JULY 1ST TRANSITION TO NORTH SOUND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ORGANIZATION

On July 1st, the North Sound Behavioral Health Organization officially becomes the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization.

ASO PROVIDER SYMPOSIUM

On June 17th, North Sound will be hosting an ASO Provider Symposium for those providers that will be contracting with the North Sound Administrative Services Organization (ASO) post July 1, 2019. The symposium will occur at the North Sound office in Mount Vernon and will be an opportunity for behavioral health agencies (BHAs) and the ASO to discuss upcoming changes as we continue to prepare for fully Integrated Managed Care effective July 1, 2019. For more information, including registration details, please contact Lisa Hudspeth via email at Lisa_Hudspeth@northsoundbho.org or by calling 360.416.7013.

POLICY CHANGES AFTER JULY 1, 2019:

The North Sound BH-ASO will continue to send out Numbered Memorandum in regards to all of our policy changes in addition to sending out this Monthly Provider Bulletin.

NATIVE DATA

The Washington State Health Care Authority is developing a long-term solution to support the transmission of “native transactions” as part of a Corrective Action Plan for SAMHSA. Although native transaction data is currently not required under Integrated Managed Care, the state’s goal is to resume collecting native data by April 2020. During the interim period, behavioral health agencies are encouraged to continue to collect native data as you do now, in order to preserve the infrastructure to meet the new requirements when these are implemented. For the full text of HCA’s guidance go to the: HCA Non-Encounter Data Guidance Document and the BHDS Data Guide v.3.0

VOLUNTARY INPATIENT CHANGES

As of July 1, 2019, authorization for billing inpatient psychiatric hospitalizations for individuals receiving Medicaid will now be covered by the Managed Care Organizations in our region. Volunteers of America, who have provided the utilization management for these authorizations for North Sound BHO, will be transferring this responsibility to the MCOs, effective June 30, 2019.
Thank you and goodbye…. Saying goodbye is never easy, and this goodbye is one of the hardest. We want to acknowledge and thank all of the BHO staff who are separating from the organization on June 30th. Their hard work and dedication have been the backbone of the North Sound BHO. It is with sadness and gratitude we say Goodbye.

Saying goodbye to:
- Aaron Hansen – IS/IT Support Technician
- Betsy Kruse – Deputy Director
- Christy Sundholm – Quality Specialist
- Christopher Allen – Quality Specialist
- Colleen Bowls – Clinical Manager
- Cristina Solis – Office Assistant
- Diana Striplin – Quality Specialist
- Ethel Steinmetz Marmont – Special Projects Coordinator
- Greg Arnold – Health Care Integration Analyst
- Irene Richards – Quality Specialist
- James Kammerer – SUD Quality Specialist
- Kurt Aemmer – Quality Specialist
- Lori Velazquez – Quality Specialist (Western State Hospital Liaison)
- Matthew Rudow – Contracts Specialist
- Rebecca Pate – Administrative Assistant
- Roxanne Robertson – Administrative Receptionist
- Sandy Whitcutt – Crisis Services Manager
- Sharon Toquinto – SUD Services Manager
- Steven Lyon – IS/IT Provider Liaison
- Terry McDonough – Quality Specialist

The new North Sound BH-ASO team:
- Angela Fraser-Powell – Quality Specialist
- Barbara Jacobson – Accounting Specialist
- Carolyn Radach – Administrative Assistant II (part time)
- Charles De Elena – BHO/ASO Project Manager/Compliance Officer
- Darrell Heiner – Accounting Specialist
- Darren Martin – IS/IT Administrator -Network Security Analyst
- Dennis Regan – Data Support Analyst
- Diane Mcleod – Administrative Assistant II
- Eddie Wai – Database Administrator
- James Dixon – Quality Specialist
- Jennifer Whitson – Provider Liaison
- Joanie Williams – Administrative Manager
- Joe Valentine – Executive Director
NORTH SOUND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Monthly Provider Bulletin
JUNE 2019

Linda Crothers – Quality Specialist
Lisa Hudspeth – Administrative Assistant III
Mandy Iverson – HR Specialist
Margaret Rojas – HR/Contracts Manager
Maria Arreola – Administrative Assistant II
Michael McAuley – Quality Specialist Manager
Phil Hart – IS Support Technician
Shari Downing – Accounting Specialist
Sharon McMillen – Quality Specialist/Western State Hospital (part time)
Tom Sun – Developer/Programmer Analyst
Val Jones – Quality Specialist
Bill Whitlock - Fiscal Officer

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UPDATED NORTH SOUND BH-ASO BROCHURES
Newly updated North Sound BH-ASO brochures will soon be available in our office and on our new website.