APRIL 2025

PURPOSE: To inform our Stanislaus County staff, contractors, and general community of changes in programs, policies, or procedures at the local, State and Federal levels. QS Information Notices will be sent out monthly and posted on the Stanislaus County website.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA)

Proposition 1, passed in March 2024, alters the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funding allocations to prioritize services for individuals with the most significant behavioral health needs and to fund treatment for substance use disorders and housing interventions. Included in its passage is renaming MHSA to the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA). Beginning in July 2026, funding categories will be restructured into three main areas: housing (30%), full-service partnerships (35%), and behavioral health services and supports (35%).

A survey is now available until September 30th, 2025, to collect valuable insights on demographics, lived experiences, and challenges related to mental health and substance use services. The input gathered will play a critical role in shaping the three-year BHSA Integrated Plan for Fiscal Years 2026-2027 through 2028-2029. Please share this information with program members and residents of Stanislaus County. **To access the BHSA survey, click on the links below or scan the QR code:**

English:

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=2Hc75709Tk2NgvMVNnA1baTUK8g8QD1LjljS8WXf_dtUNEgwTklPQ1dGVDczMzZVM1I1NjNFVzYzUC4u&origin=lprLink&route=shorturl

Spanish:

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=2Hc75709Tk2NgvMVNnA1baTUK8g8QD1LjljS8WXf_dtUME9JSzNDQllQWFFYSVNSQ1gyUDRUR1FOUy4u&origin=QRCode&qrcodeorigin=presentation&route=shorturl

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AI Use Policy For Behavioral Health and Recovery Services

Currently, the BHRS IT Department permits the limited use of ChatGPT, a generative AI tool, for non-sensitive purposes. All staff and contractors must adhere to strict guidelines ensuring privacy, security, and compliance with organizational, state, and federal regulations. The use of any other AI tools or applications requires prior written approval from the IT Department. The policy is available for review on the intranet.

SMARTCARE UPDATES

CSI Standalone Collection

The CSI Standalone Collection document is a required form for state reporting and must be completed upon enrollment to any outpatient program. Refer to the email sent March 10, 2025, from BHRS SmartCare for more information and guidance.

UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT (UM) UPDATES

UM Audit Calendar - 2025

The UM Audit Calendar is now available for review on the intranet and extranet. Additional programs have been added to the calendar. Refer to the email sent on March 10, 2025, from BHRS UM for full details.

LIVE Transition of Care Tool -Smartcare

The Transition of Care Tool (TOCT) is now live in Smartcare. Guidance is posted on the UM tab on the Intranet and Extranet. Please ensure that the Screening Tool and Transition of Care process document, as well as the Transition of Care Tool – Smartcare Instructions, are thoroughly reviewed. This is necessary to confirm that the TOCTs are completed correctly and appropriately before being used in Smartcare. Refer to the email sent on March 3, 2025, from BHRS UM for full details.

Updated ECM and TOCT Processes

The UM Tab has been updated with guidance and updated documents for ECM and TOCT Processes on the intranet/extranet. Refer to the email sent on March 5, 2025, from BHRS UM for full details.

If you have any questions related to QS Information Notices, contact Quality Services by: Email: QSEmail@stanbhrs.org, PHONE: (209) 525-6043, or FAX: (209) 558-4324