BERRIEN MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY
PROCEDURE

SUBJECT: Advanced Medical Directives	SECTION: 01-06-00 Page 1 of 2
APPLICATION: Direct Care Staff & Contractors EFFECTIVE DATE: 02/24/99 APPROVED BY: _____ Chief Executive Officer REVISED: 4/05, 4/06, 4/07, 3/08, 9/16, 7/2020, 2/2022	REQUIRED BY:

POLICY:
It is the policy of Berrien Mental Health Authority (BMHA) to recognize our consumers' wishes in regard to advance directives.

PURPOSE:
To communicate the wishes and advanced directives of recipients of mental health services to the appropriate medical professionals.

STANDARD:
1. All BMHA employees and those under contract to provide services to our recipients and are trained in CPR shall attempt to resuscitate consumers whenever a medical emergency occurs.

2. 911 will be called immediately in emergent medical situations.

3. Consumers will be informed they can file a grievance with Customer Service concerning non-compliance with advance directives requirements.

DEFINITIONS:
Advanced Directive – An individual's written wishes pertaining to medical treatment provided to them, before the anticipated event occurs.

PROCEDURE:
1. During the intake process and annually thereafter, consumers will be asked if they have an advanced directive regarding their medical condition should they become incapacitated. If they furnish a copy of the durable power of attorney, living will, or other document, it will be maintained as part of the medical record.

2. Consumers will be informed that CPR and emergency first aid will always be provided if a medical emergency occurs at a Berrien Mental Health Authority supervised program or a BMHA direct operated or contracted residential facility. Staff cannot personally honor their advanced directives since they do not have the

means to adequately diagnose their medical condition in an emergency; however, staff will inform health care facilities, medical personnel and emergency medical technicians of their advanced directives once involved.

3. Whenever a consumer's physical condition is determined by staff to need emergency medical treatment, procedures relative to medical emergencies will be followed. Staff will administer CPR or emergency first aid as they have been trained and call 911 for emergency backup. Once the EMT is on site, he/she will be provided with a copy of the advanced directive by the staff in charge. Beyond this, the EMT will make a determination of what will be done with the individual.

4. If the medical condition is non emergent and the recipient has a diagnosed and documented terminal illness; see procedure that pertains to "Care of Consumers with a Terminal Illness." If hospice is appropriate, requested, or involved to provide comfort during the end stages of life, that shall be facilitated and/or supported. In no circumstance shall assistance be provided with assisted suicide or euthanasia.

5. Policy and procedures will be amended as necessary to comply with changes in state law as they pertain to DNR procedures and EPIC. Customer materials related to Advanced Directives will be updated and distributed within 90 days of an identified change.

NOTE: In the State of Michigan, Living Wills are not always recognized, and the consumer should be directed to their attorney if they have questions regarding this issue.

Also see procedure 01-05-10 Psychiatric Advanced Directives (PAD) and 02-05-02 on Crisis Planning.

FORMS: N/A

REVIEWER: Office of Recipient Rights
REVIEWED: 3/09, 3/2010, 4/11, 5/12, 5/13, 3/14, 7/15, 3/16, 3/17, 3/18, 3/19, 7/2020, 7/2021, 2/2022, 8/2023, 8/2024, 8/2025