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

Section 6000 - Tribal Coordination: Protocols for Coordination with Tribes and non-Tribal IHCPs

Authorizing Source: HCA Contract

Approved by: Executive Director Date: 4/25/2023

Signature:

### **POLICY# 6003.00**

#### **SUBJECT: PROTOCOLS FOR COORDINATION WITH TRIBES AND NON-TRIBAL IHCPs**

#### **PURPOSE**

To confirm North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization's (North Sound BH-ASO's) continuing commitment to coordinate with North Sound Tribal Authorities and the Health Care Authority (HCA) in providing Crisis Services to Tribal Members and on Tribal Lands. The North Sound BH-ASO will actively participate in HCA convened meetings to develop and revise "protocols for coordination of crisis services" to include: involuntary commitment assessments, care coordination, and discharge and transition planning as part of HCA's government-to-government relationship with each of the Tribes under chapter 43.376 Revised Code of Washington (RCW) and various federal requirements and as part of HCA's meet-and-confer relationship with each non-Tribal Indian Health Care Provider (IHCP) under HCA policy.

The North Sound BH-ASO will comply with these Protocols once they are completed and agreed upon for each Tribe or non-Tribal IHCP. Until these Protocols are agreed upon, the North Sound BH-ASO will use the most recent annual Tribal Coordination of Crisis Services Plan for providing crisis and involuntary treatment act (ITA) evaluations on Tribal Lands that was agreed upon by the North Sound BH-ASO and the Tribe.

#### **Protocols for Coordination of Crisis Services with Tribes and Non-Tribal IHCPs**

According to the HCA Contract with the North Sound BH-ASO, these Protocols are to include at a minimum a description of the procedures and processes for:

1. Access to Tribal lands to provide services, including crisis response and involuntary commitment assessment;
2. Providing services on Tribal lands in the evening, holidays, or weekends if different than during business hours;
3. Notifying Tribal authorities when crisis services are provided on Tribal land, especially on weekends or holidays or after business hours, including who is notified and timeframes for the notification;
4. How DCRs will coordinate with Tribal mental health and/or SUD providers and others identified in the protocols, including coordination and debriefing with any Tribal mental health or SUD providers after a crisis service has been provided;
5. When a DCR determines whether to detain or not for involuntary commitment; and
6. If ITA evaluations cannot be conducted on Tribal land, how and by whom Individuals will be transported to non-Tribal lands for involuntary commitment assessment and detention and/or to a licensed Evaluation and Treatment Facility.

## **Tribal Designated Crisis Responders**

1. Upon North Sound BH-ASO authority to designate DCRs, and upon request, North Sound BH-ASO will designate at least one person from each Tribe within the North Sound Region as a Tribal Designated Crisis Responder (DCR), subject to the following requirements:
  - a. The potential Tribal DCR must meet all the requirements as a DCR in accordance with RCW 71.05.020, 71.24.025 and 71.34.020;
  - b. The request for designation of a potential Tribal DCR person must be made in writing to the North Sound BH-ASO from the Tribal Authority;
  - c. Upon written request from North Sound Tribes, Tribes may elect to share Tribal DCRs; and
  - d. The decision-making authority of the DCR must be independent of the North Sound BH-ASO's administration and the Tribal Authority.
2. The North Sound BH-ASO will enable any Tribal DCR, whether appointed by the BH-ASO, by a Court within the region, or by HCA to shadow with and receive on-the-job training from a DCR employed by a DCR provider agency that is contracted with the North Sound BH-ASO.
3. The North Sound BH-ASO will actively engage and include Tribal DCRs, , whether appointed by the BH-ASO, by a Court within the region, or by HCA, in the regional work on Crisis Services collaborative groups, trainings, and policy impacts within the North Sound Region as provided to other crisis and DCR service providers, such as the North Sound Crisis Services Leadership Group.
4. In the event the North Sound BH-ASO and a Tribal Authority are unable to reach agreement on a methodology to designate a Tribal DCRs, including hiring, funding and operational processes, written documentation will be provided to HCA's office of Tribal Affairs and will be submitted to [HCABHASO@hca.wa.gov](mailto:HCABHASO@hca.wa.gov).
  - a. Documentation will include names of those participating in the planning discussions from both parties and barriers or issues that remain unresolved.
  - b. The North Sound BH-ASO will cooperate with HCA as it works with the BH-ASO and the Tribal Authority to attempt to resolve issues. However, it is the goal of the BH-ASO to actively work to resolve issues prior to requesting mediation from HCA.
5. The North Sound BH-ASO will pay for non-Medicaid DCR evaluations provided by Tribal DCRs.

## **Attachments**

None