



HUMAN SERVICES
DEPARTMENT

Susana Martinez, Governor
Brent Earnest, Secretary
Nancy Smith-Leslie, Director

December 21, 2018

RE: Tribal Notification to Request Advice and Comments Letter 18-19: Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Continuum of Services

Dear Tribal Leadership, Indian Health Service, Tribal Health Providers, and Other Interested Parties:

Seeking advice and comments from New Mexico's Indian Nations, Tribes, Pueblos and their health care providers is an important component of the government-to-government relationship with the State of New Mexico. In accordance with the New Mexico Human Services Department's (HSD's) Tribal Notification to Request Advice and Comments process, this letter is to inform you that HSD, through the Medical Assistance Division (MAD), is accepting written comments until **5:00pm Mountain Time (MT) through January 27, 2019**, regarding State Plan Amendments (SPAs) 18-006 and 18-007, which add new behavioral health and substance use disorder (SUD) services to the Medicaid benefit package effective January 1, 2019. These new services will be added to both the traditional Medicaid State Plan benefit package, as well as to the Alternative Benefit Plan (ABP) benefit package offered to the Medicaid Adult Expansion population.

The new services that are being added to the State Plan and ABP benefit packages are:

1. Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) for substance use, anxiety, trauma and depression;
2. Additional validated screening services for substance use and mental health in setting such as, but not limited to, drug courts, juvenile justice systems, Indian Health Service (IHS) and Tribal 638 programs, and early childhood settings;
3. Peer Support and Family Peer Support services;
4. Dyadic therapy for a baby or child diagnosed with a behavioral health condition or at risk because of the caregiver's behavioral health condition;
5. Withdrawal management (detoxification) in an outpatient setting;
6. Outpatient crisis stabilization community centers;
7. Intensive outpatient programs for both substance use and mental illness;
8. New conditions for partial hospitalization to include ages 14 and older and individuals with a severe substance use disorder as qualifying conditions for admission;
9. Accredited Residential Treatment Center (ARTC) services for adults with a substance use disorder;
10. Crisis Triage Centers (CTCs), including both outpatient and inpatient CTCs; and
11. Medically managed intensive inpatient withdrawal management and rehabilitation in an Institution for Mental Disease (IMD).

Estimated Financial Impact

The total fiscal impact of these additions to the benefit package is approximately \$4 million total (\$1 million in state general funds).

Tribal Impact

HSD expects that these changes will have a positive impact for Native Americans, pueblos, and IHS and tribal health care providers. Because HSD is adding new services that have not been included in the Medicaid benefit package, it is believed that these changes will result in better access and improved quality of health treatment.

Tribes and their health care providers may view the proposed SPAs on the HSD website at <http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/written-tribal-consultations.aspx>, *Notification Letter 18-19*.

Important Dates

- **Written comments must be submitted by 5:00pm Mountain Time (MT) on January 20, 2019.** Please send your comments to the MAD Native American Liaison, Theresa Belanger, at (505) 827-3122 or by email to Theresa.Belanger@state.nm.us. All written comments received will be posted as they are received on the HSD website at <http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/written-tribal-consultations.aspx> along with the applicable notification letter. The public posting will include the name and any contact information provided by the commenter.
- Comments and responses will be compiled and made available upon request after February 20, 2019.

Sincerely,



Nancy Smith-Leslie
Director

cc: Kari Armijo, Deputy Director, HSD/MAD
Theresa Belanger, Native American Liaison, HSD/MAD