

# Provider Notice

**Subject:** Mental Health Services Manual Changes Effective Immediately

*This communication is being sent on behalf of the Virginia Department of Health (VDH), Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) and Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS)*

## Mobile Crisis Response (H2011)

- Current Policy: At the start of services, a LMHP, LMHP-R, LMHP-RP or LMHP-S must conduct an assessment to determine the individual's appropriateness for the service. This assessment must be done in-person or through a telemedicine assisted assessment.
- Change to Policy: At the start of services, a LMHP, LMHP-R, LMHP-RP or LMHP-S must conduct an assessment to determine the individual's appropriateness for the service. The assessment must be done in-person, **through telemedicine**, or through a telemedicine assisted assessment (see appendix for definition of telemedicine assisted assessment, which did not change).
- Change to Mobile Crisis Response policy clarified: DMAS will now allow the LMHP to perform the assessment via telemedicine without the "assisted" part. Meaning a Mobile Crisis Response team member does not need to be in-person with the individual, if the LMHP is performing the assessment via telemedicine. DMAS is making this change to align with DBHDS' code: [§ 37.2-804.1. Use of electronic communication](#). The change applies to all providers of Mobile Crisis Response.
- Please note, that if a team rate (#2-5) is being billed and the LMHP is performing the assessment via telemedicine unassisted, then the other team member must still be engaged in a covered service during that time in order to bill the team rate.

## Mental Health Partial Hospitalization Program (H0035)

- Current Policy: MH-PHP service providers shall be licensed by DBHDS as a provider of a Mental Health Partial Hospitalization Program, be Medicare certified as a partial hospitalization program and credentialed with the individual's Medicaid Managed Care Organization for individuals enrolled in Medicaid managed care or the Fee for Service (FFS) contractor for individuals in FFS.
- Change to Policy: MH-PHP service providers shall be licensed by DBHDS as a provider of a Mental Health Partial Hospitalization Program, be Medicare certified as a partial hospitalization program **or accredited by Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), Council on Accreditation (COA), DNV Healthcare or Joint Commission** and credentialed with the

individual's Medicaid Managed Care Organization for individuals enrolled in Medicaid managed care or the Fee for Service (FFS) contractor for individuals in FFS.

- Before providers had to be Medicare certified, now providers can either be certified by Medicare **or** accredited.