## BEHAVIORAL CARE SOLUTIONS

Behavioral Care Solutions for Adults and Seniors, Inc., BCS of Michigan, LLC, Total Care Solutions SC, Geriatric Psychiatric Services, PLLC, BCS of Wisconsin SC And BCS Care Solutions, LLC (Collectively "BCS")

"Healthcare Excellence for the Older Adult"

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## **BCS INTRODUCTION LETTER**

TO: PROSPECTIVE FACILITIES

FROM: BCS BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TEAM

**RE:** BCS SERVICES

## **Overview**

BCS was established in 2007 as an organization dedicated to the provision of older adult behavioral healthcare and wellness services. We offer comprehensive on-site psychiatric and psychological services to individuals residing in nursing home and assisted living settings. BCS currently services over 500 facilities throughout the Midwest including MI, OH, IL, and WI. Our team is comprised of psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners who make regularly scheduled visits to your facility. BCS also provides specialized programs in dementia care, dealing with difficult behaviors, family support services, Gradual Dose Reduction (GDR) reviews and tracking, AIMS testing, and staff in-service and training. We also offer telepsychiatric services to supplement and enhance on-site care and provide immediate access during an acute care crisis. All of our services are at **NO** cost to the facility.

In addition, the centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) implemented several regulatory changes for skilled nursing facilities (SNFs.) The F-329 guideline was deleted and changed to the F-757 and 758 tags to ensure the residents' drug regimen is free from unnecessary drugs and further indicates:

- Core F-329 guidelines similarly defined
- Definition of psychotropic drug expanded
- Greater emphasis on behavior indication and tracking
- Care planning to indicate more person-centered language e.g. "specific expressions or indications of distress and behavior."
- Documentation of specific non-pharmacological approaches to care.
- Indication in the medical record of regular interdisciplinary coordination and/or behavioral committee meetings.
- Facility has defined psychoactive medication reduction program
- Diagnosis consistent with psychoactive medication prescribed.
- Potential underlying medical causes of psychiatric condition ruled out and documented in medical record

CMS has indicated that they intend to increase focus on the use of these classes of medications and we can expect that in the coming year this will be an area of emphasized survey and enforcement activity. In addition, CMS is working on enhancing measures for public reporting purposes and extending similar guidelines to the assisted living setting. This current mandate creates a very difficult situation due to the dramatic rise in the number of individuals in nursing homes and assisted living facilities with dementia with concomitant

behavioral or emotional disturbances and those with psychiatric diagnosis. Facilities and clinicians alike are faced with the dilemma that these common disturbances often have no readily available psychopharmacological treatment and not treating these conditions can have significant consequences including, injury to the resident, other residents, or facility staff. Research has shown that the second leading cause for the discharge of residents from an ALF or NH to a higher level of care is directly related to untreated behavioral and emotional changes related to neurodegenerative or psychiatric illness.

With this in mind, BCS is pleased to present to our facility customers multiple programs designed to improve behavioral health care and better ensure appropriate use of antipsychotic drugs and other medications in the nursing home and assisted living setting, non-pharmacological interventions and other programs to enhance compliance with these new regulatory standards and improve resident quality of life.

We hope that these initiatives will assist our facility customers to better ensure compliance with the psychiatric and behavioral health standards during your annual survey and best manage the intemperate use of antipsychotic and other unnecessary medications to support the highest quality of life for the residents we serve. We welcome you to visit our website (behavioralcaresolutions.com) for additional details or feel free to contact us anytime at (248)859-3900 and we would be happy to arrange an on-site or teleconference meeting to review our programs in greater detail.

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