



NC Collaborative for Children, Youth and Families
DATE: November 20, 2020

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Upcoming Legislative Meetings:

Committee	Date and Time	Location, Video and Audio
Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee	December 1, 2020, 10 a.m.	Room 544 LOB, audio , video
2021-22 Long Session Begins	January 13, 2021, noon	

RFA for BH/IDD Tailored Plan is Published—SOC Prominent:

Another key indicator that Medicaid Transformation is back in motion is the recent publication of the Request for Application for the BH/IDD Tailored Plan. The Tailored Plan is scheduled to go-live on July 1, 2022, one year after the Standard Plan is implemented. Only LME/MCOs can respond to this RFA. More specifically, the LME/MCO currently serving an area is the only one that can initially respond for that area. Then NC DHHS will determine where there are “empty regions” or areas where either the current LME/MCO did not respond or NC DHHS did not accept the RFA from the current LME/MCO. At that point, NC DHHS will consider LME/MCOs that indicated willingness to take on “empty regions” by answering supplemental questions in the RFA.

Just like the Standard Plan, the BH/IDD Tailored Plan will encompass mental health, substance use disorders, intellectual-developmental disabilities, physical healthcare, pharmacy and unmet social needs. A centerpiece of integrated care for both plans is the care management role. Every individual in the BH/IDD Tailored Plan will be assigned a care manager. In the time between the implementation of the Standard Plan and the go-live of the Tailored Plan, Medicaid beneficiaries who will be eligible for the BH/IDD Tailored Plan will continue with the LME/MCOs and their current Medicaid structure for physical healthcare until the plans go-live on July 1, 2022.

System of Care is noted throughout the RFA, Scope of Services and attachments. In fact, the capitation rate for the BH/IDD Tailored Plans includes staffing for the System of Care Coordinators and Family Partners. There are full sections devoted to System of

care—a true indicator that the principles will be used to achieve the State’s goals in managed care. For example, this verbiage related to community partnerships and stakeholder engagement is found in the Scope of Services, “The BH I/DD Tailored Plan shall staff city or county Community Collaboratives, work to address service barriers, identify system gaps, and develop cross system training plans for children receiving services in their areas as referenced in Section V.B.3.vii. System of Care;”. System of Care is further noted in sections related to Care Management to set an expectation of alignment with the SOC framework.

Index of RFA Documents:

Document	Length of Document	Purpose
Request for Application due back to NC DHHS by 2/2/21	73 pages	Provides the overview of key components of the RFA
Scope of Services — Unified and Medicaid	254 pages	Enumerates requirements for both State-funded and Medicaid services. *see page 47 for beginning of stakeholder engagement and community partnerships. *see page 167 for System of Care section.
Scope of Services – State-funded Services and Contract Performance	82 pages	Further specifies State-funded service requirements and focuses on contract performance requirements. *see page 39 for System of Care section.
Attachments A-P	207 pages	Provides specifics around components such as required organization roles for the BH/IDD Tailored Plan, performance measures, provider adequacy, BH/IDD Tailored Plan authorization of State-facility services.
Attachment Q Application Response and Completed Attachments	118 pages	Detail on completion of the RFA. Includes supplemental questions on “empty regions”.
Medicaid Tailored Plan Draft Rate Book	244 pages	Considerations to determine costs and per member/per month capitation. *see page 146 for System of Care considerations

Extension of Executive Orders Related to Pandemic:

With the surge in positive COVID-19 cases, the Governor has made some extensions to executive orders currently in place. Most recently, he has extended the Health and Human Service provisions to address COVID-19 to February 11, 2021. There are multiple executive orders and secretarial orders addressing health and human services

issues such as minimizing risk in congregate care settings, adequacy of personal protective equipment, and testing. NC DHHS has [listed](#) and linked all of the executive orders that pertain to health and human services. They have also [listed](#) and linked all of the secretarial orders that provide more specific policy changes due to COVID-19.

Opportunities for Feedback:

- Taken from the ECAC newsletter of 11/18/20:
Attention Parents:
To help describe how COVID-19 has affected NC students with disabilities and their families, the NC Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) Exceptional Children Division will be conducting a parent's of students with disabilities focus group to gather stories and experiences. NCDPI is required to describe how COVID-19 has impacted our data on students with disabilities as part of our 2021 reporting to the federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).
The facilitated online parent focus group will have a maximum of 10 participants and last no more than one hour. Notes will be taken to capture themes and main ideas; the names of participants will not be included in the data output and sessions will not be recorded. Participants will be provided the focus group questions ahead of time and they will also receive a copy of the final focus group data analysis/report by December 31, 2020. No remuneration will be offered for participation.
The parent focus group will be held on December 9, 2020, at 7 pm (this will be conducted in English, but we are hoping to schedule a Spanish-speaking session soon).
If you are interested in participating in this group, please contact Lauren Holahan, NC DPI SSIP Coordinator, at lauren.holahan@dpi.nc.gov no later than December 4.
- [Andrea Harris Social, Economic, Environmental, and Health Equity Task Force](#) is seeking feedback in 5 core areas:
 1. Access to Healthcare
 2. Economic Opportunity and Business Development
 3. Educational Opportunity
 4. Patient Engagement
 5. Environmental Justice and Inclusion

This Task Force was established by Governor Cooper over the summer and they just completed two listening sessions that can be heard via the above link. There is a [feedback form](#) that can be used to submit your comments on one or more of the five areas. The Task Force subcommittees have already developed initial focal points for each of the core areas with the goal to improve disparities in communities of color disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

- [The Task Force for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice](#) was established by Governor Cooper to address existing policies and procedures that

disproportionately affect communities of color and developing solutions to ensure racial equity in North Carolina's criminal justice system. The Task Force will submit its recommendations on or before December 1, 2020. They are currently seeking feedback and North Carolinians can use [a form](#) to submit these comments.

Resources:

- [NC Political News reviewed](#) a conversation with incoming NC Superintendent of Public Instruction Catherine Truitt.
- NC DHHS has created a new position of Provider Ombudsman to handle complaints providers have related to Prepaid Health Plans. Emails can be sent to Medicaid.ProviderOmbudsman@dhhs.nc.gov. Providers can also call the Medicaid Manage Care Provider Ombudsman line at 919-527-6666