

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES
NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST
RELEASE DATE: OCTOBER 7, 2022**

PROPOSED STATE PLAN AMENDMENT TO SEEK NECESSARY FEDERAL APPROVALS TO ADD QUALIFYING COMMUNITY-BASED MOBILE CRISIS INTERVENTION SERVICES AS A COVERED MEDI-CAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BENEFIT

This notice is to provide information of public interest about a proposed State Plan Amendment (SPA) by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). The proposed SPA 22-0043 will add qualifying community-based mobile crisis intervention services for a period of five years as a Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Service, Expanded SUD Treatment Service, and Rehabilitative Mental Health Treatment Service.

The qualifying community-based mobile crisis intervention services will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, and will include the following service components:

- Crisis assessment
- Mobile crisis response
- Crisis planning
- Facilitation of a warm handoff
- Referrals to ongoing supports
- Follow up check-ins

Qualifying community-based mobile crisis intervention services are an integral part of California's broader effort to strengthen the continuum of community-based care for Medi-Cal beneficiaries who are living with mental health and/or substance use disorder conditions. The new qualifying community-based mobile crisis intervention services are designed to provide relief to beneficiaries experiencing a behavioral health crisis, including through de-escalation and stabilization techniques, and by reducing the immediate risk of danger and subsequent harm and avoiding unnecessary emergency department care, psychiatric inpatient hospitalizations, and law enforcement involvement. Community-based mobile crisis intervention services are provided by a multidisciplinary mobile crisis team at the location where the individual is experiencing the behavioral health crisis, including at the individual's home, school or workplace, on the street, or where an individual socializes.

DHCS estimates that the annual aggregate Medi-Cal expenditures for qualifying community-based mobile crisis intervention services will be \$216,966,000 in total funds.

The effective date of the proposed SPA is January 1, 2023. All proposed SPAs are subject to approval by the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENTS

Upon submission to CMS, a copy of the proposed SPA 22-0043 will be published at the following internet address:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Pages/PendingStatePlanAmendments.aspx>.

If you would like to view the SPA in person once it becomes available, please visit your local county welfare department. You may also request a copy of proposed SPA 22-0023 using the mailing or email addresses listed below.

Written comments may be sent to the following address:

Department of Health Care Services
Medi-Cal Behavioral Health Division
Attn: Teresa Castillo
P.O. Box 997413, MS 4000
Sacramento, California 95899-7417

Comments may also be emailed to PublicInput@dhcs.ca.gov. Please indicate SPA 22-0043 in the subject line or message.

A copy of submitted public comments to SPA 22-0043 may be requested in writing to the mailing or email addresses identified above.