

U and Universal

What is Fraud?

Medicaid fraud is when a person knowingly cheats or is dishonest regarding Medicaid funded services. The dishonesty results in a benefit such as payment or coverage.

The United States loses 20 billion dollars a year due to fraudulent practices in the mental health industry.

Here are some of the most common forms of fraud :

- Billing for services not rendered
- Misrepresenting the dates of service
- Misrepresenting the location of the service
- Overutilization of services
- Providing a service that is not needed

Some other facts about fraud:

- Committing fraud can result in fine and/or imprisonment
- If you report fraud, you are protected by the “False Claims Act” which protects you from any retaliation such as demotion or termination
(NC Department of Health and Human Services, ccr.org)

Did you know?

On October 5, 2010 President Obama signed “Rosa’s Law” which replaced the term “mental retardation” with “intellectual disability”

Ø The law was proposed by Senator Barbara Mikulski from Maryland

Ø The law is named after Rosa Marcellino, also from Maryland

Ø Rosa’s brother, Nick, (age 14) led the charge speaking to the Maryland Legislation body

Ø Rosa’s law is aimed at helping to end social discrimination and to create a path toward full inclusion for people with intellectual disabilities.

Ø More information on Rosa’s law can be found at www.disabled-world.com

Terry Bedford

Assistant State Training Director

Universal MH/DD/SAS

www.umhs.net