

September 30, 2025

THIS LETTER SENT VIA EMAIL

Ms. Courtney Miller, Director
Division of Program Operations
Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
601 East 12th Street, Suite 0300
Kansas City, MO 64106-2898

STATE PLAN AMENDMENT 25-0023: ADD SUPERVISOR OF COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS

Dear Ms. Miller:

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is submitting State Plan Amendment (SPA) 25-0023 for your review and approval. This SPA proposes to add local educational agencies (LEAs) and public institutions of higher education (IHEs) to the list of eligible providers that can supervise Community Health Workers (CHWs). DHCS seeks an effective date of July 1, 2025, for this SPA.

Currently, CHWs must be supervised by a Medi-Cal-enrolled community-based organization, local health jurisdiction, licensed provider, pharmacy, hospital, or clinic. CHWs are trusted members of their community who provide a preventative health service including addressing issues related to mental health conditions and substance use disorders. CHWs have been utilized by Medi-Cal enrolled LEAs (e.g., the governing body of any school district, county offices of education, charter school, or state special school) and IHEs (community college districts, California State University campuses, and University of California campuses) to provide covered services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries. However, LEAs and IHEs are currently ineligible as providers that can supervise CHWs, limiting the ability of these Medi-Cal enrolled providers from seeking reimbursement for covered CHW services being delivered to Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

Pursuant to California Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code section 5961 *et seq.*, the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) is a multiyear, multi-department package of investments that seeks to reimagine the systems, regardless of payer (e.g., Medi-Cal, Commercial Health Plans), that support the behavioral health needs for all California's children, youth, and their families. Broadly, efforts under the CYBHI focus on promoting social and emotional well-being, preventing behavioral health challenges, and providing equitable, appropriate, timely, and accessible services for emerging and existing behavioral health needs for children and youth.



In accordance with W&I Code section 5961.4, Health & Safety (H&S) Code section 1374.722, and Insurance Code section 10144.53, DHCS implemented the CYBHI school-linked behavioral health fee schedule and provider network. The CYBHI fee schedule is a multi-payer program that requires the Medi-Cal delivery system and commercial health plans to reimburse school-linked providers for furnishing services to students at a school site.¹

DHCS seeks to add LEAs and IHEs to the list of providers that can supervise CHWs to align with the goals of CYBHI and provide equitable and accessible services for emerging and existing behavioral health needs for children and youth that are students at a California public school or school district who are receiving services through the CYBHI school-linked behavioral health fee schedule program.

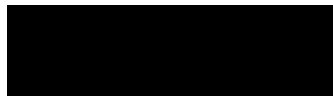
DHCS received a No-Notice Tribal Notice approval from CMS on May 8, 2025. In addition, a Public Notice was published online on September 3, 2025. At the time of SPA submission, no comments were received.

DHCS is submitting the following SPA documents for review and approval:

- CMS 179 – Transmittal and Notice of Approval of State Plan Material
- Limitations on Attachment 3.1-A, page 18e
- Limitations on Attachment 3.1-B, page 18e
- Public Notice
- No-Notice Tribal approval

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Autumn Boylan, Deputy Director of the Office of Strategic Partnerships at (916) 508-9284 or by email at Autumn.Boylan@dhcs.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Tyler Sadwith
State Medicaid Director
Chief Deputy Director, Health Care Programs
California Department of Health Care Services

Enclosures and cc: See Next Page

¹ A school site is defined in statute as a location where a school, or district, provides or arranges for the provision of medically necessary treatment of a mental health or substance use disorder to its students, including on-campus, off-campus and mobile clinic settings. (See H&S §1374.722 (b)(6)).

Ms. Miller
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cc: Lindy Harrington
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**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF
STATE PLAN MATERIAL
FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER

2. STATE

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE OF THE SOCIAL
SECURITY ACT XIX XXI

TO: CENTER DIRECTOR
CENTERS FOR MEDICAID & CHIP SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE

5. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION

6. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT (Amounts in WHOLE dollars)
a. FFY _____ \$ _____
b. FFY _____ \$ _____

7. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION
OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable)

9. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT

10. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One)

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT
COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED
NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

OTHER, AS SPECIFIED:

Please note: The Governor's Office does not wish to review
the State Plan Amendment.

11. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL

12. TYPED NAME

13. TITLE

14. DATE SUBMITTED

15. RETURN TO

FOR CMS USE ONLY

16. DATE RECEIVED

17. DATE APPROVED

PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED

18. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL

19. SIGNATURE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

20. TYPED NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

21. TITLE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

22. REMARKS

TYPE OF SERVICE	PROGRAM COVERAGE**	PRIOR AUTHORIZATION OR OTHER REQUIREMENTS*
13c. Community Health Worker Services	Community Health Worker (CHW) services are preventive health services, as defined in 42 CFR 440.130(c), to prevent disease, disability, and other health conditions or their progression; to prolong life; and promote physical and mental health and efficiency. CHWs are trusted members of their community who help address chronic conditions, preventive health care needs, and health-related social needs. CHW services may: • Be provided in an individual or group setting. • Address issues that include but are not limited to: control and prevention of chronic conditions or infectious diseases; mental health conditions and substance use disorders; perinatal health conditions; sexual and reproductive health; environmental and climate-sensitive health issues; child health and development; oral health; aging; injury; domestic violence; and violence prevention. • Include: ○ Health education to promote the beneficiary's health or address barriers to health care, including providing information or instruction on health topics. The content of health education must be consistent with established or recognized health care standards. Health education may include coaching and goal setting to improve a beneficiary's health or ability to self-manage health conditions.	Pursuant to 42 CFR Section 440.130(c), CHW services are provided as preventive services and must be recommended by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts within their scope of practice under state law. CHWs must be supervised by a Medi-Cal-enrolled community-based organization, local health jurisdiction, licensed provider, pharmacy, hospital, clinic, as defined in 42 CFR 440.90, a local educational agency, or a public institution of higher education. CHWs must have lived experience that aligns with and provides a connection between the CHW and the community being served. CHWs must demonstrate minimum qualifications through one of the following pathways: • Certificate Pathway: 1. CHW Certificate: A certificate of completion with a curricula that attests to demonstrated skills and/or practical training in the following areas: communication, interpersonal and relationship building, service coordination and navigation, capacity building, advocacy, education and facilitation, individual and

* Prior authorization is not required for emergency services.

**Coverage is limited to medically necessary services.

TN No. 25-0023

Supersedes

TN No. 24-0037

Approval Date: _____

Effective Date: July 1, 2025

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