

Department of Social Services

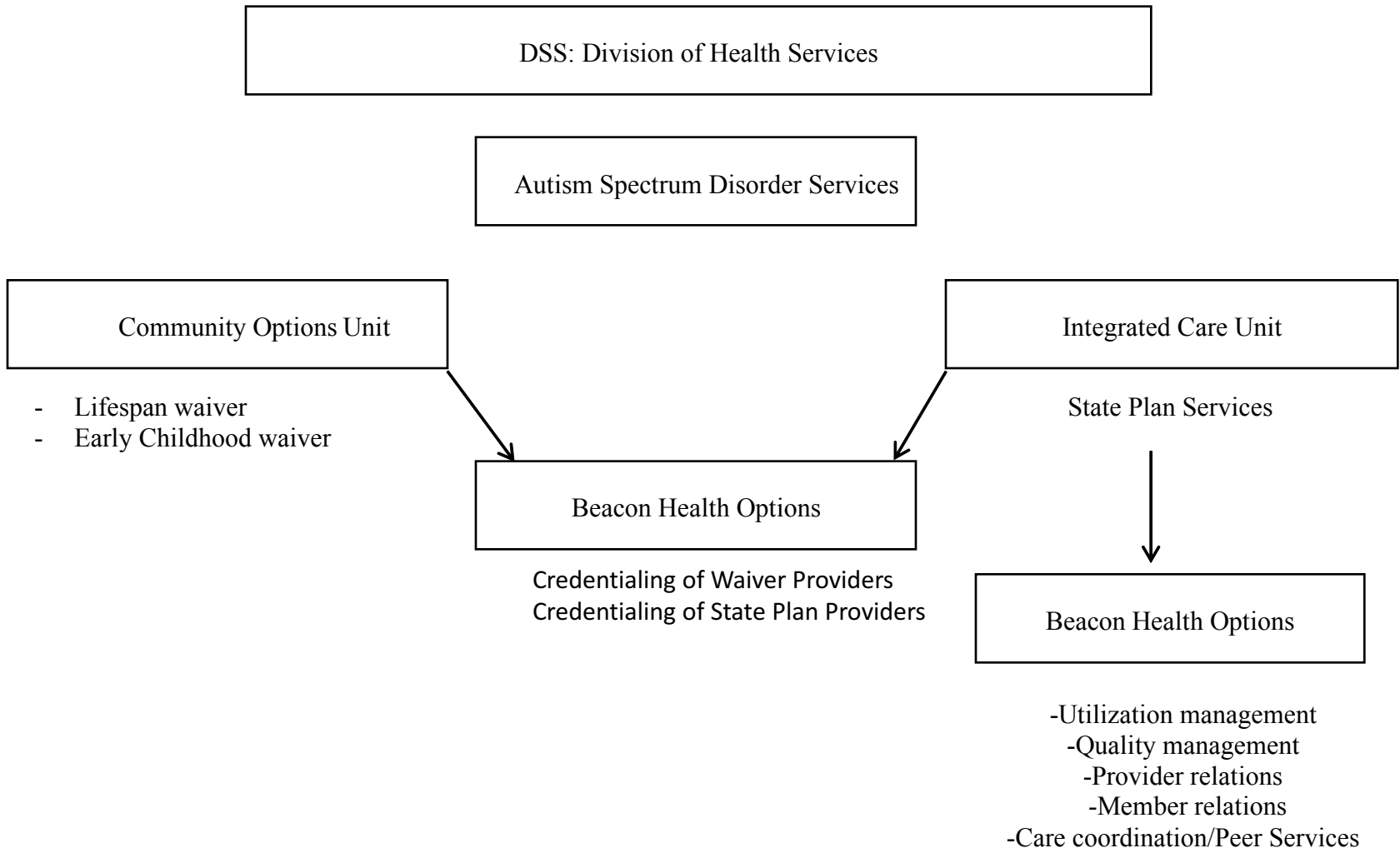
Autism Spectrum Disorder Services in the Medicaid Program

April 20, 2017

- Section 47 of Public Act 16-3, *An Act Concerning Revenue and Other Items to Implement the Budget for the Biennium Ending June 30, 2017*, transferred autism spectrum disorder services from the Dept. of Developmental Services to the Dept. of Social Services, effective July 1, 2016
- The transition included DDS staff dedicated to ASD services and the two existing autism spectrum disorder waivers:
 - Lifespan Waiver
 - Early Childhood Autism Waiver
- Medicaid provides reimbursement for autism spectrum disorder services through two distinct Medicaid payment methodologies:
 1. Medicaid Waivers (Lifespan & Early Childhood)
 2. Medicaid State Plan Services

How ASD services align with our Medicaid reform strategies:

- DSS' work aligns with the CMS triple aim to:
 - Improve experience of care, both quality and satisfaction
 - Improve health of the population
 - Reduce per capita cost of care
- DSS has focused on enhancing access to primary care and has emphasized preventive services
- DSS' model also focuses on integrating services and supports offering care coordination to vulnerable populations
- DSS is focused on a rebalancing strategy that offers community-based services and supports to help each individual achieve maximum independence and integration in the community



- In 2012, the State initiated a multi-stakeholder workgroup to do a systemic review of autism spectrum disorder services in Connecticut
- A specific gap in services was identified for children in the Birth to Three program who were aging out of the program
- We know early identification and intervention is the most effective strategy to treat autism
- Connecticut developed a Medicaid waiver for children ages 3 and 4 to fill the gap between Birth to Three and school-based services
- In January 2015, DSS initiated autism spectrum disorder services under the Medicaid State Plan

Medicaid Waivers

- A Medicaid waiver allows the state to “waive” certain federal requirements within the Medicaid Program. Specifically, such waivers permit the State to do the following:
 - Offer services that are not available under the State Plan
 - Utilize special institutional eligibility requirements primarily related to income
 - Limit the amount of spending per person
 - Limit the number of individuals served

Autism Spectrum Disorder: Early Childhood Autism Waiver

- As mentioned, DSS initiated an Early Childhood Autism Waiver for children ages 3 and 4 on February 1, 2014. This was prior to the implementation of the ASD services under the State Plan
- All services covered by the Early Childhood Autism Waiver are identical to the services covered by the autism State Plan services

- Given the availability of coverage under the State Plan, DSS proposed a waiver amendment to the Committees of Cognizance on May 16, 2016, to recommend closure of intake and to establish a transition plan for individuals enrolled in the Early Childhood Autism Waiver
- The waiver amendment was deemed approved by the committees and transmitted to CMS
- CMS approved the waiver amendment on September 1, 2016

Early Childhood Autism Waiver

- Number of people served: Currently 5 but only 2 will be on the waiver in SFY 2018
- Maximum cost per person: \$30,000 per child per year
- Average length of stay on the waiver: Short length of stay because children age off once they turn 5.
- How many new people were enrolled in 2016: 5
- How many people came off the waiver in 2016: 18
- Average caseload size for DSS case managers: 33 covering both waivers

Autism Spectrum Disorder: Lifespan Waiver

- Lifespan Waiver currently has a cap of 129 individuals
- Due for renewal before the end of 2017
- Examples of services provided under the waiver include:
 - Live-in Companion
 - Respite (In-home and out-of-home)
 - Behavioral Services
 - Job Coaching
 - Assistive Technology
 - Community Mentor
 - Specialized Driver Assessment

Services Continued

- Community Companion Homes
- Individual Goods and Services
- Interpreter
- Life Skills Coach
- Non-Medical Transportation
- Personal Emergency Response System
- Social Skills Group

Lifespan Waiver Continued

- Number of people served: 91
- Maximum cost per person: \$60,000 per person, per year
- Average waiver cost: \$12,342 (CY 2014)
- Average length of stay on the waiver: 3 years
- How many new people were enrolled in 2016: 5
- How many people came off the waiver in 2016: 2, plus 9 who were transferred to DDS waivers because of their ID diagnosis
- Average caseload size for DSS case managers: 33 covering both waivers

- Housed with other Medicaid Waiver Programs and Community-Based Services
- New Manager Amy Dumont hired in January
- One administrative assistant
- 2 Resource Specialists who have special education background
- One supervisor of case management
- Three Case Managers, two of whom are new to the unit

State Plan Services

- In July 2014, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued guidelines to Medicaid programs that required states to cover autism services for individuals under the age of 21, citing Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) federal law.
- Connecticut implemented autism services under our State Plan in January 2015 for individuals under the age of 21 on HUSKY A, C and D.

EPSDT

- Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT)
- Established in 1967 under Medicaid with the goal of providing routine screening, diagnosis, and treatment in order to avoid preventable chronic conditions for children under the age of 21
- Medicaid requires states to provide medically necessary treatment even if the service is an optional service in the state

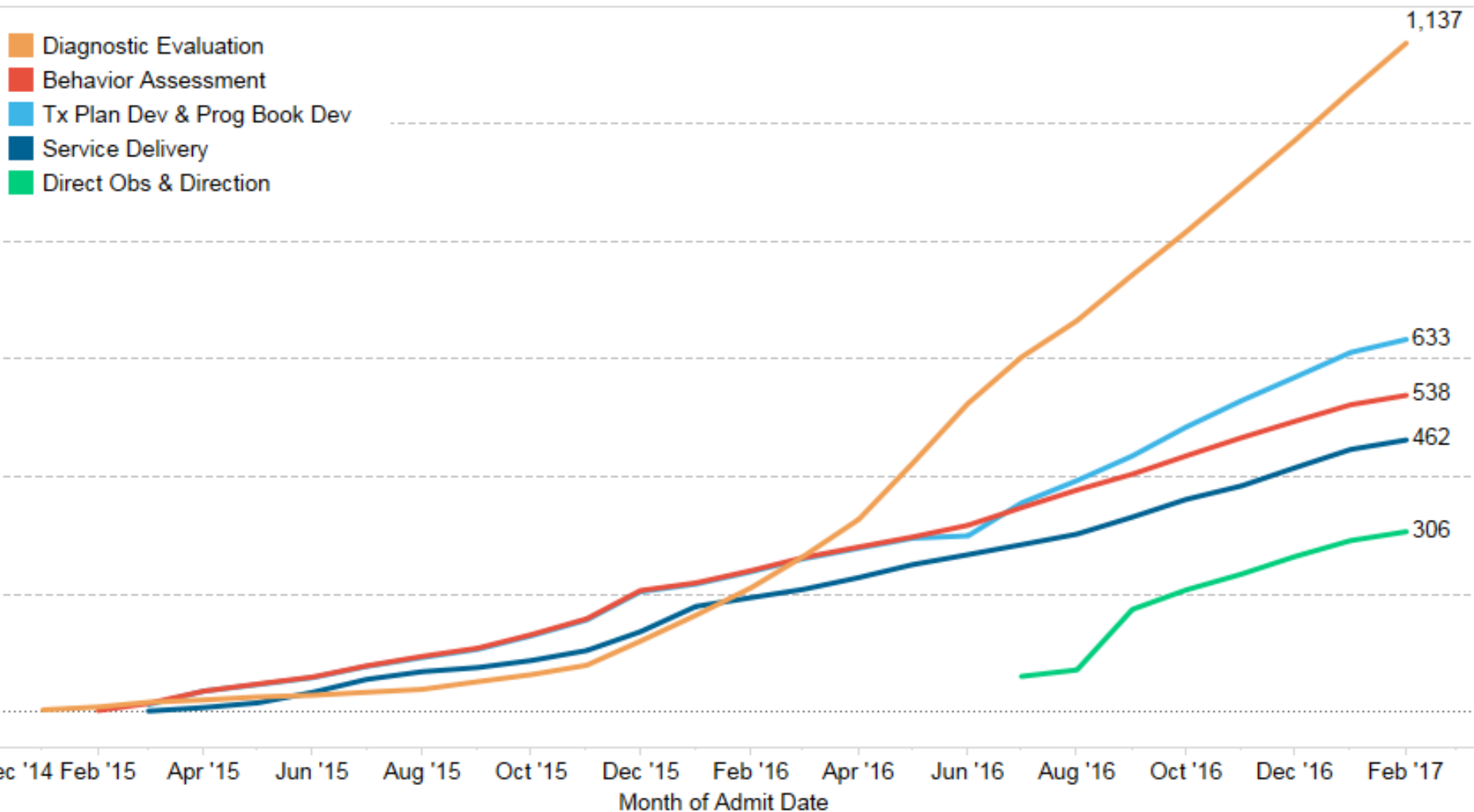
- State Plan services are managed under the Integrated Care Unit in the Division of Health Services at DSS
- Staff include the Director of Integrated Care, a Health Program Associate, and a Nurse Consultant
- Additionally, the unit frequently consults with DSS' Medical Director
- Beacon Health Options provides Utilization Management, Quality Management, Provider Relations, and Member Relations for the Medicaid behavioral health service system, including ASD services
- Beacon Health Options also provides Care Coordination and Peer Services for the ASD services

Autism Spectrum Disorder: State Plan Services

- Autism services available through the Medicaid State Plan include for individuals under the age of 21:
 - Comprehensive diagnostic evaluation
 - Assessment
 - Development of a care plan
 - Program Book
 - Direct Observation and Direction of a technician
 - Direct intervention/treatment services
 - Group social skill building

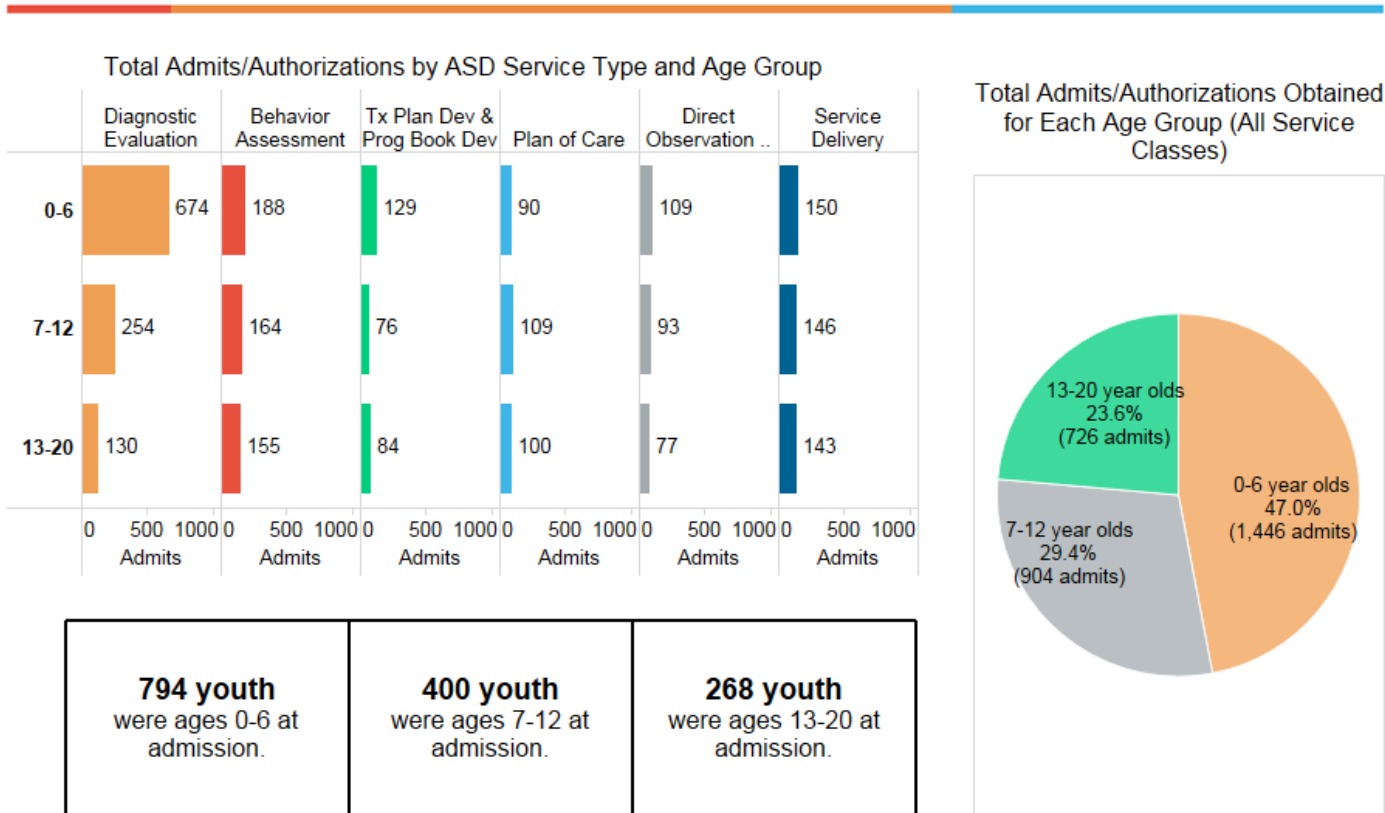
Autism Spectrum Disorder Services Monthly Admits/Authorization Volume by Service Class

Cumulative Monthly Admits/Authorizations to Autism Spectrum Disorder Services



Since program inception (1/1/2015) through last full month reported: Data through 2/28/2017

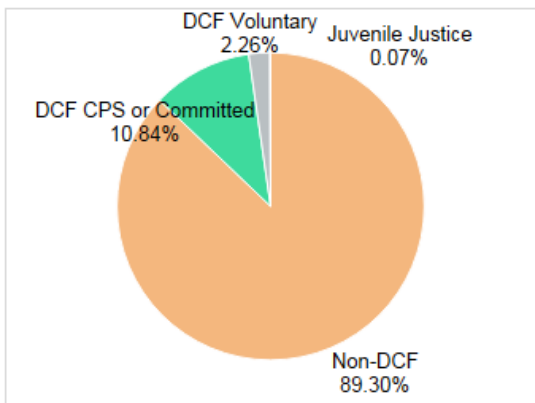
Autism Disorder Services Admits/Authorization Volume by Age



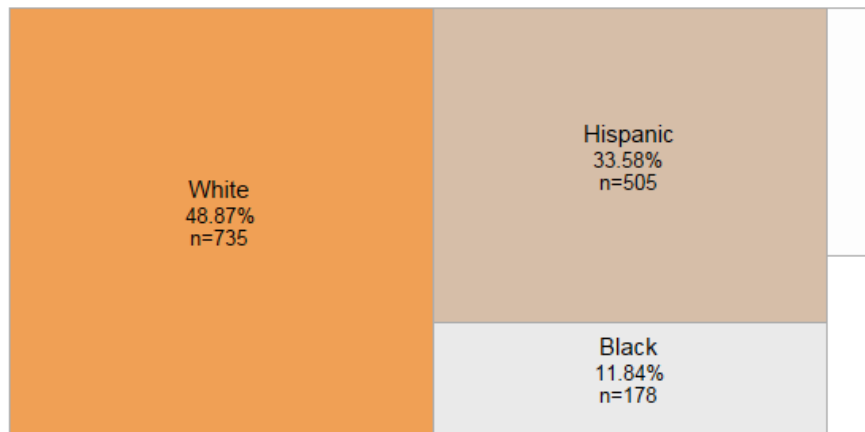
Since program inception (1/1/2015) through last full month reported: Data through 2/28/2017

Autism Disorder Service Admits/Authorization Volume by Race & DCF Status

Percent Unique Youth Authorized for Services by DCF Status**



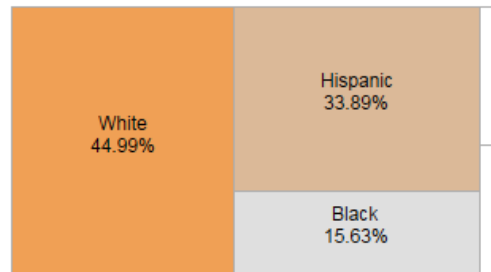
Total Unique Youth Authorized for ASD Services by Race/Ethnicity



Total Unique Youth Authorized for Services by DCF Status and Region**

	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Unknown	Grand Total
DCF Volunt..	1	4	9	5	8	7		34
DCF CPS or..	3	14	26	45	35	40		163
Juvenile Ju..					1			1
Non-DCF	112	219	177	304	259	275	1	1,343
Grand Total	116	233	202	345	297	314	1	1,504

Medicaid Youth Ages 0-17 - CY 2015 Rates



Since program inception (1/1/2015) through last full month reported: Data through 2/28/2017

Autism Disorder Services Provider Enrollment

101
individual providers have enrolled in Medicaid to provide ASD services.

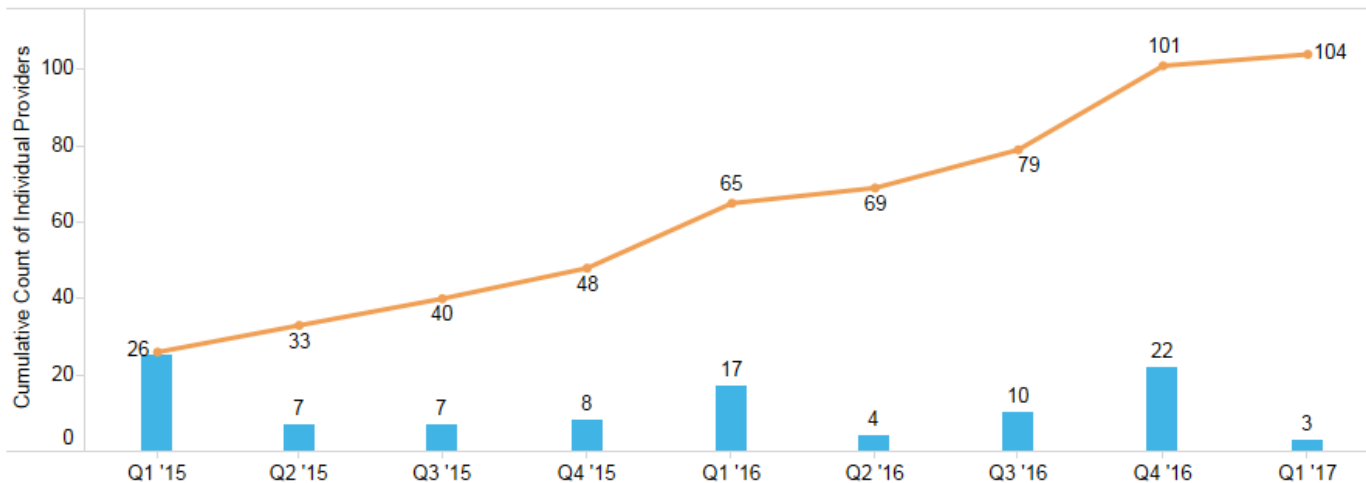
57
unique practices (individuals or groups) have enrolled in Medicaid to provide ASD services.

55
providers are able to provide ASD treatment services.

Cumulative ASD Individual Provider Enrollment

Note: Providers may be a part of the same practice. If no individual is identified then the practice is counted as the individual.

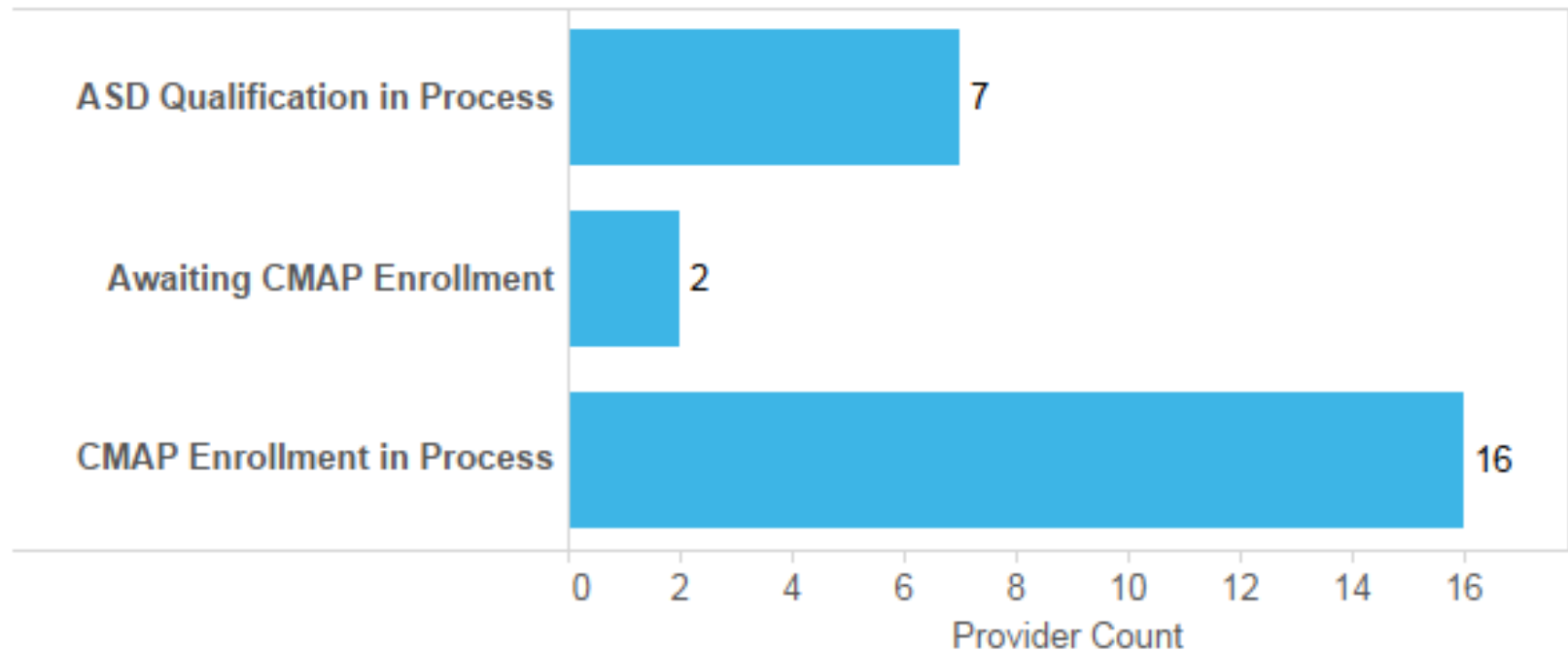
-- Running Total ■ Quarterly Additions



Since program inception (1/1/2015) through last full month reported: Data through 2/28/2017

Enrollment in Process

Number of Providers Currently in the Enrollment Process



Thank you

Contact Information

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