

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND SERVICE
INTEGRATION ADMINISTRATION**



Authorize Local Authority for CD Medicaid Eligible Services

2015-17 BIENNIAL BUDGET

ML Request	FY 15	FY16	FY17	15-17
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
GF-State	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	\$2,200,000

DECISION PACKAGE SUMMARY

The Behavioral Health and Service Integration Administration (BHSIA) requests local authority in order to allow county governments to utilize local sales tax dollars for Medicaid match to provide essential chemical dependency/substance use disorder services in their service areas. By funding this request, BHSIA is expected to continue having essential services available statewide for Medicaid individuals.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

In an effort to expand local chemical dependency/substance use disorder programs, the Association of County Human Services (ACHS) has requested permission to use local sales tax as a match for Medicaid Treatment Services. In order to do this, the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) needs local spending authority. This opportunity gives additional flexibility to the counties to provide services to an increased number of Medicaid individuals as well as increase provider capacity. If this request is not granted, the state will need to provide the GF-S matching funds to ensure all Medicaid patients are served. As Medicaid enrollment continues to increase, the use of local revenue to match Medicaid will help reduce the demand for additional state funding needed to match Medicaid funds. Currently, the state provides all Medicaid match funds needed for the services delivered to Medicaid eligible clients. This authority is requested for those counties that have local funds available and choose to use them for this purpose.

PROPOSED SOLUTION

By allowing for the use of local sales tax dollars through intergovernmental fund transfers as Medicaid match for essential treatment services, including detoxification services, BHSIA will reduce the burden on the state budget to provide Medicaid matching funds. By funding this request, it would align the chemical dependency/substance use disorder system with the community mental health system that already allows Regional Support Networks to use local matching funds for Medicaid Services. The local sales tax dollars, if allowed, would provide additional treatment services through assessments, group and individual counseling, and detoxification as well as other needed services.



DSHS VISION

People are healthy • People are safe • People are supported • Taxpayer resources are guarded

DSHS MISSION

To transform lives

DSHS VALUES

Honesty and Integrity • Pursuit of Excellence • Open Communication • Diversity and Inclusion • Commitment to Service

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Counties were asked to submit the potential amount of local sales tax funds that they estimated as use for Medicaid match for services per year. Based on their responses the amount of local sales tax estimated to be used is \$550,000 per year and would potentially draw down the same amount of federal Medicaid dollars for a total annual amount of \$1,100,000.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The budget request supports the DSHS Goal 1: Health – Each individual and each community will be healthy.

The decision package is essential to implementing the BHSIA Strategic Objective 1.5: Increase outpatient chemical dependency/substance use disorder treatment retention for adults.

This request supports the Results Washington Goal 4: Healthy and Safe Communities. This request supports the Results Washington goal to help keep people healthy and safe in their communities by providing access to good medical care to improve people's lives.

This funding allows us to maintain and strengthen our treatment continuum for essential services within an appropriate setting for Medicaid eligible individuals. The counties in collaboration with their local providers will be able to manage access to services in a timely manner for Medicaid eligible clients. This will also allow for the continuation of staff training, education, and skill building to assist staff in the treatment of our Medicaid clients.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACT

The Association of County Human Services and local county governments will support this proposal.



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