



NEVADA COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
AGENCY

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DATE: March 27, 2020
TO: Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Providers
FROM: Phebe Bell, Behavioral Health Director
Nevada County Behavioral Health
SUBJECT: Upcoming Guidance – COVID-19 Provider Payments

As the situation with COVID-19 (2019 Novel Coronavirus) continues to unfold, we wanted to provide you with an update on how Nevada County plans to support mental health and substance use disorder providers. All of you are a critical part of the Behavioral Health service system and our goal is to provide some fiscal stability to your organization during this tenuous time. You will soon receive a memo/amendment specific to your individual contract. This will apply to mental health and substance use disorder contracts, and this will not apply to inpatient contracts.

Starting March 1, 2020, the County will pay monthly invoices in an amount not to exceed one-twelfth (1/12th) of the total contract amount. Under the terms of your agreement(s), your agency will still be held to Cost Settlement, however for the period of March 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020 your agency will not be held to the Budget Detail or County Maximum Allowance (CMA). For the contract period July 1, 2019 through February 29, 2020 your agency will be held to terms stated in the contract(s) on a prorated bases.

Invoices submitted to County for payment must be for an amount not to exceed one-twelfth of the total contract amount. Total payments shall not exceed the total contract value.

This change is to continue stable payments during the COVID-19 pandemic. The County will pay under this formula for the duration of the emergency, and this change will sunset after the emergency has ended or the end of the contract term, whichever is first. The emergency shall be considered over on

the first day of the month after the Nevada County Public Health Officer's locally declared emergency is lifted.

Starting March 1, 2020 and for the duration of the emergency it is the County's expectation that your agency will continue to be available and serve existing and new consumers and families. Your organization is considered an essential service during this emergency and our goal is to support you in the ongoing provision of services. Our expectation is that you will continue to generate billable services at a reasonable rate during this time. Behavioral Health Department staff is available to help you develop safe and creative ways to maintain services.

Future contracts will be executed with normal payment terms, to be adjusted as needed.

If your agency is not in agreement with this change, you will have the option of responding within 48 hours of receiving the memo to reject it. Rejection of this change means that the payment method in the current agreement(s) remains in full force and effect as it is currently written.

Thank you for continuing to serve Nevada County's communities. Please know that your work is appreciated. These are difficult times, but with continued resilience, we can continue to work together to support our consumers.