



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



GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

January 23, 2019

To: Tribal Chairpersons, Designees of Indian Health Programs,
and Urban Indian Organizations

Subject: Notice of Proposed Change to the Medi-Cal Program

The purpose of this letter is to provide information regarding a proposed change to the Department of Health Care Services' (DHCS) Medi-Cal Program that will be submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). DHCS is forwarding this information for your review and comment.

DHCS is required to seek advice from designees of Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations on Medi-Cal matters having a direct effect on Indians, Indian Health Programs or Urban Indian Organizations per the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). DHCS must solicit the advice of designees prior to submission to CMS of any State Plan Amendment, waiver requests or modifications, or proposals for demonstration projects in the Medi-Cal program.

Please see the enclosed summary for a detailed description of this DHCS proposal.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations may also submit written comments or questions concerning this proposal within 30 days from the receipt of notice. Comments may be sent by email to HHP@dhcs.ca.gov or by mail to the address below:

Contact Information

Nathaniel Emery
Director's Office
Department of Health Care Services
MS 0000
P.O. Box 997413
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

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and Urban Indian Organizations

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Please note that Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations may also request a consultation on this proposal at any time as needed.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Sandra Willburn, Chief
Primary, Rural, and Indian Health Division
Department of Health Care Services
MS 8502
P.O. Box 997413,
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

Enclosure



**Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)
Tribal and Designees of Indian Health Programs Notice**

PURPOSE

DHCS proposes to submit State Plan Amendment (SPA) 19-0001 and 19-0002 to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to seek necessary approvals for changes to the Health Homes Program (HHP).

BACKGROUND

Section 2703 of the Affordable Care Act¹ allows states to implement a HHP, which is designed to coordinate the full range of physical, behavioral health, and community-based long term services and supports for members with chronic conditions. DHCS submitted state plan amendments seeking CMS approval for implementation of the HHP (as authorized by Assembly Bill 361²) beginning in 2017. CMS has approved all HHP related SPAs, which have to date included changes to the HHP implementation schedule and the expansion of HHP services.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CHANGES

SPA 19-0001 will begin implementation of HHP services for members with physical health/substance use disorder (SUD) chronic conditions for the Group 3 counties of Alameda, Fresno, Kern, Los Angeles, Imperial, Orange, San Mateo, Sacramento, San Diego, Santa Clara, and Tulare on July 1, 2019. SPA 19-0002 will provide HHP services for members with serious mental illness or serious emotional disturbance in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

IMPACT TO TRIBAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

SPA 19-0001 and 19-0002 may impact Indian Health Programs because they have the option to become HHP providers within the local community as a community-based care management entity. Medi-Cal managed care health plans will select and certify local community-based providers to provide HHP services.

IMPACT TO FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS (FQHCs)

The changes may allow additional participation for FQHCs because they have the option to become HHP providers within the local community as a community-based care management entity. Medi-Cal managed care health plans will select and certify local community-based providers to provide HHP services.

¹ Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Pub. L. 111-148) enacted on March 23, 2010 is available at: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/3590> as revised by the Health Care & Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Pub. L. 111-152), enacted on March 30, 2010.is available at: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/4872>:

² Assembly Bill 361(Chapter 642, Statutes of 2013 is available at: http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140AB361



IMPACT TO INDIAN MEDI-CAL BENEFICIARIES

SPA 19-0001 may increase access to care coordination services for American Indians with physical health/SUD chronic conditions in Alameda, Fresno, Kern, Los Angeles, Imperial, Orange, San Mateo, Sacramento, San Diego, Santa Clara, and Tulare counties. Additionally, American Indians with serious mental illness or serious emotional disturbance in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties may have greater access to care coordination services as a result of SPA 19-0002. HHP services are entirely optional for members.

RESPONSE DATE

Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations may also submit written comments or questions concerning this proposal within 30 days from the receipt of notice. Comments may be sent by email to HHP@dhcs.ca.gov or by mail to the address below:

CONTACT INFORMATION

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