



STATE OF WASHINGTON
HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

626 8th Avenue, SE • P.O. Box 45502 • Olympia, Washington 98504-5502

January 25, 2023

Dear Tribal Leader:

SUBJECT: MEDICAID STATE PLAN AMENDMENT 23-0003 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AIDES AND COMMUNITY HEALTH AIDES

In accordance with section 1902(a)(73)(A) of the Social Security Act regarding the solicitation of advice prior to the submission of any Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) or waiver likely to have a direct effect on Indians, Indian Health Programs, or Urban Indian Organizations, the Health Care Authority (HCA) hereby seeks your advice on the following matter.

Purpose

HCA intends to submit Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) 23-0003 to add Behavioral Health Aides (BHA) and Practitioners (BHP), Dental Health Aides (DHAs) and Community Health Aides (CHA) and Practitioners (CHP) to the Medicaid State Plan. These practitioners must:

- Be certified by an Area Community Health Aide Program (CHAP) Certification Board as defined by Indian Health Service (IHS) Circular 20-06 or by tribal law;
- Be supervised in accordance with the Portland Area Community Health Aide Program Standards and Procedures (PASP) as defined by IHS Circular 20-06, by a licensed provider practicing within the scope of their practice as defined by state law;
- Meet the training, competencies, and experience requirements as described in the PASP for BHPs, DHAs and CHPs; and
- Meet the standards defined by the PASP for BHA I, II, and III, DHA I, II, and III and CHA I, II, and III.

The proposed effective date for this SPA is January 1, 2023

Anticipated Impact on Indians/Indian Health Programs/Urban Indian Organizations

HCA anticipates this SPA to have a positive impact on American Indians/Alaska Natives, Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Health Programs. In making these provider types Medicaid reimbursable, HCA anticipates a larger and more culturally-attuned workforce, creating greater access and producing better outcomes.

Copy Attached

A copy of the draft SPA is attached for your review.

Consultation

Consultation for this SPA will occur on March 8, 2023, from 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm, after the Monthly Tribal Meeting.

Comments and Questions

HCA would appreciate any input or concerns that Tribal representatives wish to share regarding this SPA. To return any comments, please contact Aren Sparck, Tribal Affairs Administrator via email at aren.sparck@hca.wa.gov, with a courtesy copy to Ann Myers, State Plan Coordinator, at ann.myers@hca.wa.gov by March 8, 2023.

Please contact Aren Sparck via email if you have tribal affairs-related questions.

Please forward this information to any interested party.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charissa Fotinos MD, MSc". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Charissa Fotinos, MD, MSc
Medicaid and Behavioral Health Medical Director

cc: Aren Sparck, Tribal Affairs Administrator, OTA, HCA
Ann Myers, State Plan Coordinator, DLS, HCA