**North Sound Interlocal Leadership Structure**

**Becoming a “Mid-Adopter”**

**Decision Briefing Paper**

**Summary:**

* The legislature has established as a policy direction, the integration of all Medicaid health and behavioral health services by 2020 with Managed Care Organizations [MCOs].
* The state has offered financial incentives to regions that are willing to implement full integration in 2019 rather than 2020 – the so called “Mid-Adopter” option.
* All the county authorities in a region must agree to early adoption of fully integrated care.
* Draft legislation was introduced calling for the creation of an “Interlocal Leadership Structure” jointly administered by the County Authorities, the Health Care Authority [HCA], and the five Apple Health Managed Care Organizations [MCOs].
* This Leadership Structure would be chaired by the counties and would coordinated the planning for the transition to fully integrated care.
* Although the bill this legislative language was attached to was not passed, the North Sound BHO received agreement from HCA, the five MCOs, and the Executive Director of the North Sound Accountable Community of Health [NSACH] to go ahead and establish the Leadership Structure for the North Sound region to coordinate planning.
* This Leadership Structure would work with the NSACH and other stakeholders to plan for the transition to fully integrated care.
* The first issue for the Leadership structure to address would be whether the North Sound region should become a “Mid-Adopter”.

**Decisions:**

1. Should the North Sound Region elect to become a “mid-adopter”?
2. If the North Sound elects to become a mid-adopter, which option should it choose:
   1. Have integrated managed care plans assume all funding and functions for Medicaid covered behavioral health services by January 2019; or
   2. Have certain functions subcontracted for one year to the county administered BHO as agreed to by the Interlocal Leadership Structure and permitted under the state’s contracts with MCOs.
3. Should the North Sound Counties continue to administer Crisis and Non-Medicaid Services or advise the state that the state should independently procure these services with a separate entity in 2020 and beyond?

**Interlocal Leadership Structure**

1. **Core Group**

* Chair: BHO Director
* HCA Representative (s)
* Counties – One Representative from each county
* MCOs – Representatives from each MCO
* NSACH Executive Director and one representative from Board of Directors

1. **Expanded Stakeholder Group**

* North Sound Accountable Community of Health [NSACH]
* Tribal Authorities
* BHO contracted Behavioral Health Agencies
* Primary Care Providers

**Planning Milestones:**

1. **Phase One- Mid Adopter Decision: May 2017-September 2017**

* Should the North Sound become a mid-adopter?
* If mid-adopter is recommended, should the BHO become a Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization” (BH-ASO) during the 2019 transition period and administer Crisis and other Non-Medicaid services?

1. **Phase Two: Mid-Adopter System Vision and Design: May 2017 – 2018 MCO Selection**

* What is the vision for the ideal system of integrated care in which persons are at the center of care delivery, including persons with complex conditions?
* If the BHO will be transitioning to a BH-ASO managing Crisis and Non-Medicaid services, what other functions should the selected MCOs consider contracting with the BH-ASO to provide during the transition period [within the parameters of the state contacts]?

1. **Phase Three: Mid-Adopter Implementation Planning – 2018 MCO Selection – January 2019**

* What should be the ongoing Interlocal Leadership Structure post implementation?
* Should the BH-ASO continue beyond 2019 providing Crisis and Non-Medicaid Services
* What services are the selected MCOs willing to contract with the BH-ASO to provide.

1. **Non- Mid-Adopter: May 2017-January 2020**

* If the North Sound Region County Authorities do not choose to become a mid-adopter, the Interlocal Leadership Structure would continue to work with stakeholders on the vision and design for fully integrated care to be implemented in 2020.