



MICHELLE BAASS  
DIRECTOR

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



GAVIN NEWSOM  
GOVERNOR

July 13, 2022

Mr. James G. Scott, Director  
Division of Program Operations  
Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
601 East 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 0300  
Kansas City, MO 64106-2898

STATE PLAN AMENDMENT 22-0023: SPECIALTY MENTAL HEALTH UPDATES

Dear Mr. Scott:

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is submitting State Plan Amendment (SPA) 22-0023 for your review and approval. DHCS proposes to update references to medical necessity; simplify the definition of “assessment”; remove the existing client plan requirement; update associated plan development activities for Medi-Cal Rehabilitative Mental Health Services; replace the term “telemedicine” with “telehealth” and clarify the Rehabilitative mental health Services that can be provided via telehealth; clarify site requirements for Day Rehabilitation; and delete the requirement for “community meetings” for Day Treatment Intensive. These changes are in alignment with the department’s California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) initiative through which DHCS proposes to update documentation requirements for Medi-Cal Rehabilitative Mental Health Services.

DHCS also seeks to replace the term “telemedicine” with “telehealth” for consistency across Medi-Cal as DHCS moves toward utilizing the term “telehealth.” “Telehealth” is the standard term used in California statutes. DHCS is also clarifying the Rehabilitative Mental Health Services that can be provided via telehealth to be consistent with current practice. Finally, DHCS is removing the requirement for “community meetings” to give programs more flexibility in designing their Day Treatment Intensive programs. We believe that similar therapeutic results can be accomplished through “process groups” and “therapeutic milieu.”

Included in this submission are the following:

- CMS 179 Form
- Supplement 3 to Attachment 3.1-A, pages 1, 2, 2a, 2b-2p
- Supplement 2 to Attachment 3.1-B, 1-13, 14, and 15-18
- Tribal Notice
- Standard Funding Questions

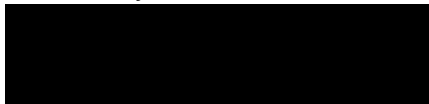
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In compliance with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, DHCS routinely notifies Indian Health Programs and Urban Indian Organizations of SPAs that have a direct impact on the programs and organizations. DHCS released the Tribal Notice on February 23, 2022.

DHCS anticipates the federal budget impact for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 to be \$0.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Ivan Bhardwaj, Acting Chief, Medi-Cal Behavioral Health Division, at (916) 842-8598 or by email at [Ivan.Bhardwaj@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:Ivan.Bhardwaj@dhcs.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Jacey Cooper  
State Medicaid Director  
Chief Deputy Director  
Health Care Programs

Enclosures

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**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF  
STATE PLAN MATERIAL  
FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER

2. STATE

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

XIX

XXI

TO: CENTER DIRECTOR  
CENTERS FOR MEDICAID & CHIP SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE

5. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION

6. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT (Amounts in WHOLE dollars)

a. FFY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

b. FFY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

7. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable)

9. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT

10. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One)

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT  
COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED  
NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

OTHER, AS SPECIFIED:

Please note: The Governor's Office does not wish to review the State Plan Amendment.

11. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL

12. TYPED NAME

13. TITLE

14. DATE SUBMITTED

July 13, 2022

15. RETURN TO

**FOR CMS USE ONLY**

16. DATE RECEIVED

17. DATE APPROVED

**PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED**

18. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL

19. SIGNATURE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

20. TYPED NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

21. TITLE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL

22. REMARKS

State: CaliforniaAMOUNT, DURATION AND SCOPE OF MEDICAL  
AND REMEDIAL CARE AND SERVICES PROVIDED TO THE CATEGORICALLY NEEDY

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LIMITATION ON SERVICES

## 13. d. 4 Rehabilitative Mental Health Services

Rehabilitative Mental Health Services are provided through a specialty mental health delivery system available to Medicaid (Medi-Cal) beneficiaries who meet State criteria for access to the specialty mental health services delivery system.

## DEFINITIONS

"Adjunctive Therapies" means therapies in which both staff and beneficiaries participate, such therapies may utilize self-expression, such as art, recreation, dance, or music, as the therapeutic intervention. Participants do not need to have any level of skill in the area of self-expression, but rather be able to utilize the modality to develop or enhance skills. Adjunctive therapies assist the beneficiary in attaining or restoring skills which enhance community functioning including problem solving, organization of thoughts and materials, and verbalization of ideas and feelings. Adjunctive therapies provided as a component of Day Rehabilitation or Day Treatment Intensive are used in conjunction with other mental health services in order to improve the outcome of those services consistent with the beneficiary's needs.

"Assessment" means a service activity designed to evaluate the current status of a beneficiary's mental, emotional, or behavioral health to determine whether Rehabilitative Mental Health Services are medically necessary and to recommend or update a course of treatment for that beneficiary. Assessments shall be conducted and documented in accordance with applicable State and Federal statutes, regulations, and standards.

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"Collateral" means a service activity to a significant support person or persons in a beneficiary's life for the purpose of providing support to the beneficiary in achieving the beneficiary's goals. Collateral includes one or more of the following: consultation and/or training of the significant support person(s) that would assist the beneficiary in increasing resiliency, recovery, or improving utilization of services; consultation and training of the significant support person(s) to assist in better understanding of mental illness and its impact on the beneficiary; and family counseling with the significant support person(s) to improve the functioning of the beneficiary. The beneficiary may or may not be present for this service activity.

"Licensed Mental Health Professional" means licensed physicians, licensed psychologists, licensed clinical social workers, licensed professional clinical counselors, licensed marriage and family therapists, registered nurses (includes certified nurse specialists and nurse practitioners), licensed vocational nurses, and licensed psychiatric technicians.

"Treatment Planning" means a service activity to develop or update a beneficiary's course of treatment, documentation of the recommended course of treatment, and monitoring a beneficiary's progress.

"Process Groups" means groups facilitated by staff to help beneficiaries develop skills necessary to cope with individual problems and issues by using the group process to provide peer interaction and feedback in developing problem-solving strategies and to assist one another in resolving behavioral and emotional problems.

"Referral" means linkage to other needed services and supports.

"Rehabilitation" means a recovery or resiliency focused service activity which addresses a mental health need. This service activity provides assistance in restoring, improving, and/or preserving a beneficiary's functional, social, communication, or daily living skills to enhance self-sufficiency or self-regulation in multiple life domains relevant to the developmental age and needs of the beneficiary. Rehabilitation also includes support resources, and/or medication education. Rehabilitation may be provided to a beneficiary or a group of beneficiaries.

"Significant Support Person" means persons, in the opinion of the beneficiary or the person providing services, who have or could have a significant role in the successful outcome of treatment, including but not limited to a parent, legal guardian, other family member, or other unrelated individual of a beneficiary who is a minor, the legal representative of a beneficiary who is not a minor, a person living in the same household as the beneficiary, the beneficiary's spouse, and relatives of the beneficiary.

"Telehealth" means the mode of delivering health care services via information and communication technologies to facilitate the diagnosis, consultation, treatment, education, care management, and self-management of a patient's health care while the beneficiary is at the originating site and the provider is at a distant site. Telehealth is provided through real-time, video synchronous interaction.

"Telephone" means the mode of delivering health care services via telephonic (audio-only) synchronous interaction.

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"Therapy" means a service activity that is a therapeutic intervention that focuses primarily on symptom reduction and restoration of functioning as a means to improve coping and adaptation and reduce functional impairments. Therapeutic intervention includes the application of cognitive, affective, verbal or nonverbal, strategies based on the principles of development, wellness, adjustment to impairment, recovery and resiliency to assist a beneficiary in acquiring greater personal, interpersonal and community functioning or to modify feelings, thought processes, conditions, attitudes or behaviors which are emotionally, intellectually, or socially ineffective. These interventions and techniques are specifically implemented in the context of a professional clinical relationship. Therapy may be delivered to a beneficiary or group of beneficiaries and may include family therapy directed at improving the beneficiary's functioning and at which the beneficiary is present.

"Therapeutic Milieu" means a therapeutic program structured by process groups and skill building groups that has activities performed by identified staff; takes place for the continuous scheduled hours of program operation; includes staff and activities that teach, model and reinforce constructive interactions; and includes peer and staff feedback to beneficiaries on strategies for symptom reduction, increasing adaptive behaviors, and reducing subjective distress.

It includes behavior management interventions that focus on teaching self-management skills that children, youth, adults, and older adults may use to control their own lives, deal effectively with present and future problems, and function well with minimal or no additional therapeutic intervention.

"Under the direction of" means that the individual directing service is acting as a clinical team leader, providing direct or functional supervision of service delivery. An individual directing a service is not required to be physically present at the service site to exercise direction. The licensed professional directing a service assumes ultimate responsibility for the Rehabilitative Mental Health Service provided. Services are provided under the direction of: a physician; a licensed or waived psychologist; a licensed, waived or registered social worker; a licensed, waived or registered marriage and family therapist; a licensed, waived or registered professional clinical counselor, or a registered nurse (including a certified nurse specialist, or a nurse practitioner).

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"Waivered/Registered Professional" means:

- 1) For a psychologist candidate, "waivered" means an individual who either (1) is gaining the experience required for licensure or (2) was recruited for employment from outside California, has sufficient experience to gain admission to a licensing examination, and has been granted a professional licensing waiver approved by the Department of Health Care Services to the extent authorized under state law.
- 2) For a social worker candidate, a marriage and family therapist candidate, or a professional clinical counselor candidate, "registered" means a candidate for licensure who is registered with the corresponding state licensing authority for the purpose of acquiring the experience required for licensure, in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations, and "waivered" means a candidate who was recruited for employment from outside California, whose experience is sufficient to gain admission to the appropriate licensing examination and who has been granted a professional licensing waiver approved by the Department of Health Care Services to the extent authorized under state law.

## REHABILITATIVE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Rehabilitative Mental Health Services are services recommended by a physician or other licensed mental health professional within the scope of their practice under State law, for the maximum reduction of mental or emotional disability, and restoration, improvement, and/or preservation of a beneficiary's functional level. Rehabilitative Mental Health Services allow beneficiaries to sustain their current level of functioning, remain in the community, prevent deterioration in an important area of life functioning, and prevent the need for institutionalization or a higher level of medical care intervention. Rehabilitative Mental Health Services include services to enable a child to achieve age-appropriate growth and development. It is not necessary that a child actually achieved the developmental level in the past. Rehabilitative Mental Health Services are provide in the least restrictive setting, consistent with the goals of recovery and resiliency, the requirements for learning and development, and/or independent living and enhanced self-sufficiency.

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Services are provided based on beneficiary meeting criteria for access to the specialty mental health services delivery system and approved and authorized according to State of California requirements. Services include:

1. Mental Health Services are individual, group or family-based interventions that are designed to provide reduction of the beneficiary's mental or emotional disability, restoration, improvement and/or preservation of individual and community functioning, and continued ability to remain in the community consistent with the goals of recovery, resiliency, learning, development, independent living and enhanced self-sufficiency and that are not provided as a component of adult residential services, crisis residential treatment services, crisis intervention, crisis stabilization, day rehabilitation, or day treatment intensive.

Mental health services may be provided face-to-face, by telephone or by telehealth with the beneficiary or significant support person(s) and may be provided anywhere in the community.

This service includes one or more of the following service components:

- Assessment
- Treatment Planning
- Therapy
- Rehabilitation
- Collateral

Providers: Mental health services may be provided within their scope of practice by a Physician, a Psychologist, a Waivered Psychologist, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Waivered/Registered Clinical Social Worker, a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, a Waivered/Registered Professional Clinical Counselor, a Marriage and Family Therapist, a Waivered/Registered Marriage and Family Therapist, a Registered Nurse, a Certified Nurse Specialist, a Licensed Vocational Nurse, a Psychiatric Technician, a Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist, a Physician Assistant, a Nurse Practitioner, a Pharmacist, an Occupational Therapist, and Other Qualified Provider.

Limitations: Mental health services are not reimbursable when provided by day treatment intensive or day rehabilitation staff during the same time period that day treatment intensive or day rehabilitation services are being provided. Authorization is required for mental health services if these services are provided on the same day that day treatment intensive or day rehabilitation services are provided.

2. Medication Support Services include one or more of the following: prescribing, administering, dispensing and monitoring drug interactions and contraindications of psychiatric medications or biologicals that are necessary to alleviate the suffering and symptoms of mental illness. This service may also include assessing the appropriateness of reducing medication

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usage when clinically indicated. Medication Support Services are individually tailored to address the beneficiary's need and are provided by a consistent provider who has an established relationship with the beneficiary. Services may include: providing detailed information about how medications work; different types of medications available and why they are used; anticipated outcomes of taking a medication; the importance of continuing to take a medication even if the symptoms improve or disappear (as determined clinically appropriate); how the use of the medication may improve the effectiveness of other services a beneficiary is receiving (e.g., group or individual therapy); possible side effects of medications and how to manage them; information about medication interactions or possible complications related to using medications with alcohol or other medications or substances; and the impact of choosing to not take medications. Medication Support Services supports beneficiaries in taking an active role in making choices about their mental health care and helps them make specific, deliberate, and informed decisions about their treatment options and mental health care.

Medication support services may be provided face-to-face, by telephone or by telehealth with the beneficiary or significant support person(s) and may be provided anywhere in the community.

This service includes one or more of the following service components:

- Evaluation of the need for medication
- Evaluation of clinical effectiveness and side effects
- The obtaining of informed consent
- Medication education including instruction in the use, risks and benefits of and alternatives for medication
- Collateral
- Treatment Planning

Providers: Medication support services may be provided within their scope of practice by a Physician, a Registered Nurse, a Certified Nurse Specialist, a Licensed Vocational Nurse, a Psychiatric Technician, a Physician Assistant, a Nurse Practitioner, and a Pharmacist.

Limitations: The maximum number of hours claimable for medication support services in a 24-hour period is 4 hours.

This service is not duplicative of the drug counseling requirements described in 42 CFR 456.705.

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3. Day Treatment Intensive is a structured, multi-disciplinary program including a therapeutic milieu, therapy, skill building groups, and adjunctive therapies, which provides services to a distinct group of individuals. It may also include rehabilitation, process groups and other interventions. Day treatment intensive is intended to provide an alternative to hospitalization, avoid placement in a more restrictive setting, or assist the beneficiary in living within a community setting. Services are available for at least three hours each day. The Day Treatment Intensive program is a program that lasts less than 24 hours each day.

Day treatment intensive services must have a clearly established site for services although all services need not be delivered at that site and some service components may be delivered through telehealth or telephone.

This service includes one or more of the following service components:

- Assessment
- Treatment Planning
- Therapy
- Rehabilitation
- Collateral

Providers: Day treatment intensive services may be provided within their scope of practice by a Physician, a Psychologist, a Waivered Psychologist, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Waivered/Registered Clinical Social Worker, a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, a Waivered/Registered Professional Clinical Counselor, a Marriage and Family Therapist, a Waivered/Registered Marriage and Family Therapist, a Registered Nurse, a Certified Nurse Specialist, a Licensed Vocational Nurse, a Psychiatric Technician, a Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist, a Physician Assistant, a Nurse Practitioner, a Pharmacist, an Occupational Therapist, and Other Qualified Provider.

Limitations: Day treatment intensive services are not reimbursable when crisis residential treatment services, psychiatric inpatient hospital services, psychiatric health facility services, or psychiatric nursing facility services are reimbursed, except for the day of admission to those services.

4. Day Rehabilitation is a structured program including rehabilitation, skill building groups, process groups, and adjunctive therapies which provides services to a distinct group of individuals. It may also include therapy, and other interventions. Day rehabilitation is intended to improve or restore personal independence and functioning necessary to live in the community or prevent deterioration of personal independence consistent with the principles of learning and development. Services are available for at least three hours each day. Day Rehabilitation is a program that lasts less than 24 hours each day.

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Day rehabilitation services must have a clearly established site for services although all services need not to be delivered at that site and some service components may be delivered through telehealth or telephone.

This service includes one or more of the following service components:

- Assessment
- Treatment Planning
- Therapy
- Rehabilitation
- Collateral

Providers: Day rehabilitation services may be provided within their scope of practice by a Physician, a Psychologist, a Waivered Psychologist, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Waivered/Registered Clinical Social Worker, a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, a Waivered/Registered Professional Clinical Counselor, a Marriage and Family Therapist, a Waivered/Registered Marriage and Family Therapist, a Registered Nurse, a Certified Nurse Specialist, a Licensed Vocational Nurse, a Psychiatric Technician, a Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist, a Physician Assistant, a Nurse Practitioner, a Pharmacist, an Occupational Therapist, and Other Qualified Provider.

Limitations: Day rehabilitation services are not reimbursable when crisis residential treatment services, psychiatric inpatient hospital services, psychiatric health facility services, or psychiatric nursing facility services are reimbursed, except for the day of admission to those services.

5. Crisis Intervention is an unplanned, expedited service, to or on behalf of a beneficiary to address a condition that requires more timely response than a regularly scheduled visit. Crisis intervention is an emergency response service enabling a beneficiary to cope with a crisis, while assisting the beneficiary in regaining their status as a functioning community member. The goal of crisis intervention is to stabilize an immediate crisis within a community or clinical treatment setting.

Crisis intervention may be provided face-to-face, by telephone or by telehealth with the beneficiary and/or significant support persons and may be provided in a clinic setting or anywhere in the Community.

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This service includes one or more of the following service components:

- Assessment
- Collateral
- Therapy
- Referral

Providers: Crisis intervention services may be provided within their scope of practice by a Physician, a Psychologist, a Waivered Psychologist, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Waivered/Registered Clinical Social Worker a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, a Waivered/Registered Professional Clinical Counselor, a Marriage and Family Therapist, a Waivered/Registered Marriage and Family Therapist, a Registered Nurse, a Certified Nurse Specialist, a Licensed Vocational Nurse, a Psychiatric Technician, a Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist, a Physician Assistant, a Nurse Practitioner, a Pharmacist, an Occupational Therapist, and Other Qualified Provider.

Limitations: Crisis intervention is not reimbursable on days when crisis residential treatment services, psychiatric health facility services, or psychiatric inpatient hospital services are reimbursed, except for the day of admission to those services. The maximum amount claimable for crisis intervention in a 24 hour period is 8 hours.

6. Crisis Stabilization is an unplanned, expedited service lasting less than 24 hours, to or on behalf of a beneficiary to address an urgent condition requiring immediate attention that cannot be adequately or safely addressed in a community setting. The goal of crisis stabilization is to avoid the need for inpatient services which, if the condition and symptoms are not treated, present an imminent threat to the beneficiary or others, or substantially increase the risk of the beneficiary becoming gravely disabled.

Crisis stabilization must be provided on site at a licensed 24-hour health care facility, at a hospital based outpatient program (services in a hospital based outpatient program are provided in accordance with 42 CFR 440.20), or at a provider site certified by the Department of Health Care Services to perform crisis stabilization and some service components may be delivered through telehealth or telephone. Crisis stabilization is an all-inclusive program and no other Rehabilitative Mental Health Services are reimbursable during the same time period this service is reimbursed.

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Medical backup services must be available either on site or by written contract or agreement with a general acute care hospital. Medical backup means immediate access within reasonable proximity to health care for medical emergencies. Medications must be available on an as needed basis and the staffing pattern must reflect this availability.

All beneficiaries receiving crisis stabilization must receive an assessment of their physical and mental health. This may be accomplished using protocols approved by a physician. If outside services are needed, a referral that corresponds with the beneficiary's needs will be made, to the extent resources are available.

This service includes one or more of the following service components:

- Assessment
- Collateral
- Therapy
- Crisis Intervention
- Medication Support Services
- Referral

Providers: Crisis stabilization services have the following staffing requirements: a physician must be on call at all times for the provision of crisis stabilization services that must be provided by a physician, there shall be a minimum of one registered nurse, psychiatric technician, or licensed vocational nurse on site at all times beneficiaries are present, at a minimum there shall be a ratio of at least one licensed mental health or waived/registered professional on site for each four beneficiaries or other clients receiving crisis stabilization services at the same time. If a beneficiary is evaluated as needing service activities that may only be provided by a specific type of licensed professional, such a person must be available. Other persons may be utilized by the program according to need.

Limitations: Crisis stabilization is not reimbursable on days when psychiatric inpatient hospital services, psychiatric health facility services, or psychiatric nursing facility services are reimbursed, except on the day of admission to those services. No other Rehabilitative Mental Health Services are reimbursable during the same time period that crisis stabilization is reimbursed. The maximum number of hours claimable for crisis stabilization in a 24-hour period is 20 hours.

7. Adult Residential Treatment Services are recovery focused rehabilitative services, provided in a non-institutional, residential setting, for beneficiaries who would be at risk of hospitalization or other institutional placement if they were not in the residential treatment program.

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The service includes a range of activities and services that support beneficiaries in their efforts to restore, improve, and/or preserve interpersonal and independent living skills and to access community support systems that support recovery and enhance resiliency. The service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and structured day and evening services are available all seven days.

Adult residential treatment services assist the beneficiary in developing a personal community support system to substitute for the program's supportive environment and to minimize the risk of hospitalization and enhance the capability of independent living upon discharge from the program. The program will also provide a therapeutic environment in which beneficiaries are supported in their efforts to acquire and apply interpersonal and independent living skills.

Adult residential treatment services must have a clearly established site for services although all services need not be delivered at that site and some service components may be delivered through telehealth or telephone.

Services will not be claimable unless the beneficiary has been admitted to the program and there is face-to-face contact between the beneficiary and a treatment staff person of the facility on the day of service.

In an adult residential treatment facility, structured day and evening services are available seven days a week. Services include:

- A. Individual and group counseling
- B. Crisis intervention such as counseling focusing on immediate problem solving in response to a critical emotional incident to augment the beneficiary's usual coping mechanisms
- C. Family counseling with significant support persons, when indicated as part of the beneficiary's course of treatment
- D. The development of community support systems for beneficiaries to maximize their utilization of non-mental health community resources
- E. Counseling focused on reducing mental health symptoms and functional impairments to assist beneficiaries to maximize their ability to obtain and retain pre-vocational or vocational employment
- F. Assisting beneficiaries to develop self-advocacy skills through observation, coaching, and modeling
- G. An activity program that encourages socialization within the program and general community, and which links the beneficiary to resources which are available after leaving the program
- H. Use of the residential environment to assist beneficiaries in the acquisition, testing, and/or refinement of community living and interpersonal skills

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This service includes one or more of the following service components:

- Assessment
- Treatment Planning
- Therapy
- Rehabilitation
- Collateral

Providers: Adult residential treatment services may be provided within their scope of practice by a Physician, a Psychologist, a Waivered Psychologist, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Waivered/Registered Clinical Social Worker, a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, a Waivered/Registered Professional Clinical Counselor, a Marriage and Family Therapist, a Waivered/Registered Marriage and Family Therapist, a Registered Nurse, a Certified Nurse Specialist, a Licensed Vocational Nurse, a Psychiatric Technician, a Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist, a Physician Assistant, a Nurse Practitioner, a Pharmacist, an Occupational Therapist, and Other Qualified Provider.

Limitations: Adult residential treatment services are not reimbursable on days when crisis residential treatment services, psychiatric inpatient hospital services, psychiatric health facility services, or psychiatric nursing facility services are reimbursed, except on the day of admission.

Adult residential treatment services are not provided in an institution for mental disease as defined in SSA Sec. 1905(i) and 42 CFR 435.1010.

8. Crisis Residential Treatment Services are therapeutic or rehabilitative services provided in a non-institutional residential setting which provides a structured program (short term--3 months or less) as an alternative to hospitalization for beneficiaries experiencing an acute psychiatric episode or crisis who do not have medical complications requiring nursing care. The service includes a range of activities and services that support beneficiaries in their efforts to restore, improve, and/or preserve interpersonal and independent living skills, and to access community support systems. The service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and structured day and evening services are available all seven days. The timing, frequency, and duration of the various types of services provided to each beneficiary receiving Crisis Residential Treatment Services will depend on the acuity and individual needs of each beneficiary. For example, a beneficiary newly admitted to a crisis residential treatment program would be more likely to receive crisis intervention or psychotherapy than the development of community support systems, which would be more appropriate as the beneficiary prepares for discharge from the program.

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Crisis residential treatment services must have a clearly established site for services although all services need not be delivered at that site and some service components may be delivered through telehealth or telephone. Services will not be claimable unless the beneficiary has been admitted to the program and there is face-to face contact between the beneficiary and a treatment staff person of the facility on the day of service.

In a crisis residential treatment facility, structured day and evening services are available seven days a week. Services include:

- A. Individual and group counseling
- B. Crisis intervention such as counseling focusing on immediate problem solving in response to a critical emotional incident to augment the individual's usual coping mechanisms
- C. Planned activities that develop and enhance skills
- D. Family counseling with significant support persons directed at improving the beneficiary's functioning, when indicated as part of the beneficiary's course of treatment/
- E. The development of community support systems for beneficiaries to maximize their utilization of non-mental health community resources
- F. Counseling focused on reducing mental health symptoms and functional impairments to assist beneficiaries to maximize their ability to obtain and retain pre-vocational or vocational employment
- G. Assisting beneficiaries to develop self-advocacy skills through observation, coaching, and modeling
- H. An activity program that encourages socialization within the program and general community, and which links the beneficiary to resources which are available after leaving the program
- I. Use of the residential environment to assist beneficiaries in the acquisition, testing, and/or refinement of community living and interpersonal skills

This service includes one or more of the following service components:

- Assessment
- Treatment Planning
- Therapy
- Rehabilitation
- Collateral
- Crisis Intervention

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Providers: Crisis residential treatment services may be provided within their scope of practice by a Physician, a Psychologist, a Waivered Psychologist, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Waivered/Registered Clinical Social Worker, a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, a Waivered/Registered Professional Clinical Counselor, a Marriage and Family Therapist, a Waivered/Registered Marriage and Family Therapist, a Registered Nurse, a Certified Nurse Specialist, a Licensed Vocational Nurse, a Psychiatric Technician, a Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist, a Physician Assistant, a Nurse Practitioner, a Pharmacist, an Occupational Therapist, and Other Qualified Provider.

Limitations: Crisis residential treatment services are not reimbursable on days when the following services reimbursed, except for day of admission to crisis residential treatment services: mental health services, day treatment intensive, day rehabilitation, adult residential treatment services, crisis intervention, crisis stabilization, psychiatric inpatient hospital services, psychiatric health facility services, or psychiatric nursing facility services.

Crisis residential treatment services are not provided in an institution for mental disease as defined in SSA Sec. 1905(i) and 42 CFR 435.1010.

9. Psychiatric Health Facility Services are therapeutic and/or rehabilitative services including one or more of the following: psychiatric, psychosocial, and counseling services, psychiatric nursing services, social services, and rehabilitation services provided in a psychiatric health facility licensed by the Department of Health Care Services. Psychiatric health facilities are licensed to provide acute inpatient psychiatric treatment to individuals with major mental disorders.

Services are provided in a psychiatric health facility under a multidisciplinary model and some service components may be delivered through telehealth or telephone. Psychiatric health facilities may only admit and treat patients who have no physical illness or injury that would require treatment beyond what ordinarily could be treated on an outpatient basis.

This service includes of the following service components:

- Assessment
- Treatment Planning
- Therapy
- Rehabilitation
- Collateral
- Crisis intervention

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Providers: Psychiatric health facility services may be provided by a Psychologist, a Waivered Psychologist, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Waivered/Registered Clinical Social Worker, a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, a Waivered/Registered Professional Clinical Counselor, a Marriage and Family Therapist, a Waivered/Registered Marriage and Family Therapist, a Psychiatric Technician, a Registered Nurse, a Licensed Vocational Nurse, a Psychiatrist, a Physician with training and/or experience *in* psychiatry, a Pharmacist or Other Qualified Provider.

**Limitations:**

Psychiatric health facility services are not reimbursable on days when any of the following services are reimbursed, except for the day of admission to psychiatric health facility services: adult residential treatment services, crisis residential treatment services, crisis intervention, day treatment intensive, day rehabilitation, psychiatric inpatient hospital services, medication support services, mental health services, crisis stabilization, or psychiatric nursing facility services.

No Federal Financial Participation is available for psychiatric health facility services furnished in facilities with more than 16 beds for services provided to beneficiaries who are 21 years of age and older and under 65 years of age.

**PROVIDER QUALIFICATIONS**

Rehabilitative Mental Health Services are provided by certified mental health organizations or agencies and by mental health professionals who are credentialed according to state requirements or non-licensed providers who agree to abide by the definitions, rules, and requirements for Rehabilitative Mental Health Services established by the Department of Health Care Services, to the extent authorized under state law.

Services are provided by or under the direction (for those providers that may direct services) of the following Mental Health Professionals functioning within the scope of their professional license and applicable state law.

The following specific minimum provider qualifications apply for each individual delivering or directing services.

1) Physicians

Physicians must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements. Physicians may direct services.

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## 2) Psychologists

Psychologists must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements. Psychologists may direct services.

A psychologist may also be a Waivered Professional who has a waiver of psychologist licensure to the extent authorized under State law. Waivered Psychologists may also direct services under the supervision of a Licensed Mental Health Professional in accordance with laws and regulations governing the waiver.

## 3) Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW)

Licensed clinical social workers must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements. Licensed clinical social workers may direct services.

A clinical social worker may also be a Waivered/Registered Professional who has (1) registered with the State licensing authority for clinical social workers for the purpose of acquiring the experience required for clinical social work licensure in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations or (2) been waived by the Department of Health Care Services as a candidate who was recruited for employment from outside California and whose experience is sufficient to gain admission to the appropriate licensing examination but who requires time in which to make arrangements for and take the appropriate licensing examination.

## 4) Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors (LPCC)

Licensed professional clinical counselors must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements. Licensed professional clinical counselors may direct services.

A professional clinical counselor may also be a Waivered/Registered Professional who has (1) registered with the State's licensing authority for professional clinical counselors for the purpose of acquiring the experience required for licensure, in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations, or (2) been waived by the Department of Health Care Services as a candidate who was recruited for employment from outside California and whose experience is sufficient to gain admission to the appropriate licensing examination but who requires time in which to make arrangements for and take the appropriate licensing examination.

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5) Marriage and Family Therapists (MFT)

Marriage and family therapists must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements. Marriage and family therapists may direct services.

A marriage and family therapist may also be a Waivered/Registered Professional who has (1) registered with the State licensing authority for marriage and family therapists for the purpose of acquiring the experience required for marriage and family therapist licensure, in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations, or (2) been waived by the Department of Health Care Services as a candidate who was recruited for employment from outside California and whose experience is sufficient to gain admission to the appropriate licensing examination but who requires time in which to make arrangements for and take the appropriate licensing examination.

6) Registered Nurses (RN)

Registered nurses must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements. Registered nurses may direct services.

7) Certified Nurse Specialists (CNS)

Certified nurse specialists must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements. Certified nurse specialists may direct services.

8) Nurse Practitioners (NP)

Nurse practitioners must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements. Nurse practitioners may direct services.

The following providers may provide services under the direction of those Licensed Mental Health Professionals (listed above) who may direct services:

9) Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVN)

Licensed vocational nurses must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements.

10) Psychiatric Technicians (PT)

Psychiatric technicians must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements.

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11) Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialists (MHRS)

A mental health rehabilitation specialist shall be an individual who has a baccalaureate degree and four years of experience in a mental health setting as a specialist in the fields of physical restoration, social adjustment, or vocational adjustment. Up to two years of graduate professional education may be substituted for the experience requirement on a year-for-year basis; up to two years of post-associate arts clinical experience may be substituted for the required educational experience in addition to the requirement of four years' experience in a mental health setting.

12) Physician Assistants (PA)

Physician assistants must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements.

13) Pharmacists

Pharmacists must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements.

14) Occupational Therapists (OT)

Occupational therapists must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements.

15) Other Qualified Provider

An individual at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent degree determined to be qualified to provide the service.

Assurances:

The state assures that Rehabilitative Mental Health Services shall be available to all children found to be eligible under the provisions of Social Security Act (SSA) Sec. 1905(r)(5).

The state assures that services will not be available to residents of an institution for mental disease as defined in SSA Sec. 1905(i) and 42CFR 435.1010.

The state assures that the Single State Agency shall not delegate to any other state agency the authority and responsibilities described in 42 CFR 431.10(e).

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State: California

AMOUNT, DURATION AND SCOPE OF MEDICAL  
AND REMEDIAL CARE AND SERVICES PROVIDED TO THE MEDICALLY NEEDY

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LIMITATION ON SERVICES

## 13. d. 4 Rehabilitative Mental Health Services

Rehabilitative Mental Health Services are provided through a specialty mental health delivery system to Medicaid (Medi-Cal) beneficiaries who meet State criteria for access to the specialty mental health services delivery system.

## DEFINITIONS

"Adjunctive Therapies" means therapies in which both staff and beneficiaries participate, such therapies may utilize self-expression, such as art, recreation, dance, or music, as the therapeutic intervention. Participants do not need to have any level of skill in the area of self-expression, but rather be able to utilize the modality to develop or enhance skills. Adjunctive therapies assist the beneficiary in attaining or restoring skills which enhance community functioning including problem solving, organization of thoughts and materials, and verbalization of ideas and feelings. Adjunctive therapies provided as a component of Day Rehabilitation or Day Treatment Intensive are used in conjunction with other mental health services in order to improve the outcome of those services consistent with the beneficiary's needs.

"Assessment" means a service activity designed to evaluate the current status of a beneficiary's mental, emotional, or behavioral health to determine whether Rehabilitative Mental Health Services are medically necessary and to recommend or update a course of treatment for that beneficiary. Assessments shall be conducted and documented in accordance with applicable State and Federal statutes, regulations, and standards.

"Collateral" means a service activity to a significant support person or persons in a beneficiary's life for the purpose of providing support to the beneficiary in achieving the beneficiary's goals. Collateral includes one or more of the following: consultation and/or training of the significant support person(s) that would assist the beneficiary in increasing resiliency, recovery, or improving utilization of services; consultation and training of the significant support person(s) to assist in better understanding of mental illness and its impact on the beneficiary; and family counseling with the significant support person(s) to improve the functioning of the beneficiary. The beneficiary may or may not be present for this service activity.

"Licensed Mental Health Professional" means licensed physicians, licensed psychologists, licensed clinical social workers, licensed professional clinical counselors, licensed marriage and family therapists, registered nurses (includes certified nurse specialists and nurse practitioners), licensed vocational nurses, and licensed psychiatric technicians.

"Treatment Planning" means a service activity to develop or update a beneficiary's course of treatment, documentation of the recommended course of treatment, and monitoring a beneficiary's progress.

"Process Groups" means groups facilitated by staff to help beneficiaries develop skills necessary to cope with individual problems and issues by using the group process to provide peer interaction and feedback in developing problem-solving strategies and to assist one another in resolving behavioral and emotional problems.



"Referral" means linkage to other needed services and supports.

"Rehabilitation" means a recovery or resiliency focused service activity which addresses a mental health need. This service activity provides assistance in restoring, improving, and/or preserving a beneficiary's functional, social, communication, or daily living skills to enhance self-sufficiency or self-regulation in multiple life domains relevant to the developmental age and needs of the beneficiary. Rehabilitation also includes support resources, and/or medication education. Rehabilitation may be provided to a beneficiary or a group of beneficiaries.

"Significant Support Person" means persons, in the opinion of the beneficiary or the person providing services, who have or could have a significant role in the successful outcome of treatment, including but not limited to a parent, legal guardian, other family member, or other unrelated individual of a beneficiary who is a minor, the legal representative of a beneficiary who is not a minor, a person living in the same household as the beneficiary, the beneficiary's spouse, and relatives of the beneficiary.

"Telehealth" means the mode of delivering health care services via information and communication technologies to facilitate the diagnosis, consultation, treatment, education, care management, and self-management of a patient's health care while the beneficiary is at the originating site and the provider is at a distant site. Telehealth is provided through real-time, video synchronous interaction.

"Telephone" means the mode of delivering health care services via telephonic (audio-only) synchronous interaction.

"Therapy" means a service activity that is a therapeutic intervention that focuses primarily on symptom reduction and restoration of functioning as a means to improve coping and adaptation and reduce functional impairments. Therapeutic intervention includes the application of cognitive, affective, verbal or nonverbal, strategies based on the principles of development, wellness, adjustment to impairment, recovery and resiliency to assist a beneficiary in acquiring greater personal, interpersonal and community functioning or to modify feelings, thought processes, conditions, attitudes or behaviors which are emotionally, intellectually, or socially ineffective. These interventions and techniques are specifically implemented in the context of a professional clinical relationship. Therapy may be delivered to a beneficiary or group of beneficiaries and may include family therapy directed at improving the beneficiary's functioning and at which the beneficiary is present.

"Therapeutic Milieu" means a therapeutic program structured by process groups and skill building groups that has activities performed by identified staff; takes place for the continuous scheduled hours of program operation; includes staff and activities that teach, model and reinforce constructive interactions; and includes peer and staff feedback to beneficiaries on strategies for symptom reduction, increasing adaptive behaviors, and reducing subjective distress.

It includes behavior management interventions that focus on teaching self-management skills that children, youth, adults, and older adults may use to control their own lives, deal effectively with present and future problems, and function well with minimal or no additional therapeutic intervention.

"Under the direction of" means that the individual directing service is acting as a clinical team leader, providing direct or functional supervision of service delivery. An individual directing a service is not required to be physically present at the service site to exercise direction. The licensed professional directing a service assumes ultimate responsibility for the Rehabilitative Mental Health Service provided. Services are provided under the direction of: a physician; a licensed or waived psychologist; a licensed, waived or registered social worker; a licensed, waived or registered marriage and family therapist; a licensed, waived or registered professional clinical counselor, or a registered nurse (including a certified nurse specialist, or a nurse practitioner).

"Waivered/Registered Professional" means:

- 1) For a psychologist candidate, "waivered" means an individual who either (1) is gaining the experience required for licensure or (2) was recruited for employment from outside California, has sufficient experience to gain admission to a licensing examination, and has been granted a professional licensing waiver approved by the Department of Health Care Services to the extent authorized under state law.
- 2) For a social worker candidate, a marriage and family therapist candidate, or a professional clinical counselor candidate, "registered" means a candidate for licensure who is registered with the corresponding state licensing authority for the purpose of acquiring the experience required for licensure, in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations, and "waivered" means a candidate who was recruited for employment from outside California, whose experience is sufficient to gain admission to the appropriate licensing examination and who has been granted a professional licensing waiver approved by the Department of Health Care Services to the extent authorized under state law.

## REHABILITATIVE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Rehabilitative Mental Health Services are services recommended by a physician or other licensed mental health professional within the scope of their practice under State law, for the maximum reduction of mental or emotional disability, and restoration, improvement, and/or preservation of a beneficiary's functional level. Rehabilitative Mental Health Services allow beneficiaries to sustain their current level of functioning, remain in the community, prevent deterioration in an important area of life functioning, and prevent the need for institutionalization or a higher level of medical care intervention. Rehabilitative Mental Health Services include services to enable a child to achieve age-appropriate growth and development. It is not necessary that a child actually achieved the developmental level in the past. Rehabilitative Mental Health Services are provide in the least restrictive setting, consistent with the goals of recovery and resiliency, the requirements for learning and development, and/or independent living and enhanced self-sufficiency.

Services are provided based on beneficiary meeting criteria for access to the specialty mental health services delivery system and approved and authorized according to State of California requirements. Services include:

1. Mental Health Services are individual, group or family-based interventions that are designed to provide reduction of the beneficiary's mental or emotional disability, restoration, improvement and/or preservation of individual and community functioning, and continued ability to remain in the community consistent with the goals of recovery, resiliency, learning, development, independent living and enhanced self-sufficiency and that are not provided as a component of adult residential services, crisis residential treatment services, crisis intervention, crisis stabilization, day rehabilitation, or day treatment intensive.

Mental health services may be provided face-to-face, by telephone or by telehealth-with the beneficiary or significant support person(s) and may be provided anywhere in the community.

This service includes one or more of the following service components:

- Assessment
- Treatment Planning
- Therapy
- Rehabilitation
- Collateral

Providers: Mental health services may be provided within their scope of practice by a Physician, a Psychologist, a Waivered Psychologist, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Waivered/Registered Clinical Social Worker, a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, a Waivered/Registered Professional Clinical Counselor, a Marriage and Family Therapist, a Waivered/Registered Marriage and Family Therapist, a Registered Nurse, a Certified Nurse Specialist, a Licensed Vocational Nurse, a Psychiatric Technician, a Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist, a Physician Assistant, a Nurse Practitioner, a Pharmacist, an Occupational Therapist, and Other Qualified Provider.

Limitations: Mental health services are not reimbursable when provided by day treatment intensive or day rehabilitation staff during the same time period that day treatment intensive or day rehabilitation services are being provided. Authorization is required for mental health services if these services are provided on the same day that day treatment intensive or day rehabilitation services are provided.

2. Medication Support Services include one or more of the following: prescribing, administering, dispensing and monitoring drug interactions and contraindications of psychiatric medications or biologicals that are necessary to alleviate the suffering and symptoms of mental illness. This service may also include assessing the appropriateness of reducing medication

usage when clinically indicated. Medication Support Services are individually tailored to address the beneficiary's need and are provided by a consistent provider who has an established relationship with the beneficiary. Services may include: providing detailed information about how medications work; different types of medications available and why they are used; anticipated outcomes of taking a medication; the importance of continuing to take a medication even if the symptoms improve or disappear (as determined clinically appropriate); how the use of the medication may improve the effectiveness of other services a beneficiary is receiving (e.g., group or individual therapy); possible side effects of medications and how to manage them; information about medication interactions or possible complications related to using medications with alcohol or other medications or substances; and the impact of choosing to not take medications. Medication Support Services supports beneficiaries in taking an active role in making choices about their mental health care and helps them make specific, deliberate, and informed decisions about their treatment options and mental health care.

Medication support services may be provided face-to-face, by telephone or by telehealth with the beneficiary or significant support person(s) and may be provided anywhere in the community.

This service includes one or more of the following service components:

- Evaluation of the need for medication
- Evaluation of clinical effectiveness and side effects
- The obtaining of informed consent
- Medication education including instruction in the use, risks and benefits of and alternatives for medication
- Collateral
- Treatment Planning

Providers: Medication support services may be provided within their scope of practice by a Physician, a Registered Nurse, a Certified Nurse Specialist, a Licensed Vocational Nurse, a Psychiatric Technician, a Physician Assistant, a Nurse Practitioner, and a Pharmacist.

Limitations: The maximum number of hours claimable for medication support services in a 24-hour period is 4 hours.

This service is not duplicative of the drug counseling requirements described in 42 CFR 456.705.

3. Day Treatment Intensive is a structured, multi-disciplinary program including a therapeutic milieu, therapy, skill building groups, and adjunctive therapies, which provides services to a distinct group of individuals. It may also include rehabilitation, process groups and other interventions. Day treatment intensive is intended to provide an alternative to hospitalization, avoid placement in a more restrictive setting, or assist the beneficiary in living within a community setting. Services are available for at least three hours each day. The Day Treatment Intensive program is a program that lasts less than 24 hours each day.

Day treatment intensive services must have a clearly established site for services although all services need not be delivered at that site and some service components may be delivered through telehealth or telephone.

This service includes one or more of the following service components:

- Assessment
- Treatment Planning
- Therapy
- Rehabilitation
- Collateral

Providers: Day treatment intensive services may be provided within their scope of practice by a Physician, a Psychologist, a Waivered Psychologist, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Waivered/Registered Clinical Social Worker, a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, a Waivered/Registered Professional Clinical Counselor, a Marriage and Family Therapist, a Waivered/Registered Marriage and Family Therapist, a Registered Nurse, a Certified Nurse Specialist, a Licensed Vocational Nurse, a Psychiatric Technician, a Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist, a Physician Assistant, a Nurse Practitioner, a Pharmacist, an Occupational Therapist, and Other Qualified Provider.

Limitations: Day treatment intensive services are not reimbursable when crisis residential treatment services, psychiatric inpatient hospital services, psychiatric health facility services, or psychiatric nursing facility services are reimbursed, except for the day of admission to those services.

4. Day Rehabilitation is a structured program including rehabilitation, skill building groups, process groups, and adjunctive therapies which provides services to a distinct group of individuals. It may also include therapy, and other interventions. Day rehabilitation is intended to improve or restore personal independence and functioning necessary to live in the community or prevent deterioration of personal independence consistent with the principles of learning and development. Services are available for at least three hours each day. Day Rehabilitation is a program that lasts less than 24 hours each day.

Day rehabilitation services must have a clearly established site for services although all services need not be delivered at that site and some service components may be delivered through telehealth or telephone.

This service includes one or more of the following service components:

- Assessment
- Treatment Planning
- Therapy
- Rehabilitation
- Collateral

Providers: Day rehabilitation services may be provided within their scope of practice by a Physician, a Psychologist, a Waivered Psychologist, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Waivered/Registered Clinical Social Worker, a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, a Waivered/Registered Professional Clinical Counselor, a Marriage and Family Therapist, a Waivered/Registered Marriage and Family Therapist, a Registered Nurse, a Certified Nurse Specialist, a Licensed Vocational Nurse, a Psychiatric Technician, a Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist, a Physician Assistant, a Nurse Practitioner, a Pharmacist, an Occupational Therapist, and Other Qualified Provider.

Limitations: Day rehabilitation services are not reimbursable when crisis residential treatment services, psychiatric inpatient hospital services, psychiatric health facility services, or psychiatric nursing facility services are reimbursed, except for the day of admission to those services.

5. Crisis Intervention is an unplanned, expedited service, to or on behalf of a beneficiary to address a condition that requires more timely response than a regularly scheduled visit. Crisis intervention is an emergency response service enabling a beneficiary to cope with a crisis, while assisting the beneficiary in regaining their status as a functioning community member. The goal of crisis intervention is to stabilize an immediate crisis within a community or clinical treatment setting.

Crisis intervention may be provided face-to-face, by telephone or by telehealth with the beneficiary and/or significant support persons and may be provided in a clinic setting or anywhere in the Community.

This service includes one or more of the following service components:

- Assessment
- Collateral

- Therapy
- Referral

Providers: Crisis intervention services may be provided within their scope of practice by a Physician, a Psychologist, a Waivered Psychologist, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Waivered/Registered Clinical Social Worker a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, a Waivered/Registered Professional Clinical Counselor, a Marriage and Family Therapist, a Waivered/Registered Marriage and Family Therapist, a Registered Nurse, a Certified Nurse Specialist, a Licensed Vocational Nurse, a Psychiatric Technician, a Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist, a Physician Assistant, a Nurse Practitioner, a Pharmacist, an Occupational Therapist, and Other Qualified Provider.

Limitations: Crisis intervention is not reimbursable on days when crisis residential treatment services, psychiatric health facility services, or psychiatric inpatient hospital services are reimbursed, except for the day of admission to those services. The maximum amount claimable for crisis intervention in a 24 hour period is 8 hours.

6. Crisis Stabilization is an unplanned, expedited service lasting less than 24 hours, to or on behalf of a beneficiary to address an urgent condition requiring immediate attention that cannot be adequately or safely addressed in a community setting. The goal of crisis stabilization is to avoid the need for inpatient services which, if the condition and symptoms are not treated, present an imminent threat to the beneficiary or others, or substantially increase the risk of the beneficiary becoming gravely disabled.

Crisis stabilization must be provided on site at a licensed 24-hour health care facility, at a hospital based outpatient program (services in a hospital based outpatient program are provided in accordance with 42 CFR 440.20), or at a provider site certified by the Department of Health Care Services to perform crisis stabilization and some service components may be delivered through telehealth or telephone. Crisis stabilization is an all-inclusive program and no other Rehabilitative Mental Health Services are reimbursable during the same time period this service is reimbursed.

Medical backup services must be available either on site or by written contract or agreement with a general acute care hospital. Medical backup means immediate access within reasonable proximity to health care for medical emergencies. Medications must be available on an as needed basis and the staffing pattern must reflect this availability.

All beneficiaries receiving crisis stabilization must receive an assessment of their physical and mental health. This may be accomplished using protocols approved



by a physician. If outside services are needed, a referral that corresponds with the beneficiary's needs will be made, to the extent resources are available.

This service includes one or more of the following service components:

- Assessment
- Collateral
- Therapy
- Crisis Intervention
- Medication Support Services
- Referral

Providers: Crisis stabilization services have the following staffing requirements: a physician must be on call at all times for the provision of crisis stabilization services that must be provided by a physician, there shall be a minimum of one registered nurse, psychiatric technician, or licensed vocational nurse on site at all times beneficiaries are present, at a minimum there shall be a ratio of at least one licensed mental health or waived/registered professional on site for each four beneficiaries or other clients receiving crisis stabilization services at the same time. If a beneficiary is evaluated as needing service activities that may only be provided by a specific type of licensed professional, such a person must be available. Other persons may be utilized by the program according to need.

Limitations: Crisis stabilization is not reimbursable on days when psychiatric inpatient hospital services, psychiatric health facility services, or psychiatric nursing facility services are reimbursed, except on the day of admission to those services. No other Rehabilitative Mental Health Services are reimbursable during the same time period that crisis stabilization is reimbursed. The maximum number of hours claimable for crisis stabilization in a 24-hour period is 20 hours.

7. Adult Residential Treatment Services are recovery focused rehabilitative services, provided in a non-institutional, residential setting, for beneficiaries who would be at risk of hospitalization or other institutional placement if they were not in the residential treatment program.

The service includes a range of activities and services that support beneficiaries in their efforts to restore, improve, and/or preserve interpersonal and independent living skills and to access community support systems that support recovery and enhance resiliency. The service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and structured day and evening services are available all seven days.

Adult residential treatment services assist the beneficiary in developing a personal community support system to substitute for the program's supportive

environment and to minimize the risk of hospitalization and enhance the capability of independent living upon discharge from the program. The program will also provide a therapeutic environment in which beneficiaries are supported in their efforts to acquire and apply interpersonal and independent living skills.

Adult residential treatment services must have a clearly established site for services although all services need not be delivered at that site and some service components may be delivered through telehealth or telephone.

Services will not be claimable unless the beneficiary has been admitted to the program and there is face-to-face contact between the beneficiary and a treatment staff person of the facility on the day of service.

In an adult residential treatment facility, structured day and evening services are available seven days a week. Services include:

- A. Individual and group counseling
- B. Crisis intervention such as counseling focusing on immediate problem solving in response to a critical emotional incident to augment the beneficiary's usual coping mechanisms
- C. Family counseling with significant support persons, when indicated as part of the beneficiary's course of treatment
- D. The development of community support systems for beneficiaries to maximize their utilization of non-mental health community resources
- E. Counseling focused on reducing mental health symptoms and functional impairments to assist beneficiaries to maximize their ability to obtain and retain pre-vocational or vocational employment
- F. Assisting beneficiaries to develop self-advocacy skills through observation, coaching, and modeling
- G. An activity program that encourages socialization within the program and general community, and which links the beneficiary to resources which are available after leaving the program
- H. Use of the residential environment to assist beneficiaries in the acquisition, testing, and/or refinement of community living and interpersonal skills

This service includes one or more of the following service components:

- Assessment
- Treatment Planning
- Therapy
- Rehabilitation
- Collateral

Providers: Adult residential treatment services may be provided within their scope of practice by a Physician, a Psychologist, a Waivered Psychologist, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Waivered/Registered Clinical Social Worker, a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, a Waivered/Registered Professional Clinical Counselor, a Marriage and Family Therapist, a Waivered/Registered Marriage and Family Therapist, a Registered Nurse, a Certified Nurse Specialist, a Licensed Vocational Nurse, a Psychiatric Technician, a Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist, a Physician Assistant, a Nurse Practitioner, a Pharmacist, an Occupational Therapist, and Other Qualified Provider.

Limitations: Adult residential treatment services are not reimbursable on days when crisis residential treatment services, psychiatric inpatient hospital services, psychiatric health facility services, or psychiatric nursing facility services are reimbursed, except on the day of admission.

Adult residential treatment services are not provided in an institution for mental disease as defined in SSA Sec. 1905(i) and 42 CFR 435.1010.

8. Crisis Residential Treatment Services are therapeutic or rehabilitative services provided in a non-institutional residential setting which provides a structured program (short term--3 months or less) as an alternative to hospitalization for beneficiaries experiencing an acute psychiatric episode or crisis who do not have medical complications requiring nursing care. The service includes a range of activities and services that support beneficiaries in their efforts to restore, improve, and/or preserve interpersonal and independent living skills, and to access community support systems. The service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and structured day and evening services are available all seven days. The timing, frequency, and duration of the various types of services provided to each beneficiary receiving Crisis Residential Treatment Services will depend on the acuity and individual needs of each beneficiary. For example, a beneficiary newly admitted to a crisis residential treatment program would be more likely to receive crisis intervention or psychotherapy than the development of community support systems, which would be more appropriate as the beneficiary prepares for discharge from the program.

Crisis residential treatment services must have a clearly established site for services although all services need not be delivered at that site and some service components may be delivered through telehealth or telephone. Services will not be claimable unless the beneficiary has been admitted to the program and there is face-to face contact between the beneficiary and a treatment staff person of the facility on the day of service.

In a crisis residential treatment facility, structured day and evening services are available seven days a week. Services include:

- A. Individual and group counseling
- B. Crisis intervention such as counseling focusing on immediate problem solving in response to a critical emotional incident to augment the individual's usual coping mechanisms
- C. Planned activities that develop and enhance skills
- D. Family counseling with significant support persons directed at improving the beneficiary's functioning, when indicated as part of the beneficiary's course of treatment
- E. The development of community support systems for beneficiaries to maximize their utilization of non-mental health community resources
- F. Counseling focused on reducing mental health symptoms and functional impairments to assist beneficiaries to maximize their ability to obtain and retain pre-vocational or vocational employment
- G. Assisting beneficiaries to develop self-advocacy skills through observation, coaching, and modeling
- H. An activity program that encourages socialization within the program and general community, and which links the beneficiary to resources which are available after leaving the program
- I. Use of the residential environment to assist beneficiaries in the acquisition, testing, and/or refinement of community living and interpersonal skills

This service includes one or more of the following service components:

- Assessment
- Treatment Planning
- Therapy
- Rehabilitation
- Collateral
- Crisis Intervention

Providers: Crisis residential treatment services may be provided within their scope of practice by a Physician, a Psychologist, a Waivered Psychologist, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Waivered/Registered Clinical Social Worker, a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, a Waivered/Registered Professional Clinical Counselor, a Marriage and Family Therapist, a Waivered/Registered Marriage and Family Therapist, a Registered Nurse, a Certified Nurse Specialist, a Licensed Vocational Nurse, a Psychiatric Technician, a Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist, a Physician Assistant, a Nurse Practitioner, a Pharmacist, an Occupational Therapist, and Other Qualified Provider.

Limitations: Crisis residential treatment services are not reimbursable on days when the following services reimbursed, except for day of admission to crisis residential treatment services: mental health services, day treatment intensive, day rehabilitation, adult residential treatment services, crisis intervention, crisis stabilization, psychiatric inpatient hospital services, psychiatric health facility services, or psychiatric nursing facility services.

Crisis residential treatment services are not provided in an institution for mental disease as defined in SSA Sec. 1905(i) and 42 CFR 435.1010.

9. Psychiatric Health Facility Services are therapeutic and/or rehabilitative services including one or more of the following: psychiatric, psychosocial, and counseling services, psychiatric nursing services, social services, and rehabilitation services provided in a psychiatric health facility licensed by the Department of Health Care Services. Psychiatric health facilities are licensed to provide acute inpatient psychiatric treatment to individuals with major mental disorders.

Services are provided in a psychiatric health facility under a multidisciplinary model and some service components may be delivered through telehealth or telephone. Psychiatric health facilities may only admit and treat patients who have no physical illness or injury that would require treatment beyond what ordinarily could be treated on an outpatient basis.

This service includes the following service components:

- Assessment
- Treatment Planning
- Therapy
- Rehabilitation
- Collateral
- Crisis intervention

Providers: Psychiatric health facility services may be provided by a Psychologist, a Waivered Psychologist, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Waivered/Registered Clinical Social Worker, a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, a Waivered/Registered Professional Clinical Counselor, a Marriage and Family Therapist, a Waivered/Registered Marriage and Family Therapist, a Psychiatric Technician, a Registered Nurse, a Licensed Vocational Nurse, a Psychiatrist, a Physician with training and/or experience *in* psychiatry, a Pharmacist or Other Qualified Provider.

**Limitations:**

Psychiatric health facility services are not reimbursable on days when any of the following services are reimbursed, except for the day of admission to psychiatric health facility services: adult residential treatment services, crisis residential treatment services, crisis intervention, day treatment intensive, day rehabilitation, psychiatric inpatient hospital services, medication support services, mental health services, crisis stabilization, or psychiatric nursing facility services.

No Federal Financial Participation is available for psychiatric health facility services furnished in facilities with more than 16 beds for services provided to beneficiaries who are 21 years of age and older and under 65 years of age.

**PROVIDER QUALIFICATIONS**

Rehabilitative Mental Health Services are provided by certified mental health organizations or agencies and by mental health professionals who are credentialed according to state requirements or non-licensed providers who agree to abide by the definitions, rules, and requirements for Rehabilitative Mental Health Services established by the Department of Health Care Services, to the extent authorized under state law.

Services are provided by or under the direction (for those providers that may direct services) of the following Mental Health Professionals functioning within the scope of their professional license and applicable state law.

The following specific minimum provider qualifications apply for each individual delivering or directing services.

**1) Physicians**

Physicians must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements. Physicians may direct services.

## 2) Psychologists

Psychologists must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements. Psychologists may direct services.

A psychologist may also be a Waivered Professional who has a waiver of psychologist licensure to the extent authorized under State law. Waivered Psychologists may also direct services under the supervision of a Licensed Mental Health Professional in accordance with laws and regulations governing the waiver.

## 3) Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW)

Licensed clinical social workers must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements. Licensed clinical social workers may direct services.

A clinical social worker may also be a Waivered/Registered Professional who has (1) registered with the State licensing authority for clinical social workers for the purpose of acquiring the experience required for clinical social work licensure in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations or (2) been waived by the Department of Health Care Services as a candidate who was recruited for employment from outside California and whose experience is sufficient to gain admission to the appropriate licensing examination but who requires time in which to make arrangements for and take the appropriate licensing examination.

## 4) Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors (LPCC)

Licensed professional clinical counselors must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements. Licensed professional clinical counselors may direct services.

A professional clinical counselor may also be a Waivered/Registered Professional who has (1) registered with the State's licensing authority for professional clinical counselors for the purpose of acquiring the experience required for licensure, in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations, or (2) been waived by the Department of Health Care Services as a candidate who was recruited for employment from outside California and whose experience is sufficient to gain admission to the appropriate licensing examination but who requires time in which to make arrangements for and take the appropriate licensing examination.

5) Marriage and Family Therapists (MFT)

Marriage and family therapists must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements. Marriage and family therapists may direct services.

A marriage and family therapist may also be a Waivered/Registered Professional who has (1) registered with the State licensing authority for marriage and family therapists for the purpose of acquiring the experience required for marriage and family therapist licensure, in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations, or (2) been waived by the Department of Health Care Services as a candidate who was recruited for employment from outside California and whose experience is sufficient to gain admission to the appropriate licensing examination but who requires time in which to make arrangements for and take the appropriate licensing examination.

6) Registered Nurses (RN)

Registered nurses must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements. Registered nurses may direct services.

7) Certified Nurse Specialists (CNS)

Certified nurse specialists must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements. Certified nurse specialists may direct services.

8) Nurse Practitioners (NP)

Nurse practitioners must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements. Nurse practitioners may direct services.

The following providers may provide services under the direction of those Licensed Mental Health Professionals (listed above) who may direct services:

9) Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVN)

Licensed vocational nurses must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements.

10) Psychiatric Technicians (PT)

Psychiatric technicians must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements.



11) Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialists (MHRS)

A mental health rehabilitation specialist shall be an individual who has a baccalaureate degree and four years of experience in a mental health setting as a specialist in the fields of physical restoration, social adjustment, or vocational adjustment. Up to two years of graduate professional education may be substituted for the experience requirement on a year-for-year basis; up to two years of post-associate arts clinical experience may be substituted for the required educational experience in addition to the requirement of four years' experience in a mental health setting.

12) Physician Assistants (PA)

Physician assistants must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements.

13) Pharmacists

Pharmacists must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements.

14) Occupational Therapists (OT)

Occupational therapists must be licensed in accordance with applicable State of California licensure requirements.

15) Other Qualified Provider

An individual at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent degree determined to be qualified to provide the service.

Assurances:

The state assures that Rehabilitative Mental Health Services shall be available to all children found to be eligible under the provisions of Social Security Act (SSA) Sec. 1905(r)(5).

The state assures that services will not be available to residents of an institution for mental disease as defined in SSA Sec. 1905(i) and 42CFR 435.1010.

The state assures that the Single State Agency shall not delegate to any other state agency the authority and responsibilities described in 42 CFR 431.10(e)