

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES

Crisis Receiving and Stabilization Center Services

TAKE NOTICE that the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS), in coordination with the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), intends to seek approval from the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), for amendments to the New Jersey Medicaid (Title XIX) State Plan and Alternative Benefit Plan (ABP) to add coverage and reimbursement for Crisis Receiving and Stabilization Center (CRSC) services to the State's array of behavioral health crisis services.

DHS has been developing a statewide behavioral health crisis continuum in concert with the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline and the State's no-wrong-door crisis system. As part of this continuum, CRSCs are intended to provide an immediate, community-based receiving and stabilization option for individuals who need in-person behavioral health crisis care and who can be appropriately served in a non-hospital setting.

CRSC services are medically necessary, short-term, facility-based behavioral health crisis services provided in a non-hospital setting that operates twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week. CRSCs serve adults aged 18 and older experiencing an acute mental health, substance use disorder or co-occurring behavioral health crisis. A CRSC episode is provided for a continuous period of fewer than twenty-four hours and is intended to provide rapid assessment, active intervention and stabilization, and safe transition to the least restrictive clinically appropriate setting.

Qualified CRSC providers will be Medicaid-enrolled organizations that meet applicable State licensing or approval requirements and are certified or otherwise designated by DMHAS to operate a CRSC.

CRSC services will be reimbursed through two bundled episode rates based on the duration of the CRSC episode. One rate will apply to episodes lasting less than three hours and a second rate will apply to episodes lasting three hours or more and fewer than twenty-four hours. Only one bundled payment may be made for a continuous CRSC episode. Applicable procedure codes, fees, and related billing information will be published on the Department's fiscal agent website at <https://www.njmmis.com> under "Rate and Code Information" when available.

The anticipated costs for the proposed Title XIX and ABP amendments are estimated to be \$10,449,000 (\$3,135,000 State; \$7,314,000 Federal) for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2027 and \$26,867,000 (\$8,061,000 State; \$18,808,000 Federal) for SFY 2028.

The fee schedule will be published on the Department's fiscal agent's website at <https://www.njmmis.com> under "Rate and Code Information" when available.

The ABP was established in accordance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) when New Jersey expanded Medicaid effective January 1, 2014, to parents and caretaker relatives and childless adults with income up to and including 133% of the federal poverty level. The ACA requires the establishment of an Alternative Benefit package for the Medicaid Expansion populations. The ABP must cover 10 Essential Health Benefits as described in section 1302(b) of the ACA and the State assures that there will be full access to Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment services for people under 21 years of age. A list of services can be found on the DHS website at the site listed below.

This Notice is intended to satisfy applicable federal public notice requirements, including 42 C.F.R. 440.386, 42 C.F.R. 447.205, and 42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(13). A copy of this Notice and supporting information is available for public review at Medical Assistance Customer Centers, County Welfare Agencies, and the Department's website at <https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/notices/grants/public-notices/>.

Comments or inquiries must be submitted in writing within 30 days of the date of this Notice to:

Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services

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