

Effective Date: 7/1/2019

Review Date: 9/4/2019

Revised Date:

## **North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization, LLC**

Section 1500 – Clinical: State Hospital Admission, Care Coordination and Continuity of Care

Authorizing Source: HCA Contract

Approved by: Executive Director

Date: 9/4/2019

Signature:

### **POLICY # 1536.00**

### **SUBJECT: STATE HOSPITAL ADMISSION, CARE COORDINATION AND CONTINUITY OF CARE**

#### **PURPOSE**

To ensure quality care coordination between outpatient providers and State Hospitals, as well as, timely and appropriate discharges from State Hospitals to the least restrictive community settings possible.

#### **POLICY**

North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization (North Sound BH-ASO) and its contracted providers shall participate in active care coordination with the State Hospitals to assist with providing high quality treatment and to facilitate timely and appropriate discharges.

#### **PROCEDURES**

North Sound BH-ASO and its providers will serve all people admitted to a State Hospital from the North Sound region and will comply with the Western State Hospital (WSH)/Regional Support Network (RSN)\* Working Agreement (*see Attached Western State Hospital/RSN Working Agreement*). An admission packet, as defined in the WSH/RSN Working Agreement, will be provided to the State Hospital at or before the time of transfer whenever possible.

All communication between North Sound BH-ASO providers and the State Hospital regarding an individual's care shall include the North Sound BH-ASO Hospital Liaison. North Sound BH-ASO's Hospital Liaison or, in some cases, the designated provider will participate with State Hospital staff in developing plans for safe and appropriate discharge to the community with the goal of enabling individuals to leave the State Hospital upon determination the individual is ready for discharge. When necessary, the Hospital Liaison will develop community discharge plans as Less Restrictive Orders (LRO) or Conditional Releases (CR). If eligible, the individual will select a Behavioral Health Agency (BHA) prior to discharge from the State Hospital with the support of North Sound BH-ASO Hospital Liaison. **The North Sound BH-ASO Hospital Liaison is responsible for scheduling an Intake Assessment and will ensure the assigned BHA has all the information necessary for effective continuity of care and quality improvement.**

When admissions slow down significantly or the State Hospitals issue census alert notifications, North Sound BH-ASO will alert regional Crisis/Designated Crisis Response (DCR) staff, community psychiatric hospitals, Evaluation & Treatment centers and outpatient providers to make their best efforts to divert State Hospital admissions and to expedite discharges from State Hospitals using alternative community resources and behavioral health services.

North Sound BHAs will provide community behavioral health services to qualifying individuals discharged on a CR) or LRO. North Sound BH-ASO Hospital Liaisons are expected to contact BHAs to confirm that they assume responsibility for the CR or LRO.

North Sound BH-ASO will coordinate with the receiving managed care organization (MCO) or BH-ASO when an individual is being discharged to another region.

*\* RSN is the designation formerly used to describe what are now called Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organizations (BH-ASO). The North Sound RSN became a BH-ASO on July 1, 2019.*

**ATTACHMENTS**

1536.01 WSH-RSN Working Agreement