

Julianna Glock, Chair Northern Nevada Continuum of Care Leadership Council (NNCLC) 170 S. Virginia St., Suite 201 Reno, NV 89501

October 3, 2023

Stacey Weeks, Administrator Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Health Care Financing and Policy 1100 E. William Street, Suite 101 Carson City, Nevada 89701

Re: Request for Information for the Nevada Medicaid Managed Care Expansion

Dear Mrs. Weeks,

This letter is provided in response to the Request for Information for the Nevada Medicaid Managed Care Expansion. After careful discussion regarding the needs for the Northern Nevada Continuum Care service area of Washoe County, the following recommendations are provided for consideration for inclusion in the upcoming the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the next Contract Period for Managed Care Organizations (MCOs).

- Required coverage by Medicaid/ MCO's for in-patient substance use treatment. There is currently tremendous need for in-patient substance use treatment in our community and lack of appropriate treatment heavily impacts a person's ability to remain stably housed. Please consider expanding in-patient service options, increased reimbursement rate and expedited approvals so that people can access immediate services.
- 2. Accountability for Case Management staffing levels and provision of services for high needs populations. While case management is provided by MCOs, insufficient staffing levels result in insufficient service provision shifting the burden of case management of covered populations to community agencies who have limited resources.
- 3. Ensure sufficient continuity of care when a client transitions to coverage provided by a different MCO. During mandatory or options open enrollment periods varying service levels provided by different MCOs result in disruptions and potential gaps in services.

- Require tenancy support for clients who are at risk of or currently experiencing homelessness. Tenancy support has been shown to be an effective evidence-based practice which has significant cost benefits.
- 5. Expand the opportunity for community input from Northern Nevada for MCO community reinvestment. Currently, all Medicaid Reinvestment Advisory Committee members are held by Southern Nevada residents other than the current DHCFP administrator.
- 6. Required standardized formularies for all MCO covered populations.
- Please consider opportunities to increase accountability for providing care to hard to care for clients experiencing substance use and/or mental illness. This could include incentives or additional accountability for reducing client recidivism to homelessness and/or other systems of care.

Regards, Allano Albek

Julianna Glock Chair, Northern Nevada Continuum of Care

cc: Catrina Peters, Washoe County CoC Coordinator