

## **Overview of Behavioral Healthcare Projects under the Texas Transformation Waiver April 23, 2013**

Texas has a five-year Medicaid demonstration waiver (through September 30, 2016) that will enable hospitals and other providers to earn up to \$11.4 billion all funds for Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) projects. DSRIP projects are designed to improve Texas' health care delivery system, including access to care, quality of care, and health outcomes.

Through 20 Regional Healthcare Partnerships, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) has submitted DSRIP plans to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for federal review.

Texas has emphasized behavioral healthcare (BH) in the menu of allowable DSRIP projects and also in the allocation of a minimum of 10 percent of the DSRIP funds to the community mental health centers that serve seriously mentally ill Medicaid and indigent patients throughout the state.

Of the 1322 DSRIP projects HHSC submitted to CMS, 366 projects (over 27% of them) relate to behavioral healthcare and request to earn almost \$2.1 billion all funds over four years:

- 295 projects proposed by 38 community mental health centers
- 71 projects proposed by other providers, mainly hospitals

The five most commonly proposed project options:

- Provide an intervention for a targeted BH intervention to prevent unnecessary use of services in a specified setting (e.g. criminal justice system, emergency department, urgent care) - 92 projects
- Enhance BH service availability (i.e., hours, locations, transportation, mobile clinics) to appropriate levels - 57 projects
- Develop BH crisis services as alternatives to hospitalization - 49 projects
- Integrate primary and BH services - 48 projects
- Implement technology-assisted services (telehealth, telemonitoring, telementoring, or telemedicine) to support, coordinate, or delivery BH services - 24 projects

HHSC has submitted all 20 RHP plans to CMS for federal review and approval. Initial federal approval is targeted for all regions by May 31, 2013. Projects are subject to change both in terms of scope and monetary valuation prior to federal approval. Once projects are approved, providers will report twice a year on milestone and outcome achievement in order to earn DSRIP funds.