



North Sound Mental Health Administration

Regional Support Network for Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom Counties
Improving the mental health and well being of individuals and families in our communities

117 North First Street, Suite 8 • Mount Vernon, WA 98273

360.416.7013 • 800.684.3555 • Fax 360.416.7017 • Email nsmha@nsmha.org • Web Site <http://nsmha.org>

NSMHA Contract Memorandum 2013-006

Date: September 5, 2013

To: Lisa Hanks, Sunrise Services
Jim Gilchrist, Whatcom Counseling and Psychiatric Services Vicki Hofmann, Supported
Employment Program Managers

From: Greg Long, Deputy Director, NSMHA, Tom Yost, Planning Specialist, NSMHA,
and Sandy Whitcutt, Quality Specialist, NSMHA

Subject: Strategies for Transitioning Supported Employment Programs to Medicaid

Please find attached the memorandum regarding “Strategies for Transitioning Supported Employment Programs to Medicaid”. Follow the instructions on timelines and submission of materials.

cc: Jan Bodily, Linda Ford, WCPC
Sue Closser, Randy Polidan, Sunrise
Cindy Ferraro, Donna Konicki, Bridgeways
Margaret Rojas, NSMHA

North Sound Mental Health Administration

Regional Support Network for Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom Counties
Improving the mental health and well being of individuals and families in our communities

117 North First Street, Suite 8 • Mount Vernon, WA 98273 • 360.416.7013
800.684.3555 • Fax 360.416.7017 • TTY 360.419.9008 • Email nsmha@nsmha.org • Web Site <http://nsmha.org>

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lisa Hanks, Sunrise Services, Jim Gilchrist, Whatcom Counseling and Psychiatric Services, Vicki Hofmann, Supported Employment Program Managers

FROM: Greg Long, Deputy Director, NSMHA, Tom Yost, Planning Specialist, NSMHA, and Sandy Whitcutt, Quality Specialist, NSMHA

SUBJECT: Strategies for Transitioning Supported Employment Programs to Medicaid

DATE: September 4, 2013

CC: Jan Bodily, Linda Ford, WCPC, Sue Closser, Randy Polidan, Sunrise, Cindy Ferraro, Donna Konicki, Bridgeways, Margaret Rojas, NSMHA

NSMHA has discussed the discontinuation of the use of State Funds for supported employment programs, beginning July 1, 2014. Programs will continue to receive full funding until February 1, 2014, but then will need to begin to titrate away from the use of State Funds. Additionally, your programs will need to train your staff in Medicaid billing for employment supports for Medicaid services that are covered.

Per the meeting on August 23, 2013, NSMHA is requesting that you submit your strategy for transitioning your employment programs. The strategy will need to include what employment services you intend to provide after July 1, 2014. Please include these areas as you identify your strategies:

- How will you develop/continue to develop your working relationship with DVR?
- How will you increase your employment program's vendor services with DVR?
- Present a funding titration strategy beginning February 1, 2014.
- Describe training timeline to train the employment specialists and other case managers in the use of Medicaid billing codes for employment support in mental health.
- Describe ongoing funding for the employment specialists positions/caseload size.
- Identify other funding resources and strategies that you will explore to support the employment program.
- Describe your strategy to working with higher intensity individuals who have identified employment as a goal.
- Describe your ability to retain an evidenced-based employment program in your organization or best practices for this type of program.

Please submit a letter detailing the above strategies no later than October 15, 2013. We will discuss these at the next meeting to be scheduled late October, 2013.

If you have any questions regarding this memo, please feel free to contact me at NSMHA at 360-416-7013 or at sandy_whitcutt@nsmha.org.