialized residential home in County B.

County A contends that the consumer was a resident of County B at the time of the move, having moved to the brother's home in October 2004. The subsequent return to County A in October was only a temporary move to address medical issues. County B is the COFR because the move was from an independent setting in County A to an independent setting in County B, and then into a dependent living arrangement in County B.

County B asserts that the consumer was an on-going client of County A CMH and was a resident of County A from October 2004 to May 2005. The decision to move into the dependent residential home in County B was made while living independently as a resident of County A. Thus County A is the COFR.

Resolution: The consumer had moved back to County A in October 2004 and was living there with his parents until May 2005. The consumer and his family made the decision to move to the specialized residence in County B. Thus the move was from an independent setting in County A to a dependent setting in County B. County A is the COFR.