

Nurse Care Manager Project

Overview

The Health Care Authority Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) received funds in the state operating budget to develop the Nurse Care Manager project. The objective of the Nurse Care Manager project is to increase access to medication for opioid use disorder services. Funding for this project is part of Governor Jay Inslee’s Executive Order 16-09, addressing the Opioid Use Public Health Crisis.

Eligibility requirements

For an individual to receive care through this project they must meet the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM 5) diagnostic criteria for opioid use disorder (OUD) and meet state and federal eligibility requirements for admission. Pregnant and intravenous drug users are priority populations for admission.

2021-2023 budget

Table 1. 2021-2023 budget

State	\$ 881,064
Medicaid	\$ 881,064
Total	\$ 1,762,128

Rates

\$195,792 per year was provided to each organization through performance-based contracts to hire a Nurse Care Manager and provide services and care coordination to individuals. Every site is contracted to serve a minimum of 120 unique individuals per year with opioid use disorder by administering medications approved by the FDA per year.

Numbers served

In 2019-2020, the project served 1702 individuals and 2020-2021 the project served 1033 individuals. In 2021-2022, as of October 2021, the project served 348 unique individuals. The decrease in the numbers of individuals served year over year is due to restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Key partners

A DBHR workgroup met and developed priorities for partnership based on organizations interest and/or currently offering medication for opioid use disorder services. Two nurse care managers were placed in Eastern Washington and seven in Western Washington. These are located in FQHCs, CMHC, medical clinics, tribal health center and a jail.

Oversight

DBHR contracted with nine organizations to hire a Nurse Care Manager to provide care coordination for individuals with OUD and provide community outreach regarding OUD and medication for opioid use disorder.

- Olympia Medical Center, Port Angeles
- Cascade Medical Advantage, Bellingham
- Columbia River Mental Health, Vancouver
- Columbia Valley Community Health, Wenatchee
- Community Health of Central Washington, Ellensburg
- Cowlitz Tribal Health, Tukwila
- Multicare Health Systems, Puyallup
- Peninsula Community Health Service, Port Orchard
- Rainier Internal Medicine, Pierce County Jail

Information

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