

## Medicaid Physical-Behavioral Health Integration in Washington State

Alice Lind BSN MPH Health Care Authority



### Overview

- Goal and design of Integrated Managed Care program
- Role of Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) across the state
- Role of the Behavioral Health Administrative Service Organizations (BH-ASOs)
- Initial outcomes



## 2014: Initial Legislative Direction

Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 6312 passed in 2014

- Changed how the State purchases mental health and substance use disorder services in the Medicaid program
- Directed the State to fully integrate the financing and delivery of physical health, mental health and substance use disorder services in the Medicaid program via managed care by 2020
- Directed the State to integrate mental health and substance use disorder services through Behavioral Health Organizations (BHOS) as an interim step to 2020
- Created a pathway for regions to fully integrate early, starting in April 2016



# Why Integrate?

#### **Current Silos**

- No single entity with accountability, nor with the data and information necessary to manage the whole person
- Consumers with co-occurring disorders navigating disparate systems with no single point of contact
- Care coordination is duplicated
- Access to Care standards set an arbitrary barrier to higher-level services
- Bi-furcated funding streams make it challenging for providers to move to integrated care models.

#### **Integrated System**

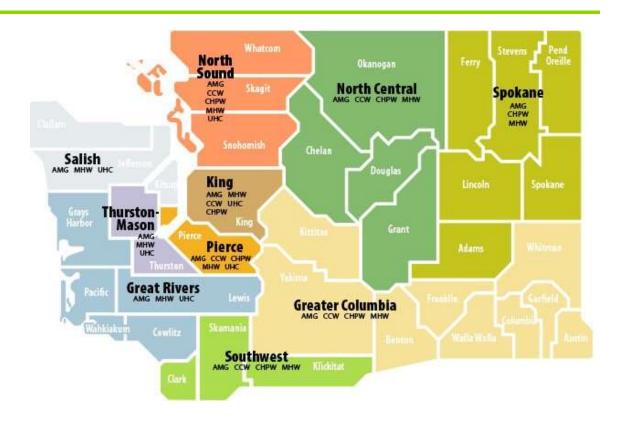
- One managed care plan is accountable for keeping people healthy, both mind and body
- Individuals have 1 point of contact for questions and information
- Individuals have 1 Care Coordinator
- Access to care standards eliminated care is based on level of care guidelines
- Over time, providers and MCOs can work together to establish new payment methodologies and integrated care models



#### Apple Health managed care

Service area map - January 2021





### Medicaid benefits remain the same

- All Medicaid benefits continue to be defined by the State Plan
- MCOs provide all Medicaid physical, mental health, and substance use disorder (SUD) services.
- MCOs also receive general fund state dollars for medically necessary services not covered by Medicaid.
  - ► Examples: room and board for mental health residential settings or freestanding evaluation and treatment centers, rehabilitation case management to those in hospitals or jails, non-Medicaid UA's, non-Medicaid PACT team costs, etc.

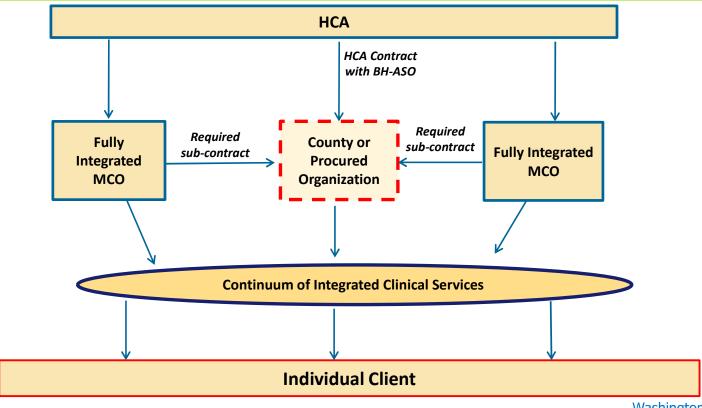


## Behavioral Health-Administrative Service Organization population-based services

- Provide crisis services to all individuals, regardless of insurance
  - Crisis line
  - ► Face-to-face crisis intervention services
- Administer Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA)
  - Conduct ITA investigations
  - Write ITA petitions and detain individuals when indicated
  - ► Monitor compliance with less restrictive treatment services
  - ► Coordinate necessary services include due process



# Contracting and services structure



### Processes to ensure successful transition

- Targeted readiness processes for each newly integrated region
- Processes to ensure a successful transition
  - ► Interlocal Leadership Structure
  - ► Rapid response calls frequent check-ins with each region as it implements IMC
  - ► Early warning system metrics
  - ► Monthly early warning system webinars
- Contract compliance monitoring
- Data and outcomes



## Early Adopter Region Successes

- Research and Data Analysis compared findings in SWWA to the rest of the state from implementation of IMC through CY 2017
  - ▶ Eleven indicators show favorable change at the 95% confidence level, e.g.:
    - Substance Use Disorder Treatment Penetration
    - Mental Health Treatment Penetration Broad Definition
    - > Follow-up after ED Visit for AOD Dependence-Within 7 and 30 Days
    - > Follow-up after ED Visit for Mental Illness Within 7 and 30 Days
    - > Inpatient Utilization per 1000 Coverage Months Combined Medical and Psychiatric
    - > Percent Employed
  - ▶ Two indicators show favorable change at the 90% confidence level:
    - > Plan All-Cause 30-Day Readmission
    - > Percent Arrested
  - Only two indicators show unfavorable change (95% confidence level)



## What are we working on now?

- Ensuring new programs/services are available under IMC
- Assisting providers through transition to IMC and impacts of COVID
- Updating MCOs on impacts of COVID related to need for BH services
- Strengthening contract requirements around network, reporting
- Participating in MCO/Accountable Community of Health workgroup on assessing providers' progress in clinical integration



#### Resources

- Contracts, guidance documents, reports:
  - ► <a href="https://www.hca.wa.gov/billers-providers-partners/programs-and-services/resources">https://www.hca.wa.gov/billers-providers-partners/programs-and-services/resources</a>
- Information about COVID-19:
  - ► <a href="https://www.hca.wa.gov/information-about-novel-coronavirus-covid-19">https://www.hca.wa.gov/information-about-novel-coronavirus-covid-19</a>
- Medicaid Transformation:
  - ► <a href="https://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/healthier-washington/medicaid-transformation">https://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/healthier-washington/medicaid-transformation</a>





# Questions?

Alice Lind, BSN, MPH

**Health Care Authority** 

Alice.lind@hca.wa.gov

