

April 6, 2020

To: Behavioral Health Safety Net Provider Network

Re: Two Program Changes to BHSN in Response to COVID-19: *Temporarily Ceasing BHSN Automatic Disenrollments and Waiving BHSN Eligibility Documentation Requirements*

In response to the Novel Coronavirus – COVID-19, the Behavioral Health Safety Net is implementing two temporary program changes:

- 1.) BHSN enrollees will not be automatically terminated/disenrolled from the Behavioral Health Safety Net because of out of date assessments beginning Monday, April 6th, 2020. This program change is anticipated to remain in place for as long as the emergency lasts. BHSN enrollees who enroll in TennCare will continue to be automatically disenrolled from the Behavioral Health Safety Net. The BHSN Team will continue to process requested disenrollments from BHSN Providers (i.e., if an individual moves out of state, death of a BHSN enrollee, etc.).

Please note this temporary change means BHSN enrollees with assessment dates expiring April 6th, 2020 and later will not need to complete the BHSN Annual Review Form to remain enrolled in the Behavioral Health Safety Net at this time. Providers will be notified when to resume submission of BHSN Annual Reviews.

- 2.) The required sixty (60) days to gather eligibility documentation for the Behavioral Health Safety Net is temporarily waived until further notice. This program change is applicable for all individuals enrolled in the Behavioral Health Safety Net since March 18th, 2020 and after. Individuals may enroll in the Behavioral Health Safety Net through presumptive eligibility and self-attestation (the person applying for BHSN can confirm the information is valid, rather than needing other proof). Providers should maintain documentation of how eligibility criteria was assessed with each BHSN enrollee.

Please note that this temporary change means that BHSN providers do not need to submit the eligibility waiver form requesting more time to compile enrollee documentation. Documentation gathering timeframe requirement is extended for all enrollees with a BHSN Begin Date of March 18th, 2020. Providers will be notified when to resume the standard practices regarding documentation of eligibility.

For questions regarding these BHSN program changes, please reach out to Katie Lee at katie.lee@tn.gov or 615-770-1790.