

Public Notice

The New Mexico Human Services Department (the Department) through the Medical Assistance Division (MAD) is providing this notice for the purpose of receiving comments through April 30, 2018 regarding its proposed Medicaid State Plan amendment to expand Health Homes services in eight additional counties as a Medicaid program benefit known as CareLink NM (CLNM) Health Homes. This second phase of Health Homes will add seven new providers.

It is the Department's intention to have an effective date of April 01, 2018 for SPA 18-002. The Department does not anticipate a negative service or financial impact to individuals or health care providers with this proposed amendment. It is estimated that the Year 1 state general fund cost to the Medicaid program for the seven new CLNM providers will be between \$1.5 and \$1.6 million.

Generally, Health Homes (known as CareLink NM) will:

- Assist an eligible recipient by engaging him or her in comprehensive needs assessments which are utilized to develop his or her integrated service plan and individual treatment plans;
- Increase his or her access to risk prevention, health education and promotion activities;
- Monitor his or her treatment outcomes and utilization of resources;
- Coordinate appointments with his or her primary care and specialty practitioners;
- Assist in connecting him or her to other social services such as housing, food, and employment;
- Share information among his or her physical, behavioral and long term care practitioners and services to reduce duplication of services;
- Engage him or her in learning how to manage transitions between services; and
- Support him or her in the achievement of self-efficacy, recovery, and resilience.

Provider Agencies

HSD proposes to designate provider agencies as CLNM providers located within one of the expanded counties who have met all criteria for participation in CareLink NM and have accomplished all readiness activities. The approval process is conducted through the CareLink New Mexico Steering Committee comprised of Human Services Department (HSD), Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD) and Managed Care Organization (MCO) membership.

HSD proposes to expand CareLink NM into the counties of Bernalillo, Sandoval, Grant, Hidalgo, Lea, DeBaca, Roosevelt and Quay. The first phase, which is still active, included San Juan and Curry counties.

Identified Population

HSD proposes to provide CareLink NM services to two of the most vulnerable populations: eligible recipients meeting the criteria for serious mental illness (SMI) or severe emotional disturbance (SED). Historically, the utilization of hospital emergency departments as well as public institutions is higher for these populations and suggests the need for more intensive care coordination services.

Covered Services

CareLink NM will cover services in six categories:

1. Comprehensive care management;
2. Care coordination;
3. Health promotion and risk prevention;
4. Comprehensive transitional care;

5. Individual and family support services; and
6. Referrals to community and social support services.

Noncovered Services

Services which duplicate other MAD services, including care coordination activities that the Managed Care Organization has not delegated to the provider agency, are not covered services.

CareLink NM services promote health education so that the eligible recipient obtains the skills and knowledge to better manage his or her physical or behavioral needs, including areas such as nutrition; developing and implementing healthier lifestyle behaviors; and expanding interactions with community networks. Additionally, services include comprehensive transitional care for an eligible recipient who is moving from a hospital or residential setting back into the community. Family members will also receive support services to help them effectively advocate on behalf of, and with, the eligible recipient. CareLink NM staff will assist the eligible recipient to build a network of community and social supports in order to successfully transition from CareLink NM services to lower levels of care.

Interested parties may view the proposed Medicaid State Plan Amendment on the Department's website at:

<http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/public-notices-proposed-rule-and-waiver-changes-and-opportunities-to-comment.aspx>

Interested parties may submit written comments directly to:

Human Services Department
Office of the Secretary
ATTN: Medical Assistance Division Public Comments
P.O. Box 2348
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2348.

Recorded comments may be left by calling (505) 827-1337. Electronic comments may be submitted to madrules@state.nm.us. **All comments must be received no later than April 30, 2018, 5:00pm Mountain Daylight Time (MDT).**

If you are a person with a disability and you require this information in an alternative format, please contact the MAD toll-free number at 1-888-997-2583 and ask for extension 7-6252. In Santa Fe, call 827-6252. The Department's TDD system may be accessed toll-free at 1-200-659-8331 or in Santa Fe, by calling 827-3184. The Department requests at least 10 working days advance notice to provide requested alternative formats. If you do not have Internet access, a copy of the proposed State Plan Amendment may be requested by contacting MAD at (505) 827-6252 or at 1-888-997-2583, extension 7-6252.