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

Section 1500 – Clinical: Access to Residential Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Services

Authorizing Source: HCA Contract

Approved by: Executive Director    Date: 08/18/2020    Signature:

### **POLICY # 1591.00**

### **SUBJECT: ACCESS TO RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (SUD) TREATMENT SERVICES**

#### **POLICY**

North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization (North Sound BH-ASO) provides access to SUD residential treatment services for individuals, within available resources, residing in the North Sound Regional Service Area (RSA) for whom a residential SUD level of care is deemed medically necessary as determined by a Substance Use Disorder Professional (SUDP) and/or a Substance Use Disorder Professional Trainee (SUDPT) who is supervised by a SUDP.

North Sound BH-ASO maintains a provider network of contracted SUD residential Behavioral Health Agencies (BHA) within the North Sound RSA and other RSA in Washington State to ensure network adequacy and access for individuals in the North Sound BH-ASO.

SUD Residential Treatment Services are certified and are all or part of a Residential Treatment Facility (RTF) licensed by the Department of Health (DOH), that provides 24-hour evaluation, stabilization and treatment services for individuals. Individuals cannot be required to relinquish custody of minor children in order to access residential treatment services.

1. Adult Intensive inpatient services provide a concentrated program of SUD treatment, individual and group counseling, education and related activities, including room and board, in a 24-hour per day supervised facility in accordance with Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 246-341. This level of SUD treatment satisfies the level of intensity in American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Level of Care 3.5.
2. Adult Long-Term Care services provide for the care and treatment of those with diagnosed SUD and impaired self-maintenance capabilities. Services include a concentrated program of SUD treatment, individual and group counseling, education, vocational guidance counseling, personal care services and related activities, including room and board, in a 24-hour per day supervised facility in accordance with WAC 246-341. The service as described satisfies the level of intensity in ASAM Level of Care 3.1.
3. Adult Recovery House services offer a program of care and treatment with social, vocational, and recreational activities designed to aid individuals with diagnosed SUD adjust to abstinence and transition to the community in a 24-hour per day supervised facility in accordance with WAC 246-341. Room and board is included. The service as described satisfies the level of intensity in ASAM Level of Care 3.1.
4. Adult Pregnant and Parenting Women (PPW) services offer an enhanced curriculum for PPW and their children under age 6. Services may include a focus on linkages to and consistent care for prenatal and postpartum medical care, infant and children well child medical care, therapeutic child care, family

management, child development, parenting skills, mental health issues, domestic violence, childhood sexual abuse, employment skills and education, legal advocacy and safe affordable housing; room and board is included. This SUD treatment as described satisfies the level of intensity in ASAM Levels 3.5 or 3.1.

5. Adult Co-Occurring treatment services offer enhanced services for individuals diagnosed with both mental health and SUD. Program goals, policies, procedures, treatments, support services reflect a program design specifically intended for the co-occurring population. A multidisciplinary staff of mental health, SUD and medical professionals provide individual and group counseling; medication treatment and monitoring; psychoeducation; and case management; room and board is included. This level of SUD treatment as described satisfies the level of intensity in ASAM Level 3.1..
6. Youth Intensive Inpatient, Level I services are designed for youth with primary SUD problems, and who do not require intense intervention for other mental health and behavioral disorders as a primary part of SUD treatment. This level of SUD treatment as described satisfies the level of intensity in ASAM Level 3.5.
7. Youth Intensive Inpatient, Level II services are designed for youth with co-occurring mental health and SUD problems in which the effectiveness of SUD treatment would likely be adversely affected without addressing mental health, emotional and/or behavioral problems. Providers are required to employ a full-time mental health counselor to work with staff to provide youth with treatment for co-occurring disorders. This level of SUD treatment as described satisfies the level of intensity in ASAM Level 3.5.
8. Youth Recovery House services are for youth who require continued but less intensive treatment services because they are not ready to return home or for whom home is not a safe, supportive environment. The focus of treatment is long-term recovery, community support and improvement in major life competencies. This level of SUD treatment as described satisfies the level of intensity in ASAM Level 3.1.

## PROCEDURES

Prior authorization requirements can be referenced in *Policy 1594.02 Prior Authorization Guide and 1594.01 Level of Care Authorizations*.

1. When a North Sound BH-ASO contracted BHA that provides SUD OP, WM services, or is a hospital-based CUP facility, has diagnosed an individual with a SUD disorder by a SUDP/T according to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5), that the individual meets the ASAM level of care that indicates SUD residential level of care, and, determines that an individual is in need of residential treatment and would benefit according to medical necessity under WAC 182-500-0070, the BHA is responsible to:
  - a. Assure agreement from the individual to enter residential treatment.
  - b. Arrange an admittance date for the individual at a North Sound BH-ASO contracted SUD residential facility by:
    - i. Contact the residential facility and follow the residential facility process for arranging an admission date for the individual and provide all requested information.
    - ii. Determine the residential facility and date of admission meet the individual's needs.
  - c. Request initial authorization for residential level of care from North Sound BH-ASO:
    - i. Use ASAM criteria for admission as referenced in *Policy 1594.02 Prior Authorization Guide and 1594.01 Level of Care Authorizations*.

- ii. Process the initial authorization request through the North Sound BH-ASO data system;
    - iii. Provide all required data and information to North Sound BH-ASO to make a determination regarding initial authorization.
  - d. Notify the residential facility of the initial authorization of services by providing the residential facility in writing with:
    - i. The North Sound BH-ASO authorization number, and
    - ii. The individual's name, BH-ASO approved funding source of Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG) or Criminal Justice Treatment Account (CJTA), the individual's birth date, authorized length-of-stay, and expected admit date as scheduled.
  - e. Assist the individual with life arrangements to enter residential treatment and transportation arrangements to the residential facility as is needed by the individual;
  - f. Maintain contact with the residential facility while the individual is receiving services for the purposes of continuum of care;
  - g. Arrange an appointment through the residential facility for the individual to re-enter the OP level of care, prior to the individual's discharge from the residential facility (whether planned or unplanned) by:
    - i. Making an intake or re-entry appointment available within two (2) business days of an individual's discharge from a residential SUD BHA; or
    - ii. If the individual is not returning to the referring OP SUD BHA for OP SUD services, the referring OP SUD BHA will attempt to assist the individual and the residential SUD BHA in making arrangements for care at another SUD BHA in the individuals RSA and hometown.
2. If the request is denied based on the level of care guidelines, this decision will be conducted by a physician board-certified or board-eligible in Addiction Medicine and the individual will be notified in writing within 72 hours of decision.
  3. If an adolescent is brought to a residential facility by a parent or under the auspices of a Washington State entity such as the Department of Children, Youth and Families, and the adolescent resides in the North Sound RSA, and the residential facility communicates directly with a North Sound BH-ASO Care Authorizer about the circumstances and need for authorization, then North Sound BH-ASO will request a copy of the residential facility assessment materials including ASAM dimensions completed by a SUDP/T that determined the adolescent meets a DSM-5, ASAM residential level of care, medical necessity and financial eligibility criteria.
    - a. North Sound BH-ASO will review the assessment materials, including financial eligibility criteria for SABG.
    - b. North Sound BH-ASO will provide the initial authorization decision directly to the residential facility in these cases that meet DSM-5 diagnosis, ASAM level of care, medical necessity and financial eligibility.
    - c. The residential facility will work with the parent and/or Washington State entity to develop the continuity of care plan to ensure the adolescent is actively connected with ongoing care when he/she returns to home community as part of the prior discharge planning.

4. The SUD residential facility is responsible to electronically request the continuing stay/re-authorization prior to the expiration of the initial authorization secured by the OP provider, the WM provider, or CUP facility, or any subsequent continuing stay requests already made by the SUD residential facility to North Sound BH-ASO.
  - a. Submit the required information to establish the need for medically necessary continuing stay/re-authorization electronically to North Sound BH-ASO.
  - b. North Sound BH-ASO provides a peer-to-peer review of the request documentation for medical necessity, updated ASAM six (6) dimensions, treatment plan progress and additional goals added subsequently, and additional number of days individually needed based on the information provided. If it is a subsequent continuing stay request from the residential facility, the documentation must include updates, changes and progress the individual has made since the last continuing stay request.
  - c. If information is missing or lacking, North Sound BH-ASO will contact the facility to provide prior to response.
  - d. North Sound BH-ASO will provide a continuing stay/re-authorization to the residential facility based on the documentation indicating medical necessity of services needed at a residential level of care that cannot be met at a less intensive level of care.
  - e. If the request is denied or reduced amount of time, this decision will be conducted by a physician who is board-certified or board-eligible in Addiction Medicine. The facility and the individual will be notified in writing 10 days prior to the reduction or termination.

**ATTACHMENTS**

None