



MICHELLE BAASS  
DIRECTOR

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
Department of Health Care Services



GAVIN NEWSOM  
GOVERNOR

July 25, 2022

Sent via e-mail to: [Lisa.Lewis@co.kings.ca.us](mailto:Lisa.Lewis@co.kings.ca.us)

Lisa Lewis, Director  
Kings County Behavioral Health  
460 Kings County Drive, Suite 101  
Hanford, CA 93230

SUBJECT: Annual DMC State Plan County Compliance Unit Findings Report

Dear Director Lewis:

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is responsible for monitoring compliance to requirements of the State Plan Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) Contract operated by Kings County.

The County Compliance Unit (CCU) within the Audits and Investigations Division (A&I) of DHCS conducted a review of the County's compliance with contract requirements based on responses to the monitoring instrument, discussion with county staff, and supporting documentation provided by the County.

Enclosed are the results of Kings County's State Fiscal Year 2021-22 State Plan DMC Contract compliance review. The report identifies deficiencies, required corrective actions, advisory recommendations, and referrals for technical assistance.

Kings County is required to submit a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) addressing each deficiency noted to the Medi-Cal Behavioral Health Division (MCBHD), Plan and Network Monitoring Branch (PNMB), County/Provider Operations and Monitoring Branch (CPOMB) liaison by 9/26/2022. Please use the enclosed CAP form and submit the completed CAP and supporting documentation via email to the CPOMB analyst at [MCBHDMonitoring@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:MCBHDMonitoring@dhcs.ca.gov).

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact me at [emanuel.hernandez@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:emanuel.hernandez@dhcs.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Emanuel Hernandez  
(916) 713-8667

Audits and Investigations Division  
Medical Review Branch  
Behavioral Health Compliance Section  
County Compliance Unit  
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Sacramento, CA 95814  
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Distribution:

To: Director Lewis,

CC: Mateo Hernandez, Audits and Investigations, Medical Review Branch Acting Chief  
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[MCBHDMonitoring@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:MCBHDMonitoring@dhcs.ca.gov), County/Provider Operations and Monitoring Branch  
Juan Torres, Kings County Substance Use Disorder Program Manager

## COUNTY REVIEW INFORMATION

**County:**

Kings

**County Contact Name/Title:**

Juan Torres/Kings County Substance Use Disorder Program Manager

**County Address:**

460 Kings County Drive, Suite 101  
Hanford, CA 93230

**County Phone Number/Email:**

559-852-2356  
Juan.Torres@co.kings.ca.us

**Date of Review:**

05/19/2022

**Lead CCU Analyst:**

Emanuel Hernandez

**Assisting CCU Analyst(s):**

N/A

**Report Prepared by:**

Emanuel Hernandez

**Report Approved by:**

Ayesha Smith

## REVIEW SCOPE

- I. Regulations:
  - a. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, section 51341.1, 51490.1 and 51516.1 – Drug Medi-Cal Substance Use Disorder Services
  - b. California Code of Regulations, Title 9, Division 4: Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs
  - c. Health and Safety Code, Division 10.5, Section 11750 – 11970: Alcohol and Drug Programs
  - d. Welfare and Institutions Code, Division 9, Part 3, Chapter 7, Sections 14021.51-14021.53 and 14124.20-14124.25: Basic Health Care – Drug Medi-Cal Treatment Program
  
- II. Program Requirements:
  - a. Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 State-County Contract, herein referred to as State County Contract
  - b. Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 State-County Contract, herein referred to as State County Contract
  - c. Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders Services (MHSUDS) Information Notices
  - d. Behavioral Health Information Notices (BHIN)

## ENTRANCE AND EXIT CONFERENCE SUMMARIES

### **Entrance Conference:**

An Entrance Conference was conducted via WebEx on 5/19/2022. The following individuals were present:

- Representing DHCS:  
Emanuel Hernandez, County Compliance Unit (CCU) Associate Governmental Program Analyst (AGPA)  
Cassandra Queen, County Provider Operations and Monitoring (CPOM) Unit AGPA
- Representing Kings County:  
Katie Arnst, Kings County Behavioral Health Clinical Services Deputy Director  
Juan Torres, Kings County Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Program Manager  
Laura Tafolla, Kings County SUD Program Fiscal Analyst II/III  
Jeanette Barajas, Kings County SUD Program Quality Assurance Specialist  
Christi Lupkes, Kings County SUD Quality Assurance Manager  
Jason Williams, Kings County SUD Licensed Mental Health Clinician  
John Walters, Kings County SUD Business Application Specialist

During the Entrance Conference, the following topics were discussed:

- Introductions
- Overview of review process
- Overview of services provided

### **Exit Conference:**

An Exit Conference was conducted via WebEx on 5/19/2022. The following individuals were present:

- Representing DHCS:  
Emanuel Hernandez, CCU AGPA  
Cassandra Queen, CPOM Unit AGPA
- Representing Kings County:  
Katie Arnst, Kings County Behavioral Health Clinical Services Deputy Director  
Juan Torres, Kings County Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Program Manager  
Laura Tafolla, Kings County SUD Program Fiscal Analyst II/III  
Jeanette Barajas, Kings County SUD Program Quality Assurance Specialist  
Christi Lupkes, Kings County SUD Quality Assurance Manager  
Jason Williams, Kings County SUD Licensed Mental Health Clinician  
John Walters, Kings County SUD Business Application Specialist

During the Exit Conference, the following topics were discussed:

- Submitting follow-up evidence
- Due date for evidence submission

## SUMMARY OF FY 2021-22 COMPLIANCE DEFICIENCIES (CD)

| <u>Section</u>                                  | <u>Number of CD's</u> |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1.0 Administration                              | 0                     |
| 2.0 Covered Services                            | 0                     |
| 3.0 DMC Certification & Continued Certification | 0                     |
| 4.0 Monitoring                                  | 1                     |
| 5.0 General Provisions                          | 0                     |

## **CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN (CAP)**

Pursuant to the State County Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I A1, Part I, Section 4, B, 6 a-b each CD identified must be addressed via a CAP. The CAP is due within sixty (60) calendar days of the date of this monitoring report.

Please provide the following within the completed FY 2021- 22 CAP:

- a) A statement of the CD.
- b) A list of action steps to be taken to correct the CD.
- c) A date of completion for each CD.
- d) Who will be responsible for correction and ongoing compliance.

The CPOMB analyst will monitor progress of the CAP completion.

## Category 4: MONITORING

A review of the County's monitoring and program integrity was conducted to ensure compliance with applicable regulations, and standards. The following DMC deficiency in regulations, standards, or protocol requirements was identified:

### COMPLIANCE DEFICIENCY:

#### **CD 4.1:**

State Plan DMC Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I A1, Part I, Section 1, B

B. It is further agreed this Contract is controlled by applicable provisions of: (a) the W&I Code, Division 9, Part 3, Chapter 7, Sections 14000, *et seq.*, in particular, but not limited to, Sections 14100.2, 14021, 14021.5, 14021.6, and Article 1.3, Sections 14043, *et seq.*, (b) Title 22, including but not limited to Sections 51490.1, 51341.1 and 51516.1; and (c) Division 4 of Title 9 of the California Code Regulations (hereinafter referred to as Title 9).

#### 22 CCR § 51341.1 (b) (28) (A) (i) (f) (iii)

(A) For outpatient drug free, day care habilitative, perinatal residential and naltrexone treatment services programs the following shall apply:

- (i) The substance use disorder medical director's responsibilities shall at a minimum include all of the following
- (f) Ensure that provider's physicians are adequately trained to perform diagnosis of substance use disorders for beneficiaries, determine the medical necessity of treatment for beneficiaries and perform other physician duties, as outlined in this section.
- (iii) A substance use disorder medical director shall receive a minimum of five (5) hours of continuing medical education in addiction medicine each year.

**Findings:** The County did not provide evidence demonstrating the subcontractor's Medical Director received the annual five (5) hours of continuing medical education in addiction medicine. Specifically:

- The County did not provide evidence of continuing medical education for Champions Recovery Alternative Programs, Inc., Medical Director Jessie Liscomb for calendar year 2020.



## **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

Kings County did not request technical assistance.