

## January/February 2018 Calendar

Jan 31

[Healthcare Facility Transformation Grant](#) Applicant Webinar

February 2 – 16

Regional Planning Consortium (RPC)  
[Board Meetings](#)

February 14

Webinar: [Contracting Protections for Behavioral Health Providers](#)

## NYS HARP BH HCBS Rate Increases- Upstate/Downstate Rates

In July 2017, MCOs were notified that New York State has received approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to [increase rates retroactively](#) for several Behavioral Health Home and Community Based Services (BH HCBS) covered by Health and Recovery Plan (HARP) and HIV Special Need Plans (HIV SNP). Below is an update to that guidance:

Table 2 reflects increased rates due to a 50% productivity adjustment for the services listed, effective retroactively to May 1, 2017. These are temporary rate increases calculated to cover the cost to providers for hiring and training staff and having services in place, ready to accept referrals without the initial volume to cover their full costs until the system matures. ***The temporary rates for both the Downstate and Upstate regions will continue to be in effect until further notice. The MCOs are expected to continue paying this rate.***

The Administrative Fee paid to Medicaid Managed Care plans has been calculated based on the previously approved rates. Per CMS approval, the administrative fee has not been increased.

## Accessing BH HCBS: Guidance on State Designated Entities Released to MCOs

NYS Agencies OMH, DOH, and OASAS have issued guidance to Managed Care Plans, HARPs, and HIV SNPs advising them to contract with community providers to assist HARP members who are not enrolled or do not wish to be enrolled in a Health Home in accessing Behavioral Health (BH) Home and Community Based Services (BH HCBS). These providers are defined as “State Designated Entities (SDE)” and would establish direct contracts with the MCO to do **Eligibility Assessments and Person-Centered care planning for Adult Behavioral Health HCBS.**

### ***Who is the SDE?***

Although the agencies identified must have a care management program within that agency, the Adult BH HCBS assessment and care planning work is not limited to the care management program, but may also include qualified assessors in various parts of the agency including housing and clinical programs. It is the intention of the State to offer HARP members the opportunity to understand their benefit package including the new HCBS, and be assessed for eligibility by an individual they may already have a working relationship with when possible. As outlined in the guidance, the assessor must follow existing conflict free case management standards, and work with the individual to link them to Adult BH HBCS.

### ***How can the SDE help connect the HARP enrollee I am working with to HCBS?***

If you are not a provider of health home care management services but are working with HARP enrollees who are not linked to a health home, you may contact the individual’s MCO to learn more about how to connect the individual to health home care management or directly to a State Designated Entity for access to BH HCBS.

A webinar will be held in the near future to provide further information. Please contact the [HCBS mailbox](#) for any questions regarding the State Designated Entity for Adult BH HCBS.

## Final Medicaid Model Contract with Behavioral Health Provisions Approved and Posted to DOH Website

New York State (NYS) has provided Medicaid Managed Care Organizations with specific legal requirements and accompanying guidance regarding the process of entering into agreements with providers of these services that address the following:

- Promoting financial stability through payment and claiming requirements;
- Supporting access to and removing barriers to mental health treatment and recovery services; and
- Ensuring Medicaid Managed Care plans establish adequate behavioral health provider networks.

NYS has received approval from CMS to incorporate these behavioral health specific legal requirements into the Medicaid Managed Care Model Contract. The new version of the model contract, as amended 10/1/15, can be found on the [Department of Health website](#).

## NYS BH VBP Readiness Program: BHCC Awardees Announced

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo [announced](#) that New York will issue \$60 million in awards over three years to mental health and addiction services providers as part of the transformation of the State's Medicaid system. The awards will aid behavioral health providers transform to a business model of Value-Based Payment, which rewards quality of care and better health outcomes, rather than the volume of services they provide.

"This funding will help ensure New Yorkers in need receive access to vital mental health services, while continuing our work to make Medicaid both more effective and more affordable," **Governor Cuomo said.** "This is one more step towards a stronger, healthier New York for all."

Funds will be awarded to 19 selected networks of behavioral healthcare providers, called Behavioral Health Care Collaboratives helping them to integrate care across the entire spectrum of physical and behavioral health services.

**OMH Commissioner Dr. Ann Sullivan said,** "Governor Cuomo and I are pleased to provide this financial assistance to mental health and substance use treatment providers as they transition to a system which pays on outcomes and not on volume. This funding will help to improve the integration of behavioral health and physical health care and better serve people with mental health conditions. It will allow behavioral health providers to develop the tools needed to demonstrate the quality of their services and succeed in a value based reimbursement system."

## VBP Bootcamps

The NYS Department of Health has now completed six Value Based Payment Bootcamps with over 2,500 participants statewide!

If you were unable to attend the VBP Bootcamps, the webcast recording of the Albany Bootcamp session, all course presentations, and supplemental materials are now posted on the [Department of Health website](#).

Please look out for more VBP University semesters, which will be released in the near future. Please continue to complete semesters 1-3, and quizzes for the semesters to receive a certificate of completion. Certificates will be sent via email on a quarterly basis.

## Healthcare Facility Transformation Grant

On January 8, 2018, the New York State Department of Health announced the availability of funds under the [Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program II](#), established pursuant to Section 2825-e of the Public Health Law.

A total of up to \$203,782,888 is available through this Request for Applications (RFA #17648) to health care providers that are deemed by the Commissioner to fulfill or will fulfill a health care need for acute inpatient, outpatient, primary, home care or residential health care services in a community. A minimum of \$46,995,507 of this total amount is available for community-based health care providers, which are defined as diagnostic and treatment centers, mental health and alcohol and substance abuse treatment clinics, primary care providers and home care providers.

The objective of the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program II is to provide grants to health care providers that support capital projects, debt retirement, working capital or other non-capital projects that facilitate health care transformation activities including, but not limited to, merger, consolidation, acquisition or other activities intended to create financially sustainable systems of care or preserve or expand essential health care services.

### Key Dates:

Applicant Webinar	January 31, 2018
Questions Due	February 9, 2018
Questions, Answers and Updates Posted (on or about)	February 21, 2018
Letters of Interest Due	February 23, 2018
Applications Due	March 14, 2018 by 4:00PM EST
Estimated Contract Start Date	July 6, 2018

## SAMHSA SBIRT Program

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is accepting applications for the [Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment \(SBIRT\) program](#) totaling up to \$39.8 million over the next five years.

The purpose of this program is to implement screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment services for adolescents and adults in primary care and community health settings for substance misuse and substance use disorders. This program is designed to expand the identification of, and enhance the care for, individuals who have or are at risk for a substance use disorder. SAMHSA expects to fund as many as eight grantees with up to \$995,000 per year for up to five years. The actual award amount may vary, depending on the availability of funds.

## Medicaid IAP National Learning Webinar: Medicaid Strategies for Promoting Provider Capacity for Physical and Mental Health Integration

To assist Medicaid and CHIP agencies, CMS's Medicaid Innovation Accelerator Program (IAP) Physical and Mental Health Integration program area is hosting a national learning webinar on [Tuesday, February 6, 2018 from 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm ET](#) about Medicaid strategies for promoting provider capacity for physical and mental health integration.



Webinar participants will hear from Dr. Ben Miller, a national expert in the field, who will provide an overview of key components for providers to increase physical and mental health integration capacity. This webinar will also feature speakers from Medicaid agencies in Hawaii and New Hampshire, who will share physical and mental health integration provider capacity strategies and lessons learned.

### Behavioral Health Managed Care Contact Information

Office of Mental Health  
Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services  
Department of Health

[OMH-Managed-Care@omh.ny.gov](mailto:OMH-Managed-Care@omh.ny.gov)  
[PICM@oasas.ny.gov](mailto:PICM@oasas.ny.gov)  
[managedcarecomplaints@health.ny.gov](mailto:managedcarecomplaints@health.ny.gov)

#### **Other Contact Information:**

*Questions regarding HARP eligibility and enrollment:*

New York Medicaid Choice **1-855-789-4277**

*Issues related to Personalized Recovery-Oriented Services:*

[PROS@omh.ny.gov](mailto:PROS@omh.ny.gov)

*Adult BH HCBS Designation questions or to update status:*

[omh.sm.co.hcbs-application@omh.ny.gov](mailto:omh.sm.co.hcbs-application@omh.ny.gov)

*Adult BH HCBS Start-Up funding:*

[hcbs\\_grant@omh.ny.gov](mailto:hcbs_grant@omh.ny.gov)

*Children's HBCS/SPA Designation questions:*

[OMH-Childrens-Designation@omh.ny.gov](mailto:OMH-Childrens-Designation@omh.ny.gov)