Joe Lombardo Governor



Richard Whitley

Director

# Department of Health and Human Services

Transforming Behavioral Health Care for Nevada Children

Sarah Dearborn, Social Services Chief, Medical, Dental and Behavioral Health Benefits Coverage

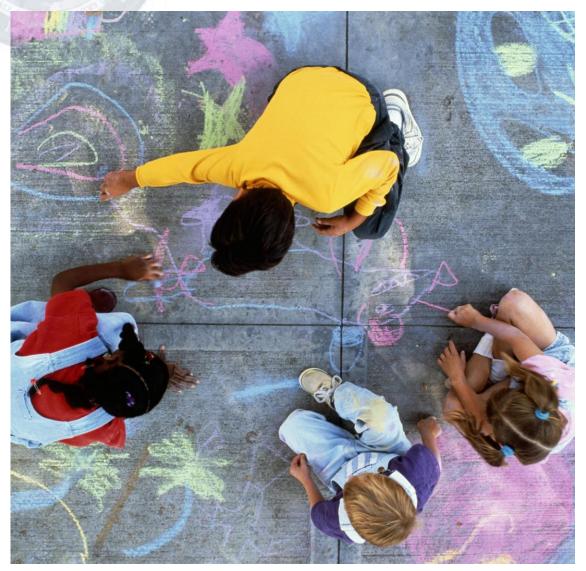


## Agenda

- 1. Welcome
- 2. The Vision
- 3. New Medicaid Home & Community Services
- 4. Strengthening Quality of Residential Treatment Services
- 5. Other Medicaid Investments & Changes
- 6. The Financing Mechanism
- 7. Updates for Mobile Crisis Response
- 8. Next Steps
- 9. Discussion



### The Vision



Nevada children have access to the behavioral health services they need to live and thrive with their families and in their communities.

#### **Values**

- Child-Centered
- Family-Focused
- Community-Based
- Accountable System of Care
- Coordinated Response



## New Medicaid Home & Community Services

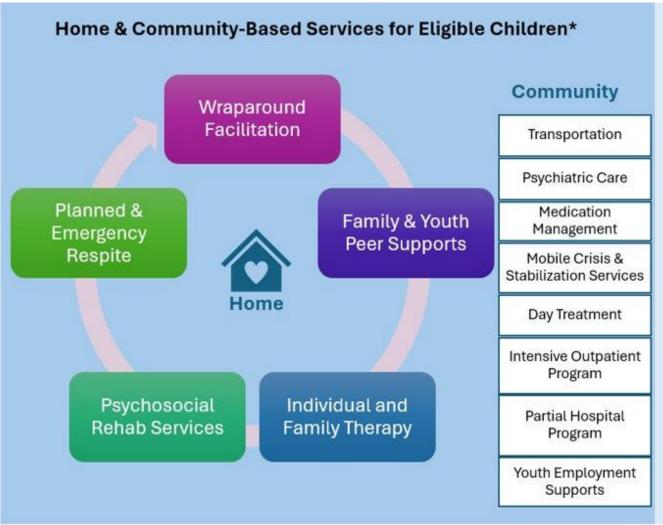
#### Early Screening & Intervention



Early comprehensive screenings and assessments of children for behavioral health needs.

All children with serious behavioral challenges will be eligible for new array of services in the home and community.

Foster care families may also access these new services



#### Residential or Inpatient Care (when needed)



#### Ensuring quality care -

- Quality incentive payments for shorter stays and successful discharges
- Bonus payments for centers accepting children with complex needs or young children
- New step-down group home model for youth with shorter stays
- Monitoring and tracking outcomes



<sup>\*</sup>Services may be provided through telehealth if appropriate and necessary to ensure access in certain remote areas of the state.

## Strengthening Quality in Residential Settings



Free Stock Images, Microsoft PowerPoint.

Residential treatment settings for children should only be used short term, when clinically appropriate, and if there are no safe community alternatives due to a child's behavioral health condition.

#### **New Medicaid Investments**

- New flat base rate of \$800 for all Residential Treatment Centers (RTCs)
- Add-On of \$100 for children under the age of 9
- Add-On of \$100 for children with complex needs

#### **Medicaid Changes to Improve Quality**

- New quality bonus payment for RTCs tied to robust discharge planning, shortened lengths of stay and successful community transitions and low re-admissions
- Require federal certification as a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF)
- Strengthen policies and oversight around discharge planning, admissions, and preventing abrupt terminations and transfers of children
- Increased monitoring and transparency of data and quality metric performance



## Other Medicaid Investments & Changes



#### **Coverage of a Qualified Residential Treatment Programs-like Model**

- Children with SED/SMI who are 13-to-20 years of age
- Group home setting (most under 16 beds)

#### **Expansion of School Health Services, Statewide**

- Incentivize screening for behavioral health conditions
- Removing county share

#### **Individual and Family Therapy Rate Increases**

- Add-On for Services in Rural Areas
- Add-On for In-Home Services or Telehealth In-Home for Rural

#### **Behavioral Support Services & Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services**

Rate Increases and expansion to all children with SED

#### **Rate Parity for Inpatient Psych with Acute Hospital**

For Psych + Detox

**Removal of Prior Authorization for Crisis Intervention Services** 



## The Financing Mechanism

- S.B. 435 allows Nevada Medicaid to use up to 15 percent of the revenue from the private hospital tax for administrative costs for the tax and any remaining funds to improve access to Medicaid behavioral health care services in the community.
- Nevada Medicaid will leverage these dollars and match them with federal Medicaid dollars.
- To access these funds for these new services, Nevada Medicaid will seek approval from the state's legislative Interim Finance Committee.
  - April IFC Services & Investments Approved!
  - June IFC Delivery System Modernization & Vendor/Staff



## State Mobile Crisis Response

- Statewide Best Practice Policy and guidance for Mobile Crisis Response and Stabilization Services
- Enhanced rates for providers enrolled as Designated Mobile Crisis Teams-outside of the CCBHC
- Proposed addition of Medicaid Provider type 87
- Proposed development of Nevada Medicaid Services Manual chapter focused on crisis services across the crisis continuum





## **Next Steps**

- Schedule Stakeholder Workshop #2 for June to announce additional reforms and changes at Medicaid and other DHHS programs for improving children's behavioral health care
- June Interim Finance Committee
- Establish New Family & Stakeholder Advisory Committee for implementation this Fall
- Develop new Public Dashboard for evaluating changes in 2025
- January 1, 2025 goal for effective date of most new services & rate changes (pending federal timelines for review and approval)
- 2025-2026 other delivery system improvements





## Discussion





## Contact Information

ChildrensBH@dhcfp.nv.gov

