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mental health staff. However, the regulations do not allow for a shared treatment plan, do not allow for one medical record, and limit the amount of information that can be shared with mental health providers, even with client consent.

I personally find the aforementioned contradictory to good continuity of care, especially when the mental health staff persons are able to share vital treatment information with drug and alcohol staff in order to better serve the client.

Additionally, the advent of electronic record technology has significantly improved the ease with which providers can work collaboratively on a case. I would hope that future amendments to the regulations would take co-occurring conditions in to consideration and allow for a shared electronic record for individuals receiving dual services within one agency.

Questions regarding this comment letter can be directed to my attention at (724) 226-0664 ext. 833 or matthewsk@fswp.org.

Sincerely,

Kristin Matthews, M.S.Ed., CAC, CCDP - D

**Drug and Alcohol Coordinator** 

Family Services of Western Pennsylvania



United Way of Allegheny County United Way of Washington County United Way of Westmoreland County