

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 941 03-6707

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)(1 O)(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).

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

Toby Douglas

Director

Directors Office

1501 Capitol Avenue, MS 0000, P.O. Box 997413

Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

Telephone (916) 440-7400 Fax (916) 440-7404

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