

Memo

Date: February 23, 2023

To: Behavioral health home (BHH) services providers

From: Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) BHH services policy team

RE: Defining “identified supports” for members receiving BHH services

This memo intends to clarify the term “identified supports” used in BHH services and also to clarify the requirement to maintain contact with a member’s “identified supports” at least once per month to bill for BHH services.

Background

[Minnesota Statutes, 256B.0757](#) requires a BHH services provider to maintain communication with a member’s identified supports. However, the term “identified supports” is not something that DHS was required to define in the State Plan. BHH services providers have requested clear guidance on this term, especially as it relates to billing requirements.

Definition of identified supports

It has been determined that DHS has the authority to define the term “identified supports” as broadly as needed for BHH services. Based off feedback from BHH services providers, the definition of “identified supports” is as follows:

An identified support is anyone named by the person receiving services as someone who can be in communication with the BHH services team to support them in meeting their health goals.

New requirements

The following must occur once the person receiving BHH services has named their identified support(s):

- Add the identified support(s) to the member’s health action plan (this is a new required element for the health action plan)
- Complete a release of information form for each identified support

Billing requirements

BHH services providers are still able to count eligible communication with an identified support as a billable contact. The only things that have changed are the new requirements outlined in the “New requirements” section of this memo. List the identified supports on the member’s health action plan and complete all necessary release of information forms before billing. Only one billable contact is required for the monthly claim.

Refer to the [MHCP Provider Manual](#) and standard 5D in the [BHH Services Provider Standards \(DHS-6766\) \(PDF\)](#) for detailed information on eligible communication and billing requirements for monthly contact with an identified support.

Next Steps

DHS BHH services policy staff will begin work immediately on updating all relevant BHH services documents to reflect the information in this policy memo.

If you have any questions about the information in this memo, contact the DHS BHH services policy team at Behavioral.Health.Home.Services@state.mn.us.