



**TO:** DBHDD Community Behavioral Health Providers  
**FROM:** Melissa Sperbeck, Deputy Chief of Staff  
**DATE:** September 25, 2015  
**RE:** Update regarding the Georgia Collaborative ASO

As you are aware, DBHDD, the Georgia Collaborative ASO, and the provider network have been working toward implementation of a new community behavioral health authorization system with a target go-live date of October 1, 2015. In preparation for the launch, DBHDD and the Georgia Collaborative, with input from the provider network, have assessed the readiness to implement the authorization process and determined a need to adjust the target date. At this time, it is projected that the Georgia Collaborative authorization process will go live during the week of December 7, 2015. Further details related to the transition from APS Healthcare to the Georgia Collaborative ASO will be provided as they are available.

Providers should continue business as usual throughout October and November 2015; this includes requesting authorization, using CAFAS and LOCUS, and submitting state encounters via APS Healthcare. DBHDD will provide additional guidance related to the potential impact on the state funded fee-for-service initiative.

The department is appreciative of your continued collaboration and patience during this process. We are committed to an implementation process that ensures the stability of the provider network and easy access to services for individuals we serve.