

Q1 Spotlight

December 2004

Domestic Violence (DV) is a serious and widespread public health crisis in the United States in terms of prevalence, cost and associated health and social consequences. Beginning over a year ago in October 2003, the PA Department of Public Welfare took the lead in developing a partnership between the Office of Medical Assistance Programs (OMAP), the Office of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS), the Office of Social Programs (OSP) and the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV). The result has been a workgroup with the collaborative involvement of the HealthChoices physical health and behavioral health managed care organizations including CBHNP. A multifaceted project has resulted in interventions that center on raising awareness, providing education focused on identification and referral, and impact assessment. Provider and Member newsletters of all the HealthChoices PH-MCOs and BH-MCOs have included DV educational information for both Members and providers. Screening instruments are available, and additional interventions are ongoing through 2005.

Additional information and resources on Domestic Violence are available on the CBHNP website under Members and Provider Relations, www.cbhnp.org.