



NORTH SOUND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ORGANIZATION

Provider Bulletin May 2020

WEBSITE LINKS:

Numbered Memorandum

<http://www.nsbhaso.org/for-providers/numbered-memorandums>

Provider Inventory Template

<https://nsbhaso.org/for-providers/forms/North%20Sound%20Provider%20Inventory.xlsx>

Data Dictionary

<https://www.nsbhaso.org/for-providers/data-dictionary>

Forms & Reports

<https://www.nsbhaso.org/for-providers/forms>

Policies

<http://www.nsbhaso.org/for-providers/policies-and-procedures>

Brochures

www.nsbhaso.org/for-providers/brochures

HCA Customer Service

<https://www.hca.wa.gov/health-care-services-supports/apple-health-medicaid-coverage/apple-health-managed-care>

Contact Us:

North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization

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NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVING NON-MEDICAID PERSONS

As a result of a combination of new grants and under-expenditures on inpatient treatment, we are making additional funding available to fund outpatient services for low-income persons not covered by Medicaid. Specifically, these funds will be prioritized for persons in high-risk categories, including: ready for discharge from Western State Hospital, being discharged from an Involuntary Commitment placement in a community hospital, on a Least Restrictive Court Order who are eligible for “Assisted Outpatient Services”. Additionally, we received funding for individuals identified as belonging to the class of persons covered by the Trueblood lawsuit, experiencing behavioral health symptoms related to the Corona Virus Disease (COVID) pandemic. For more information, contact Margaret Rojas at margaret_rojas@nsbhaso.org.

SAMHSA EMERGENCY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TREATMENT GRANT

The Health Care Authority was successful in obtaining an “Emergency Behavioral Health Treatment Grant” from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMHSA). The state will receive \$2 million from this grant. \$1.4 million will be distributed to the Administrative Services Organizations (ASOs), with a large amount going to King County to fund specific projects. The other BH-ASOs will \$140,000 each. The funds are intended to be used to expand access to treatment and should be available in August. We will be consulting with our Counties, Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), and Behavioral Health Agencies on the best way of targeting these funds.

FEMA CRISIS COUNSELING PROGRAM

The Health Care Authority (HCA) has also applied for funding under the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) *Crisis Counseling Program*. This funding supports two different phases in a community’s disaster response program: an *Immediate Services Program* for the first 60 days and a subsequent *Regular Services Program* for up to 9 months. The funding is used to support a *Warm Line*, Crisis Counseling Teams, and community education. HCA is contracting with the King County Crisis Line administered by *Crisis Connections* to create a state-wide COVID-19 warm line as a part this program. HCA is also soliciting interest from behavioral health agencies to create local Crisis



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Counseling Program Teams for the 2nd phase of the program – the *Regular Services Program*. If you have additional questions, you may contact Amanda Lewis at the Health Care Authority at Amanda.lewis@HCA.wa.gov.

PSYCHOLOGICAL FIRST AID

Another resource Behavioral Health Agencies can access to train their workforce in providing assistance to persons experiencing distress as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic is *Psychological First Aid*. Different than *Mental Health First Aid*, Psychological First Aid (PFA) is a non-clinical approach that trains persons on how to provide immediate counseling and assistance to persons affected by a disaster event. The courses are free and on-line. Here are two resources:

- <https://www.coursera.org/learn/psychological-first-aid>: Offered by **Johns Hopkins University** on the Coursera platform. Their RAPID model guides trainees on how to aid people after a disaster by using Reflective listening, Assessment of needs, Prioritization, Intervention, and Disposition.
- <https://learn.nctsn.org/course/index.php?categoryid=11>: Offered by the **National Child Traumatic Stress Network** intended for use with children, adolescents, parents and caretakers, families, and adults who are survivors or witnesses exposed to disaster.

PLANNING FOR COVID-19 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IMPACT

The North Sound BH-ASO Medical Director, Dr. Glenn Lippman, has developed a PowerPoint presentation summarizing some of the public health and medical literature on the anticipated impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the rise in behavioral health stress reactions. This presentation can be found on the North Sound BH-ASO website at https://www.nsbhaso.org/news-and-events/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/Dr_Lippman_Post%20COVID-19Planning%20v5_NS.gl.pdf

PSYCHIATRY RESOURCES FOR COVID-19

North Sound BH-ASO is providing the following link as part of our ongoing efforts to provide person friendly resources during this COVID-19 crisis. The University of Michigan site includes very helpful and informative guides to how a person with a specific diagnosis might better deal with these stressful times.

<https://medicine.umich.edu/dept/psychiatry/michigan-psychiatry-resources-covid-19>

COVID-19 DASHBOARD

The North Sound BH-ASO maintains a COVID-19 dashboard that displays the latest COVID-19 related statistics from the North Sound County Public Health Departments on its website. You can access it using this link:

<https://nsbhaso.org/covid>

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