

Tribal Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (TRBHAs)
Care Coordination under AHCCCS

Tribal Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (TRBHAs) are Tribal entities that have an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the AHCCCS Administration. The primary purpose of which is to coordinate the delivery of comprehensive mental health services to all eligible individuals assigned by the administration to the Tribal Entity.

American Indian Health Program (AIHP) members may enroll to have their behavioral health coordinated through a Tribal Regional Behavioral Health Authority (TRBHA), when available. American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) members may only choose a TRBHA if the individual resides within the geographic service area the TRBHA serves or is affiliated with the Tribe the TRBHA operates under.

Collaborating closely with the TRBHA supports the delivery of services that respect cultural values, traditions, family systems and community networks, helping to ensure care is both effective and culturally appropriate.

Provider Responsibilities to TRBHAs

TRBHAs hold a unique role as a partner of AHCCCS Division of Fee-for-Service Management (DFSM) to maintain continuity of care for members receiving their coordination of care through the TRBHA. In this role, the TRBHAs facilitate communication exchange to establish monitoring activities, including provider record review, and a free flow of communication between providers, and with the TRBHA, regarding a member's physical and behavioral services. For TRBHA enrolled members, the provider must coordinate with the TRBHA including, but not limited to, assessments, service plan/treatment planning, discharge planning, and member staffings.

Independent from AHCCCS audits, the TRBHAs reserve the right to conduct visits where TRBHA members are receiving services, including requesting medical record information, performing status checks (including member interaction) and conducting ongoing monitoring for purposes of ensuring the needs of the TRBHA members are being met. The providers may not deny facility or member access to the TRBHA, as outlined in AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM) 940 Medical Records and Communication of Clinical Information.

Per Intergovernmental Agreements, TRBHAs are provided the authority to coordinate members' care. A Release of Information (ROI) is not required for TRBHA care coordination activities unless the information being shared is subject to 42 CFR Part 2 protections related to substance use disorder treatment.

Per the Provider Participation Agreement (PPA), providers are responsible for adhering to the requirements specified in all applicable AHCCCS policies. Pursuant to AMPM 830, providers are

responsible for identifying a member's health plan of enrollment and coordinating care with any plans, agencies, providers or other entities involved in the member's care. This includes coordinating and reporting information to the TRBHA of enrollment and cooperating with requests for member information from the TRBHA.

Providers are responsible for partnering with TRBHAs to ensure Members receive effective communications and positive outcomes are achieved. This includes ensuring the provision of appropriate services in the least restrictive settings that meet Member's needs in the most cost-effective manner. TRBHAs may specify under what circumstances services are coordinated by the TRBHA, and direct methods for coordination and specific documentation required in these processes of the provider.

AHCCCS requires TRBHAs to establish processes ensuring providers coordinate AHCCCS members' healthcare needs based on early identification of health risk factors or special care needs, especially those with high behavioral or physical healthcare needs, and/or high costs. Providers play a critical role in informing the identification of such members and assistance in creating a plan for care coordination. AHCCCS expects full cooperation between providers and TRBHAs to meet their responsibilities as partners of the Administration and will provide assistance to develop these relationships when needed.

Refer to the AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM) for more information on care coordination requirements including, but not limited to: AMPM 320-O, AMPM 510, AMPM 570, and AMPM 590.

TRBHA Contacts:

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