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



GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

April 29, 2019

Sent via e-mail to: tarmstrong@co.lassen.ca.us

Tiffany Armstrong, Director
Lassen County Health and Social Services
555 Hospital Lane
Susanville, CA 96130-4302

SUBJECT: Annual County Performance Unit Report

Dear Select Title :

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is responsible for monitoring compliance to requirements of the Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG) and the terms of the State Plan Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) Contract operated by Lassen County.

The County Performance Unit (CPU) within the Substance Use Disorder Program, Policy, and Fiscal Division (SUDPPFD) 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 Lassen County's 2018-19 SABG and State Plan DMC Contract compliance review. The report identifies deficiencies, required corrective actions, advisory recommendations, and referrals for technical assistance.

Lassen County is required to submit a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) addressing each deficiency noted to the CPU Analyst by 5/29/2019. Please follow the enclosed instructions when completing the CAP. Supporting CAP documentation may be e-mailed to the CPU analyst or mailed to the address listed below.

If you have any questions regarding this report or need assistance, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Michael Bivians
(916) 713-8966
michael.bivians@dhcs.ca.gov

Substance Use Disorder
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County Performance Unit
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Lead CPU Analyst: Jamari Robinson	Date of Review: February 2019
Assisting CPU Analyst(s): Mike Bivians	
County: Lassen County	County Address: 555 Hospital Lane Susanville, CA 96130-4302
County Contact Name/Title: Tiffany Armstrong, BH Director	County Phone Number/Email: 530-251-8101 tarmstrong@co.lassen.ca.us
Report Prepared by: Mike Bivians	Report Approved by: Susan Jones

REVIEW SCOPE

- I. Regulations:
 - a. 22 CCR § 51341.1 – Drug Medi-Cal Substance Use Disorder Services
 - b. 45 CFR; Part 96; Subpart L; §96.121 through 96.137: Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant
 - c. 42 USC, Section 300x-21 through 300x-66: Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block
 - d. HSC, Division 10.5, Section 11750 – 11970: State Department of Health Care

- II. Program Requirements:
 - a. State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2018-19 State County Contract, herein referred to as State County Contract
 - b. State of California *Youth Treatment Guidelines Revised August 2002*
 - c. DHCS *Perinatal Services Network Guidelines SFY 2016-17*
 - d. National Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS)
 - e. Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders Services (MHSUDS) Information Notices

SUMMARY OF SFY 2018-19 COMPLIANCE DEFICIENCIES (CD)

Section:	Number of CD's:
1.0 Administration	0
2.0 SABG Monitoring	0
3.0 Perinatal	0
4.0 Adolescent/Youth Treatment	0
5.0 Primary Prevention	0
6.0 Cultural Competence	0
7.0 CalOMS and DATAR	2
8.0 Privacy and Information Security	0
9.0 Drug Medi-Cal (DMC)	10

PREVIOUS CAPs

During the SFY 2018-19 review, the following CAP with one CD was discussed and is still outstanding.

2017-18:

CD 7.41.b: The County's annual admissions for beneficiaries in treatment over one year were not updated.

Summary: The original expected date of completion was in 4-1-2018. The County stated that from April 2018 to December 2018, they worked with county staff, vendors, and with CalOMS analysts to resolve deficiencies. The County stated that they have developed new policies to resolve their annual updates and client discharges. At the time of this year's site review, the County stated that they were still training staff and uncovering a multitude of issues, thus not able to resolve the deficiency at the time of the review.

County's Plan: County is working diligently to complete annual admissions but is seeking CalOMS technical assistance from trained DHCS staff. County states that they have reached out to sudcalomssupport@dhcs.ca.gov for technical assistance but have not received adequate help.

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Pursuant to the State County Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I A1, Part I, Section 3, 7, (a-d) each compliance deficiency (CD) identified must be addressed via a Corrective Action Plan (CAP). The CAP is due within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of this monitoring report. Advisory recommendations are not required to be addressed in the CAP.

Please provide the following within the completed 2018-19 CAP.

- a) A statement of the compliance deficiency (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 CPU analyst will monitor progress of the CAP completion.

**7.0 CALIFORNIA OUTCOMES MEASUREMENT SYSTEM TREATMENT (CalOMS Tx)
AND DRUG AND ALCOHOL TREATMENT ACCESS REPORT (DATAR)**

The following deficiencies in CalOMS and DATAR regulations, standards, or protocol requirements were identified:

COMPLIANCE DEFICIENCIES:

CD 7.34.a:

SABG State-County Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I A1, Part III, B, 3, 5, 6

- (3) Electronic submission of CalOMS-Tx data shall be submitted by Contractor within 45 days from the end of the last day of the report month.*
- (5) Contractor shall submit CalOMS-Tx admissions, discharge, annual update, resubmissions of records containing errors or in need of correction, and “provider No activity” report records in an electronic format approved by DHCS.*
- (6) Contractor shall comply with the CalOMsTx Data Compliance Standards established by DHCS identified in Document 3S for reporting data content, data quality, data completeness, reporting frequency, reporting deadlines, and reporting method.*

SABG State-County Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I A1, Part III, D, 6

Contractor shall comply with the treatment and prevention data quality standards established by DHCS. Failure to meet these standards on an ongoing basis may result in withholding SABG funds.

Finding: The County’s open provider report is not current.

CD 7.34.b:

SABG State-County Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I A1, Part III, B, 3, 5, 6

- (3) Electronic submission of CalOMS-Tx data shall be submitted by Contractor within 45 days from the end of the last day of the report month.*
- (5) Contractor shall submit CalOMS-Tx admissions, discharge, annual update, resubmissions of records containing errors or in need of correction, and “provider No activity” report records in an electronic format approved by DHCS.*
- (6) Contractor shall comply with the CalOMsTx Data Compliance Standards established by DHCS identified in Document 3S for reporting data content, data quality, data completeness, reporting frequency, reporting deadlines, and reporting method.*

SABG State-County Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I A1, Part III, D, 6

Contractor shall comply with the treatment and prevention data quality standards established by DHCS. Failure to meet these standards on an ongoing basis may result in withholding SABG funds.

Finding: The County’s open admission report is not current.

9.0 DRUG MEDI-CAL

The following DMC deficiencies in regulations, standards, or protocol requirements were identified:

COMPLIANCE DEFICIENCIES:

CD 9.42:

State Plan DMC Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I A1, Part II, C

Contractor agrees that information produced through these funds, and which pertains to drugs and alcohol - related programs, shall contain a clearly written statement that there shall be no unlawful use of drugs or alcohol associated with the program. Additionally, no aspect of a drug or alcohol related program shall include any message on the responsible use, if the use is unlawful, of drugs or alcohol (HSC Section 11999-11999.3). By signing this Contract, Contractor agrees that it will enforce, and will require its subcontractors to enforce, these requirements.

Exhibit A, Attachment I A1, Part II, P

Subcontract Provisions

Contractor shall include the foregoing Part II general provisions in all of its subcontracts.

Finding: The County did not provide evidence of a clearly written statement notifying sub-contracted DMC providers of the No Unlawful Use or Unlawful Use of Messages Regarding Drugs.

CD 9.43:

State Plan DMC Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I A1, Part I, Section 4, 5 a

Contractor shall include instructions on record retention in any subcontract with providers and mandate all providers to keep and maintain records for each service rendered, to whom it was rendered, and the date of service, pursuant to W&I Code, Section 14124.1 and 42 CFR Section 433.32, and 22 CCR Section 51341.1.

W&I Code, Section 14124.1

... Records required to be kept and maintained under this section shall be retained by the provider for a period of 10 years from the final date of the contract period between the plan and the provider, from the date of completion of any audit, or from the date the service was rendered, whichever is later, in accordance with Section 438.3(u) of Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Finding: The County did not provide evidence that records are retained for ten years from the final date of the contract period between the plan and the provider from the date of completion of any auditor or from the date the service was rendered, whichever is later.

CD 9.46:

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

It is further agreed this Contract is controlled by applicable provisions of: (a) the W&I Code, Chapter 7, Sections 14000, et seq., in particular, but not limited to, Sections 14100.2, 14021, 14021.5, 14021.6, 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 of Regulations (hereinafter referred to as Title 9).

§ 51341.1 (d) (5) (A-D)

Naltrexone treatment services shall only be provided to a beneficiary who meets all of the following conditions:

- (A) Has a confirmed, documented history of opiate addiction.*
- (B) Is at least (18) years of age.*
- (C) Is opiate free.*
- (D) Is not pregnant.*

Finding: The County does not demonstrate compliance with the following requirements for Naltrexone treatment:

- Is at least (18) years of age
- Is opiate free
- Is not pregnant

CD 9.49:

State Plan DMC Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I A1, Part I, Section 3, A, 4, c

Contractor shall require all the subcontracted providers of services to be licensed, registered, DMC certified and/or approved in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. The Contractor's subcontracts shall require that providers comply with the following regulations and guidelines:

Minimum Quality Treatment Standards, Document 2F(a)

Finding: The County did not provide evidence that all the DMC providers are required to comply with the Minimum Quality Drug Treatment Standards for DMC.

CD 9.58:

State Plan DMC Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I A1, Part I, Section 4, B, 1, e

Contractor shall certify the DMC claims submitted to DHCS represent expenditures eligible for FFP and attest that the submitted claims have been subject to review and verification process for accuracy and legitimacy (42 CFR 430.30, 433.32, and 433.51). Contractor shall not knowingly submit claims for services rendered to any beneficiary after the beneficiary's date of death, or from uncertified or decertified providers.

Finding: The County did not review and verify that claims submitted were accurate and legitimate.

CD 9.59:

State Plan DMC Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I A1, Part I, Section 4, B, 3, b
During the monthly status check, the Contractor shall monitor for a triggering recertification event (change in ownership, change in scope of services, remodeling of facility, or change in location) and report any triggering events to DHCS' Statewide Planning Unit, Master Provider File Team at DHCSMPF@dhcs.ca.gov within two business days of notification or discovery.

Finding: The County does not have a process in place to notify DHCSMPF@dhcs.ca.gov within two business days of notification or discovery of subcontractors' contract termination.

CD 9.60:

State Plan DMC Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I A1, Part I, Section 1, B
It is further agreed this Contract is controlled by applicable provisions of: (a) the W&I Code, Chapter 7, Sections 14000, et seq., in particular, but not limited to, Sections 14100.2, 14021, 14021.5, 14021.6, 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 of Regulations (hereinafter referred to as Title 9).

22 CCR 51341.1(h)(7)

Drug Medi-Cal Substance Use Disorder Services.

Except where share of cost, as defined in Section 50090, is applicable, providers shall accept proof of eligibility for Drug Medi-Cal as payment in full for treatment services rendered.

Providers shall not charge fees to a beneficiary for access to Drug Medi-Cal substance use disorder services or for admission to a Drug Medi-Cal Treatment slot.

§ 50090.

Share of Cost.

Share of cost means a person's or family's net income in excess of their maintenance need that must be paid or obligated toward the cost of health care services before the person or family may be certified and receive Medi-Cal cards.

Finding: The County did not provide evidence that the County ensure subcontracted providers are accepting proof of DMC eligibility as payment in full for drug treatment services.

CD 9.64:

State Plan DMC Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I A1, Part I, Section 2, B, 1, b
Contractor shall authorize residential services in accordance with the medical necessity criteria specified in Title 22, Section 51303 and the coverage provisions of the approved state Medi-Cal Plan. Room and board are not reimbursable DMC services. If services are denied, the provider shall inform the beneficiary in accordance with Title 22, Section 51341.1 (p).

Title 22, Section 51303

(a) "Health care services...which are reasonable and necessary to protect life, to prevent significant illness or significant disability, or to alleviate severe pain through the diagnosis or treatment of disease, illness or injury are covered by the Medi-Cal program... Authorization may only be granted when fully documented medical justification is provided that the services are medically necessary. Services not requiring prior authorization are subject to other utilization controls, as specified in this chapter."

Finding: The County does not ensure subcontractors are in compliance with the following requirements before authorizing residential services:

- Physician shall determine whether SUD services are medically necessary based on Title 22, Section 51303

CD 9.65:

State Plan DMC Contract, Exhibit A, Attachment I A1, Part I, Section 1, B
It is further agreed this Contract is controlled by applicable provisions of: (a) the W&I Code, Chapter 7, Sections 14000, et seq., in particular, but not limited to, Sections 14100.2, 14021, 14021.5, 14021.6, 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 of Regulations (hereinafter referred to as Title 9).

§ 51341.1 (b) (28) (i) (f) (ii)

...The substance use disorder medical director's responsibilities shall at a minimum include all of the following:

- Ensure that medical care provided by physicians, registered nurse practitioners, and physician assistants meets the applicable standard of care.*
- Ensure that physicians do not delegate their duties to non-physician personnel.*
- Develop and implement medical policies and standards for the provider.*
- Ensure that physicians, registered nurse practitioners, and physician assistants follow the provider's medical policies and standards...*

Finding: The County did not provide evidence that all DMC programs have medical policies and standards developed and approved by the program medical director.

CD 9.66:

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

It is further agreed this Contract is controlled by applicable provisions of:

- (a) the W&I Code, Chapter 7, Sections 14000, et seq., in particular, but not limited to, Sections 14100.2, 14021, 14021.5, 14021.6, 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 of Regulations (hereinafter referred to as Title 9).*

§ 51341.1 (b) (28) (i) (f) (iii)

... A substance use disorder medical director shall receive a minimum of five (5) hours of continuing medical education in addiction medicine each year...

Finding: The County did not provide evidence of the subcontractor medical director's annual continuing education units in addiction medicine.

10.0 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

DHCS's County Performance Analyst will make referrals for the training and/or technical assistance identified below.

CalOMS and DATAR: The County requested TA for CalOMS and/or DATAR.
Sudcalomssupport@dhcs.ca.gov has been contacted and a referral to has been made.