

## **BLADEN COUNTY PLAN TO DISENGAGE FROM EASTPOINTE AND JOIN TRILLIUM HEALTH RESOURCES.**

On June 28, 2021, the Bladen County Board of Commissioners voted to seek permission from the Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Service (DHHS) to disengage from Eastpointe, a Local Management Entity/Managed Care Organization (LME/MCO) managing mental health, intellectual and developmental disabilities and substance use services. North Carolina statute 122C-115(a3) permits a county to request disengagement from a LME/MCO and to join another LME/MCO. Bladen County has chosen to join Trillium Health Resources. The Board of Trillium Health Resources voted to accept Bladen County as a member.

We do not know how quickly this change will occur. Bladen County and Trillium Health Resources have requested an effective date of October 1, 2021, subject to the approval of DHHS.

- Actions Taken to Date: The Bladen County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution to disengage from Eastpointe and join Trillium Health Resources. A letter making the request was sent to Secretary Cohen of DHHS on June 29, 2021.
- The Trillium Health Resources Board voted to accept Bladen County as a member on June 30, 2021, and sent a letter to Dr. Cohen that same day.
- Bladen County has notified the other counties served by Eastpointe and the Co-Chairs of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee of the North Carolina Assembly of our decision.
- Bladen County and Trillium Health Resources have jointly developed this plan to ensure a smooth transition for Bladen County residents and providers which will ensure the continuity of service as the county transitions to Trillium.
- Bladen County affirms that it has no outstanding financial liabilities to Eastpointe.
- Bladen County affirms that there is no real property impacted by this proposed change.
- Bladen County will remain a member of Eastpointe until the effective date of its realignment with Trillium, thereby ensuring no loss of services to residents.
- Bladen County has determined that Trillium Health Resources meets the population requirements for a LME/MCO outlined in NC Statute and that its disengagement from Eastpointe will not cause Eastpointe to fall below those requirements.

### Actions to be taken immediately:

- Bladen County and Trillium Health Resources will publish this plan on their respective websites.
- Bladen County will issue a press release and post to its website a notification of its plan to disengage from Eastpointe and join Trillium Health Resources and will solicit public comment on the plan for sixty (60) days. Bladen County will post the public comments on its website for thirty (30) days following the end of the public comment period.
- Bladen County will specifically request public comment from providers, consumers, advocated, self-advocates and the State and Local Consumer and Family Advisory Committees.
- This same press release will serve as written notification to all Bladen County providers of this proposed change.

Actions to be Taken Upon Approval by DHHS:

- Trillium Health Resources will hold Provider Fairs to enter into contracts with all providers in good standing currently serving Bladen County residents. Trillium plans to contract with all current providers.
- Trillium Health Resources and Bladen County will hold public meetings at least one of which will be in the evening to introduce Trillium to consumers, families and stakeholders and answer any questions about Trillium and this change.
- Trillium and Bladen County will hold at least one public meeting targeted to other public agencies in Bladen County, such as schools, Department of Social Services, Law Enforcement, Courts, Public Health etc. to discuss the change and answer any questions.
- Trillium will assess the current gaps in service in Bladen County and recruit providers to address any identified gaps.