



**NEVADA COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
AGENCY**

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT
(Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Program)

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February 9, 2015

Honorable Board of Supervisors
Eric Rood Administrative Center
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

DATE OF MEETING: March 10, 2015

SUBJECT: Resolution approving execution of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with California Health and Wellness Plan (CHWP) for the coordination of services in the delivery of specialty mental health services to CHWP members served by both parties.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: There is no exchange of funds between California Health and Wellness Plan and Nevada County Behavioral Health under this Agreement. The department is mandated by the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to enter into an MOU with any Medi-Cal managed care plan providing health care services to County Mental Health Plan Medi-Cal beneficiaries. This Agreement has no impact on county general fund dollars.

BACKGROUND: Nevada County Behavioral Health is a Mental Health Plan (MHP), as defined in Title 9 California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 1810.226, and is required by the State to enter into an MOU with any Medi-Cal managed care plan providing health care services to County Mental Health Plan Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

Beginning January 1, 2014, Health Plans for Medi-Cal beneficiaries became responsible for the delivery of certain mental health services through their provider networks to beneficiaries with mild to moderate impairment of mental, emotional, or behavioral functioning resulting from a mental health disorder as defined by the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM), that are outside of the primary care physician's scope of practice. Additionally, the Health Plans are obligated to cover and

pay for mental health assessments conducted by licensed mental health professionals for beneficiaries with a potential mental health disorder.

Behavioral Health as the MHP will continue to be responsible for providing CHWP members with outpatient mental health benefits for those members with a significant impairment in function that meet the medical necessity determination criteria for mental health services.

California Health and Wellness Plan is part of the Local Initiative Health Plan or the Commercial Health Plan for the County of Nevada (the "Service Area") for Mental Health Care Plan beneficiaries. The purpose of this MOU is to describe the responsibilities of Behavioral Health and California Health and Wellness Plan in the delivery of specialty mental health services to members served by both parties. It is the intention of both parties to coordinate care between providers of physical and mental health care. The parties agree to address policies and procedures that cover management of members care including: screening assessments and referrals, medical necessity determination, care coordination and exchange of medical information.

It is recommended that the Board approve the attached MOU as it allows the expansion and coverage of mental health services available to Medi-Cal beneficiaries, and will help establish protocols of care coordination between the parties.

Please contact me if any additional information is required.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Slade, MFT
Interim Director of Behavioral Health

RS/cs