

Integrated Services Unit

Overview

What are the responsibilities of the Integrated Services Unit at AHCCCS?

- Policy including development, training, and monitoring for FFS populations including the American Indian Health Program and TRBHAs
- Clinical staffing on High Need/High Cost members
- Technical Assistance to TRBHAs and other FFS providers
- Compliance with TRBHA responsibilities as outlined in the TRBHA IGAs
- Technical Assistance to the American Indian Medical Homes (AIMHs)

What are Tribal Regional Behavioral Health Authorities?

Tribal Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (TRBHAs) are tribal entities that have an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) administration, the primary purpose of which is to coordinate the delivery of comprehensive mental health services to all eligible persons assigned by the administration to the tribal entity. Tribal governments, through an agreement with the State, may operate a Tribal Regional Behavioral Health Authority for the provision of behavioral health services to American Indian Members.

There are five TRBHAs across the state including:

- Colorado River Indian Tribes*
- Gila River
- Navajo
- Pascua Yaqui
- White Mountain Apache

AHCCCS and the tribes form a partnership via IGAs. Each of the IGAs may be accessed at this link:

<https://www.azahcccs.gov/Resources/OversightOfHealthPlans/SolicitationsAndContracts/TRBHA.html>

*The IGA with the Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT) is for state funded crisis services only and does not include Title XIX services. CRIT continues to receive Title XIX services through the Contractor.

How are TRBHA services provided?

While each TRBHA IGA is unique to each tribe, Gila River, Navajo, Pascua Yaqui and White Mountain Apache members are assigned to their respective TRBHA. These TRBHAs are responsible for coordinating care for their enrolled members, while members may access any AHCCCS

registered provider for their behavioral health care.

TRBHA members are eligible for all services, as outlined in the AHCCCS Behavioral Health Services Guide, which can be found here:

<https://www.azahcccs.gov/Shared/BehavioralHealthServicesGuide.html>

What services are available through the TRBHAs?

Depending on a member's eligibility status, funding can impact benefit coverage. Services for non-Title XIX persons must be paid for with non-Title XIX funds (block grant or state funded). Additionally, non-Title XIX funds are used to pay for services not covered by Title XIX to both Title XIX and non-Title XIX eligible members (e.g. housing). The ability to provide these services may be limited by the amount of state or federal funds that are available annually. Members assigned to the TRBHA should directly contract the TRBHA for additional details.

Serious Mental Illness Determination Process

A critical component of the service delivery system is the effective and efficient identification of persons who have special behavioral health needs due to the severity of their behavioral health disorder(s). One such group is persons with a Serious Mental Illness (SMI). Without receipt of appropriate care, these individuals are at high risk for further deterioration of their physical and mental condition and may go through the SMI assessment and determination process. Each TRBHA has a unique SMI assessment and determination process and should be contacted directly for details.

How are services paid?

Services are paid on a fee-for-service (FFS) basis. There are specific services that may only be authorized by the AHCCCS Administration through the Division of Fee-For-Service Management (DFSM) Prior Authorization (PA) Unit.

For additional details on behavioral health authorizations, please see this website:

<https://www.azahcccs.gov/PlansProviders/RatesAndBilling/FFS/priorauthorizationforms.html>

What services do not require prior authorization?

Some services do not require prior authorization. These services include emergency services (medical and behavioral health). TRBHA enrolled members have the ability to receive services through AHCCCS registered providers, if the behavioral health services are medically necessary, as determined through the behavioral health assessment process.

What is the difference between Indian Health Services and TRBHAs?

Indian Health Services (I.H.S.) is the principal federal health care provider to American Indians. I.H.S. provides health care and disease prevention services through a network of hospitals, clinics, and health stations. Health services are provided through facilities that are managed directly by I.H.S., by tribes, or tribal organizations under contract or compact with the I.H.S., and urban Indian health programs.

TRBHAs are care coordination entities for TRBHA assigned members. Members are those

individuals who are eligible (medically and financially) for Medicaid services and/or have been through the SMI determination process and have met the SMI determination designation and are enrolled with a TRBHA. TRBHAs can help coordinate behavioral health services through a Fee-for-Service network or through other funding mechanisms.