

DRAFT

May 20, 2015

MaryAnne Lindeblad, Medicaid Director
Health Care Authority
P.O. Box 45502
Olympia, WA 98504-5502

Dear Ms. Lindeblad:

The Board of Clark County Councilors wants to thank you for your presentation on May 13 during which you and Nathan Johnson, Health Care Authority's Chief Policy Officer, provided a comprehensive overview of progress and planning for the State's purchasing of fully integrated physical and behavioral health services through the Medicaid managed care program. As Clark County Councilors, we see the benefits of a more fully-integrated system and we are energized and excited about this opportunity to be a model for the rest of the State in how to deliver better coordinated care to our most vulnerable residents. For example, as noted on the 13th, the Early Adopter model offers a number of unique opportunities for Southwest Washington residents, including:

- More seamless access to necessary physical and behavioral health services
- An ability to address physical and behavioral health issues in one system
- An ability for local input to shape the program and system
- Better alignment of financial incentives for expanded prevention and improved outcomes
- Flexible models of care that support the use of interdisciplinary care teams
- An opportunity for shared savings, that can be reinvested in the regional delivery system

This letter is to confirm Clark County's commitment to implement the Early Adopter for full Medicaid integration beginning April 1, 2016. Please consider this letter Clark County's request under RCW 71.24.380(5) that the Department of Social and Health Services and the Health Care Authority jointly purchase behavioral health services through an integrated medical and behavioral health services contract with a managed care health system. This letter does not limit our ability to negotiate the terms of the agreement between Clark County and the State of Washington for the Early Adopter program.

We also commit to ongoing engagement in the implementation and planning process, which will include the development of a transition plan, the participation in a readiness review of the selected health plans, the review of contract language, and the participation on a monitoring team post-April 2016 to identify any performance issues that may arise. The following

individuals have previously been designated as the primary Clark County representatives and will continue to assist your agency with planning as defined under the inter-agency agreement for technical assistance – Vanessa Gaston, Dr. Alan Melnick, and DeDe Sieler. Thank you for your considerable commitment to support Clark County in a partnership to meet our mutual integrated delivery goals.

We look forward to a smooth transition to a new system in which the residents of Clark County will be served by a new model of care that better meets their needs, is of high quality, and results in reduced cost trends for the County and the State. We also look forward to sharing the savings we expect to eventuate as a result of our early adoption of fully integrated purchasing.

Thank you.

David Madore, Chair

Jeanne E. Stewart, Councilor

Tom Mielke, Councilor

Early Adopter Time Lines and Transition

2014 Legislative Direction: 2SSB 6312:

By January 1, 2020, the community behavioral health program must be fully integrated in a managed care health system that provides mental health services, chemical dependency services, and medical care services to Medicaid clients. The legislation outlines two pathways to help achieve this ultimate goal which will begin April 1, 2016 – Early Adopter or Behavioral Health Organizations. County Authorities must choose one option.

Clark and Skamania Counties have decided to form one region in SWWA and submitted a non-binding letter to Health Care Authority (HCA) in July 2014 and January 2015 informing them of their intent to select Early Adopter. County Authorities must submit a binding letter to HCA by June 1, 2015.

The County's responsibility in Early Adopter planning is outlined below:

- Determines whether to become Early Adopter
- Designates staff to participate in the Implementation Team to assist with planning
- Designates staff to participate on the Monitoring Team to evaluate implementation and bring forth issues that need to be quickly resolved
- DMHP Designation – County Authority has legal responsibility to designate mental health professionals to administer the Involuntary Treatment Act (RCW 71.05) in absence of a Regional Support Network
- Commitments under the Involuntary Treatment Act will continue to be processed through county court system
- CJTA/Jail Transition Services - County will continue to administer the Criminal Justice Treatment Account Services

HCA will post the RFP to select managed care organizations (MCO) in July 2015 and will complete this process by October 2015. At least two MCOs will be selected.

SWBH Regional Support Network's (RSN) mental health and Clark County Community Services chemical dependency outpatient treatment contracts with Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) end March 31, 2016.

Since the RSN is a behavioral health managed care organization SWBH must submit a 90 day plan to DSHS by January 1, 2016 outlining their process to close out the RSN. DSHS allows SWBH RSN 60 days from March 31, 2016 to use reserve funds to pay out any provider and outstanding claims.

Clark County Community Services will work with DSHS to transition out CD outpatient contracts by March 31, 2016. Since chemical dependency treatment is not currently funded through managed care DSHS has the responsibility to use their reserves for 1-year from March 31, 2016 to pay any provider claims.