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State/Territory Name: California

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 22-0001

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) CMS 179 Form/Summary Form
- 3) Approved SPA Pages

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
601 E. 12th St., Room 355
Kansas City, Missouri 64106



Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group

July 26, 2022

Jacey Cooper
Chief Deputy Director, Health Care Programs
California Department of Health Care Services
P.O. Box 997413, MS 0000
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

Re: California State Plan Amendment (SPA) 22-0001

Dear Ms. Cooper:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reviewed your Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) submitted under transmittal number (TN) California 22-0001. This amendment proposes to add community health workers (CHWs) as a preventive service.

We conducted our review of your submittal according to statutory requirements in Title XIX of the Social Security Act and implementing regulations at 42 CFR 440.130(c) and 42 CFR Part 447. This letter is to inform you that California Medicaid SPA 22-0001 was approved on July 26, 2022, with an effective date of July 1, 2022.

If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl Young at 415-744-3598 or via email at Cheryl.Young@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A black rectangular redaction box covers the signature of James G. Scott.

Digitally signed by James G.
Scott -S
Date: 2022.07.26 11:34:45 -05'00'

James G. Scott, Director
Division of Program Operations

cc: Rene Mollow, California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)
Lisa Murawski, DHCS
Michelle Tamai, DHCS
Angeli Lee, DHCS

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF
STATE PLAN MATERIAL
FOR: CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER
2 2 — 0 0 0 1

2. STATE
CA

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT
 XIX XXI

TO: CENTER DIRECTOR
CENTERS FOR MEDICAID & CHIP SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE
July 1, 2022

5. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION
42 CFR 440.130(c) and 42 CFR Part 447

6. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT (Amounts in WHOLE dollars)
a. FFY 2022 \$ 841,944
b. FFY 2023 \$ 5,521,769

7. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT
Limitations on Attachments 3.1-A and 3.1-B, pages 18e-18g
Attachment 4.19-B, page 3N
Attachment 4.19-B, page 3.6

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable)
None Attachment 4.19-B, page 3N
Attachment 4.19-B, page 3.6

9. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT
Adds community health worker (CHW) services as a preventive service.

10. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One)

- GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT
 COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED
 NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

OTHER, AS SPECIFIED:
Please note the Governor's Office does not wish to review the State Plan Amendment.

11. AGENCY OFFICIAL

15. RETURN TO
Department of Health Care Services
Attn: Director's Office
P.O. Box 997413, MS 0000
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

12. TYPED NAME
Jacey Cooper

13. TITLE
State Medicaid Director

14. DATE SUBMITTED
April 29, 2022

FOR CMS USE ONLY

16. DATE RECEIVED
April 29, 2022

17. DATE APPROVED
July 26, 2022

PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED

18. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL
July 1, 2022

19. SIGNING OFFICIAL
[Signature]
Digitally signed by James G. Scott -S
Date: 2022.07.26 11:35:36 -05'00'

20. TYPED NAME OF APPROVING OFFICIAL
James G. Scott

21. TITLE OF APPROVING OFFICIAL
Director, Division of Program Operations

22. REMARKS

Box 5: CMS pen and ink change to add Medicaid payment citation made per email dated 7/20/22.
Box 7: CMS pen and ink change to add reimbursement page made per email dated 7/21/22.
Box 8: CMS pen and ink change to add existing reimbursement page to be superseded per emails dated 7/20/22 and 7/22/22.

TYPE OF SERVICE	PROGRAM COVERAGE**	PRIOR AUTHORIZATION OR OTHER REQUIREMENTS*
13c. Community Health Worker Services	<p>Community Health Worker (CHW) services are preventive health services, as defined in 42 CFR 440.130(c), to prevent disease, disability, and other health conditions or their progression; to prolong life; and promote physical and mental health and efficiency. CHWs are trusted members of their community who help address chronic conditions, preventive health care needs, and health-related social needs.</p> <p>CHW services may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be provided in an individual or group setting. • Address issues that include but are not limited to: control and prevention of chronic conditions or infectious diseases; mental health conditions and substance use disorders; perinatal health conditions; sexual and reproductive health; environmental and climate-sensitive health issues; child health and development; oral health; aging; injury; domestic violence; and violence prevention. • Include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Health education to promote the beneficiary's health or address barriers to health care, including providing information or instruction on health topics. The content of health education must be consistent with established or recognized health care standards. Health education may include coaching and goal setting to improve a beneficiary's health or ability to self-manage health conditions. 	<p>Pursuant to 42 CFR Section 440.130(c), CHW services are provided as preventive services and must be recommended by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts within their scope of practice under state law.</p> <p>CHWs must be supervised by a Medi-Cal-enrolled community-based organization, local health jurisdiction, licensed provider, hospital, or clinic, as defined in 42 CFR 440.90.</p> <p>CHWs must have lived experience that aligns with and provides a connection between the CHW and the community being served.</p> <p>CHWs must demonstrate minimum qualifications through one of the following pathways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate Pathway: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CHW Certificate: A certificate of completion, including but not limited to any certificate issued by the State of California or a State designee, of a curricula that attests to demonstrated skills and/or practical training in the following areas: communication, interpersonal and relationship building, service coordination and navigation, capacity building, advocacy, education and facilitation, individual and

* Prior authorization is not required for emergency services.

**Coverage is limited to medically necessary services.

TN No. 22-0001

Supersedes

TN No. None

Approval Date: 7/26/2022

Effective Date: 7/1/2022

TYPE OF SERVICE	PROGRAM COVERAGE**	PRIOR AUTHORIZATION OR OTHER REQUIREMENTS*
<p>13c. Community Health Worker Services (continued)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Health navigation to provide information, training, referrals, or support to assist beneficiaries to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access health care, understand the health care system, or engage in their own care. ▪ Connect to community resources necessary to promote a beneficiary’s health, address health care barriers, or address health-related social needs. ○ Screening and assessment to identify the need for services. ○ Individual support or advocacy that assists a beneficiary in preventing a health condition, injury, or violence. <p>CHW violence prevention services are evidence-based, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive preventive services to beneficiaries who have been violently injured as a result of community violence. Violence prevention services include all CHW services listed above by an individual who is qualified by any of the three pathways.</p> <p>CHW services, including violence prevention services, do not include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Clinical case management/care management that requires a license. ● Child care ● Chore services including shopping and cooking. ● Companion services 	<p>community assessment, professional skills and conduct, outreach, evaluation and research, and basic knowledge in public health principles and social determinants of health, as determined by the supervising provider. Certificate programs shall also include field experience as a requirement.</p> <p>2. Violence Prevention Certificate: For individuals providing CHW violence prevention services only, a Violence Prevention Professional (VPP) Certification issued by Health Alliance for Violence Intervention or a certificate of completion in gang intervention training from the Urban Peace Institute.</p> <p>A Violence Prevention Certificate allows a CHW to provide CHW violence prevention services only. A CHW providing services other than violence prevention services shall demonstrate qualification through either the Work Experience Pathway or by completion of a General Certificate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Work Experience Pathway: An individual who has 2,000 hours working as a CHW in paid or volunteer positions within the previous three years, and has demonstrated skills and practical training in

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13c. Community Health Worker Services (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment services • Helping a recipient enroll in government programs or insurance that is not related to improving their health as part of a care plan. • Delivery of medication, medical equipment, or medical supply. • Personal Care services/homemaker services. • Respite care • Services that duplicate another covered Medi-Cal service. • Socialization • Transportation 	<p>the areas described above, as determined by the supervisor, may provide CHW services without a certificate of completion for a maximum period of 18 months. A CHW who does not have a certificate of completion must earn a certificate of completion, as described above, within 18 months of the first CHW visit provided to a Medi-Cal beneficiary.</p> <p>All CHWs must complete a minimum of 6 hours of continuing education training annually.</p>

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STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT
STATE: California

- (22) For dates of service on or after July 1, 2015, the payment reduction specified in paragraph (13), set forth on page 3.3, does not apply to dental services and applicable ancillary services provided to beneficiaries of all ages.
- (23) For dates of service on or after July 1, 2022, the payment reductions specified in paragraph (13), at page 3.3, do not apply to Community Health Worker Services, as described on page 3N of this Attachment.

TN. No. 22-0001

Supersedes

TN No. 15-019

Approval Date: July 26, 2022

Effective Date: July 1, 2022

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF SOCIAL SECURITY ACT
STATE: California

REIMBURSEMENT METHODOLOGY FOR
COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER SERVICES

1. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Attachment, the methodology utilized by the State Agency in establishing reimbursement rates for Community Health Worker (CHW) services, as described on pages 18e-18g of the Limitations on Attachment 3.1-A, will be calculated by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) using the following methodology:
 - a. For dates of service on or after July 1, 2022, the reimbursement rates shall be the lowest of the following:
 - i. the amount billed,
 - ii. the charge to the general public, or
 - iii. 80 percent of the lowest maximum allowance established no earlier than July 1, 2022 by the federal Medicare program for the same or similar item or service.
 1. The rate described in paragraph 1.a.iii may be adjusted to keep the Medi-Cal rate below 80 percent of the lowest maximum allowance as established on July 1, 2022 by the federal Medicare program, if in calculating the Medi-Cal rate, the conversion indicator or conversion factor used to calculate a unit value results in a rate greater than 80 percent.
 - b. The services described in this section is exempt from the ten percent payment reduction described in paragraph (13) on page 3.3 of this Attachment.
 - c. All Medi-Cal Fee-For-Service rates for CHW services established using this methodology can be found at: <https://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/rates/rateshome.aspx>