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Revised Date:

Review Date: 5/28/2008

North Sound Behavioral Health Organization

Section 1500 – Clinical: Availability of Services

Authorizing Source: 42CFR438.206; DBHR and North Sound BHO Contracts

Cancels:

See Also:

Providers must comply with this policy and may develop individualized implementation guidelines as needed

Responsible Staff: Deputy Director

Approved by: Executive Director

Signature:

Date: 5/3/2017

POLICY #1506.00

SUBJECT: AVAILABILITY OF SERVICES

PURPOSE

To define the requirements for availability of services for Medicaid enrollees.

POLICY

North Sound Behavioral Health Organization (BHO) shall ensure provision of medically necessary behavioral health services as defined in the Medicaid State Plan and the Federal 1915 (b) Integrated Behavioral Health Waiver to Medicaid enrollees of the region. Provision of services for individuals covered by state-only funding will be available within available resources as outlined in North Sound BHO Policy #1574 – State and Substance Abuse Block Grant Funding Plan.

North Sound BHO maintains and monitors a network of appropriate providers that is supported by written agreements and is sufficient to provide adequate access to all covered services. In establishing and maintaining the network, North Sound BHO considers the following:

1. The anticipated Medicaid enrollment in the region.
2. The expected utilization of services, taking into consideration the characteristics and behavioral health care needs of specific Medicaid populations represented in the region.
3. The numbers and types (in terms of training, experience and specialization) of providers required to furnish the contracted Medicaid services.
4. The geographic location of providers and Medicaid enrollees, considering distance, travel time and the means of transportation ordinarily used by Medicaid enrollees.

If an individual requires medically necessary behavioral health services the Behavioral Health Agency (BHA) is unable to provide, the BHA shall arrange for the provision of the services in a timely manner. If the medically necessary services are not available within the North Sound BHO network, providers shall refer to North Sound BHO Policy #1522 Out-of-Network Services for the process on arranging services out of the North Sound BHO network.

BHAs must notify North Sound BHO in writing of any proposed change in capacity. North Sound BHO must approve any change that results in reduced capacity.

PROCEDURES

North Sound BHO will ensure, through its contracts, the above requirements are met.

ATTACHMENTS

None