

Doula Implementation Workgroup Stakeholder Meeting

DHCS Benefits Division

March 30, 2023

Agenda

Agenda Items		
1	Welcome, Introductory Remarks, and Logistics (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•DHCS Staff•Deitre Epps, CEO, RACE for Equity
2	Introductions (15 minutes)	DHCS Staff, RACE for Equity, & Doula Workgroup
3	Overview of Doula Services and discussion (35 minutes)	DHCS Staff & Doula Workgroup
4	Break (10 minutes)	
5	Doula Implementation Workgroup and SB 65 reporting requirements (15 minutes)	DHCS Staff & Doula Workgroup
6	Identifying measurements for future reporting (15 minutes)	DHCS Staff and Doula Workgroup
7	Planning for future Doula Implementation Workgroup meetings (10 minutes)	DHCS
8	Closing comments and next steps (10 minutes)	DHCS Staff and Deitre Epps

Workgroup Logistics

- » Workgroup members are the only stakeholders who have the ability to speak during the meeting.
- » All other attendees will be in listen-only mode.
- » All stakeholders are able to use the chat feature during the meeting.
- » All stakeholder workgroup meetings are open to the public in listen-only mode.
- » DHCS will review all feedback/comments on discussion topics submitted via email (DoulaBenefit@dhcs.ca.gov) and via the chat function.

Introductions



Doula Implementation Workgroup Members

- » Ajira Darch, Roots of Labor Birth Collective
- » Ashley Skiffer-Thompson, African American Infant Maternal Mortality Doula Program, LA County Department of Public Health
- » Alex Rounds, First 5 Mendocino
- » Amy Chen, National Health Law Program
- » Andrea Ferroni, CDPH
- » Antoinette Martinez, United Indian Health Services, Inc.
- » Cassondra (Cassie) Marshall, UC Berkeley School of Public Health

Doula Implementation Workgroup Members

- » Collen Townsend, Partnership Health Plan of California
- » Elizabeth Amezcua, San Bernardino County Department of Public Health
- » Jessica Wade, March of Dimes
- » Joy Dean, The Nesting Stage, LLC
- » Kate Ross, California Association of Health Plans
- » Khefri Riley, Frontline Doulas
- » Kristin Schlater, LA Care Health Plan

Doula Implementation Workgroup Members

- » Kristina Swaim, Ventura County Medical Center and Santa Paula Hospital
- » Linda Jones, Black Women Birthing Justice
- » Mahnoor Khan, California Primary Care Association
- » Marna Armstead, SisterWeb San Francisco Community Doula Network
- » Nicole Morris, Alameda County Public Health Department
- » Payshia Edwards-Smith, Heluna Health – Expecting Justice
- » Priya Batra, LA County Department of Public Health

Doula Implementation Workgroup Members

- » Pooja Mittal, Health Net
- » Rebecca Sullivan, Local Health Plans of California
- » Robert Ducay, California Hospital Association
- » Ryan Spencer, American College of OB/GYNs
- » Samsarah Morgan, Oakland Better Birth Foundation
- » Sara Brown, First 5 Orange County
- » Sayida Peprah-Wilson, Diversity Uplifts, Inc.
- » Shantay Davies-Balch, BLACK Wellness & Prosperity Center



- » Deitre Epps, CEO and Founder
- » Zachary Epps, Program Director
- » Lydia Swartz, Program Manager
- » Aquilah Nelson, Project Assistant

Overview of Doula Services



Fee-for-Service Billing Update

- » DHCS will require that doulas bill with modifier XP to help claims process as a doula service.
- » Update will publish April 17

Status Updates

- » Doula directory
 - Race and ethnicity
 - Pronouns
 - Languages
 - Specializations
- » Recommendation form
- » Hospital Associations updates

Doula Application Requirements

Local Requirements

- » Business License (dependent on city/county requirement)
- » Fictitious Business Name Statement

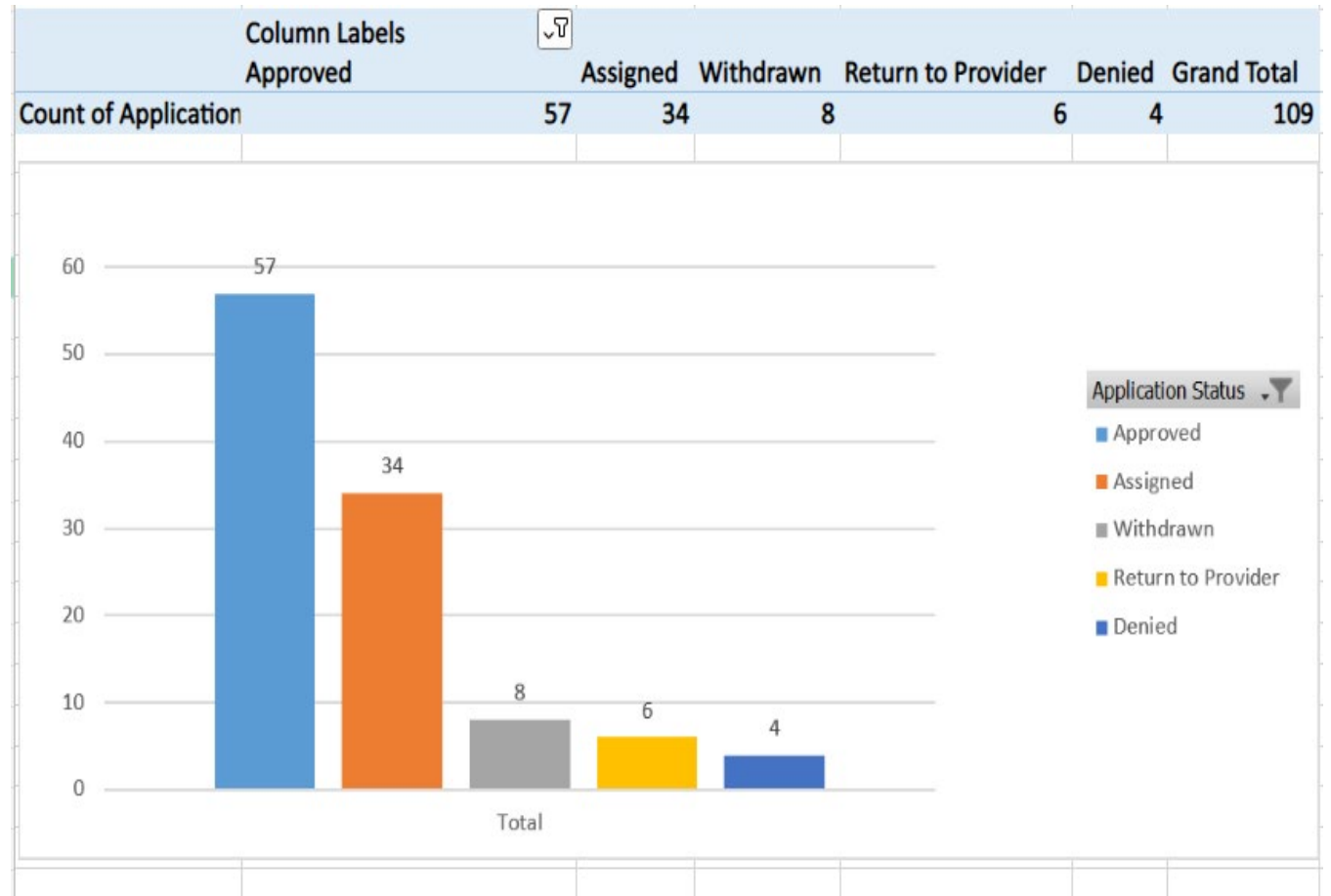
Generally Not Required for doulas

- » General Liability Insurance
- » Professional Liability Insurance
- » Workers Compensation Insurance
 - Provide a copy with application **only if** you have it, as required by state law.
 - Not a Medi-Cal requirement to obtain it, only have to provide a copy if you have it.

Provider Enrollment Updates

» Doula Enrollment

- Applications Received: 109
 - Applications Approved: 57
 - Applications Assigned: 34
 - Applications Withdrawn: 8
 - Applications Returned: 6
 - Applications Denied: 4
- * As of March 24, 2023



Break

Doula Implementation Workgroup

- » Senate Bill 65 added Welfare & Institutions Code section 14132.24 to require the Department to convene a workgroup to examine implementation of doula services in Medi-Cal:
 - Ensure that doula services are available to eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries.
 - Minimize barriers and delays to payments and reimbursement.
 - Make recommendations for outreach efforts for Medi-Cal beneficiaries and target populations.
- » The workgroup is comprised of doulas, health care providers, consumer and community advocates, health plans, county representatives, and other stakeholders with experience with doula services.

Reporting Requirements

- » Senate Bill 65 required the Department to publish a report on the number of individuals with Medi-Cal utilizing doula services, broken down by race, ethnicity, primary language, health plan, and county.
- » Report will identify any barriers that impede access to doula services during perinatal period.
- » The report will make recommendations to the Department and Legislature to reduce any identified barriers.

Role of the Doula Implementation Workgroup

- » Advise DHCS on required elements for the report
- » Make recommendations on outreach efforts
- » Consider barriers and delays in payment to enrolled doulas and reimbursement to Medi-Cal recipients

Planning for Future Doula Implementation Workgroup Meetings



Proposed Schedule for the Doula Implementation Workgroup

- » Quarterly Meetings and extended schedule:
 - 2023 – March, June, September
 - 2024 – January, April, July, October
 - 2025 – February, May

RACE For Equity Needs Assessment



Medi-Cal Doula Focus Group

**Are you a Doula?
Have you enrolled in
Medi-Cal as a Provider?**

We would like to **hear** to
from you!

DHCS, contracted with RACE
For Equity, wants to hear
what made your enrollment
successful.

Join us for a **virtual** focus
group and share your
experiences with enrolling
in Medi-Cal.

Compensation will be offered



When is the RACE for
Equity focus group?

Tuesday, April 11 @ 2-3
Tuesday, April 18 @ 2-3
Thursday, April 27 @
12:30 - 1:30

Scan the QR Code to
sign-up



Needs Assessment Overview

- » Doula Survey
- » Tribal Health Program Interviews
- » Focus groups
- » Hospital Systems Interviews
- » Meeting to share findings with the stakeholders

Questions?



Contact Information

» Written comments can be sent to the dedicated doula mailbox:

» DoulaBenefit@dhcs.ca.gov.

» For more information:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/Doula-Services.aspx>