



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
Department of Health Care Services



September 30, 2013

Gloria Nagle, PhD, MPA  
Associate Regional Administrator  
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
Division of Medicaid and Children's Health  
90 Seventh Street, Suite 5-300 (5W)  
San Francisco, CA 94103-6707

Dear Ms. Nagle:

The California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is submitting an amendment to the Section 1915(b) Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS) waiver for your review and approval. As previously discussed, an amendment is needed to reflect changes in the mental health system that impacts the SMHS waiver.

In accordance with California Senate Bill X1-1, which modified the Medi-Cal program to include benefits for the Medicaid adult optional expansion population as specified in Section 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII) of Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Section 1396a(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII)) and modified the Medi-Cal benefit package to include all aspects of the essential health benefits package as specified in the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Title 42 U.S.C. Section 18022), Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans will provide mental health benefits covered in the State Plan, excluding SMHS. SMHS will be provided to Medi-Cal enrolled optional adult expansion beneficiaries by the county MHPs. These changes will be effective January 1, 2014.

The amendment also includes updates to the projections for costs, numbers of eligibles and member months related to the optional adult Medicaid expansion population enrolling in Medi-Cal.

DHCS requests that this amendment be approved for the remaining term of the waiver (October 1, 2013 – June 30, 2015).

Please contact Ms. Dina Kokkos-Gonzales, Chief, Program Policy and Quality Assurance Branch, Mental Health Services Division at (916) 552-9055 or by e-mail at [Dina.Kokkos@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:Dina.Kokkos@dhcs.ca.gov) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Toby Douglas  
Director

Enclosures

cc: Donald A. Novo  
Division of Medicaid and Children's Health  
90 Seventh Street, Suite 5-300 (5W)  
San Francisco, CA 94103-6707

Karen Baylor  
Deputy Director  
Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services  
Department of Health Care Services  
1501 Capitol Avenue, MS 4000  
P.O. Box 997413  
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

Brenda Grealish  
Division Chief,  
Mental Health Services Division  
Department of Health Care Services  
1500 Capitol Avenue, MS2702  
Sacramento, CA 95814