

To: Community Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Agencies

From: Mary Shelton, Director of Behavioral Health Operations

Date: July 9, 2020

**Subject: UPDATE Request to CMS for Targeted Payments to CMHCs/SUDs**

On May 6, 2020, TennCare submitted an application to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for approval to provide additional funds to assist mental health and substance use providers during the COVID-19 public health crisis. TennCare received CMS approval for this application on June 18, 2020. With this approval, TennCare will be moving forward with distributing \$5 million in state and federal funding among the identified mental health and substance use disorder agencies to preserve this critical network.

TennCare is working quickly with our contracted Managed Care Organizations (MCO) to determine the Targeted Payments for each CMHC and SUD provider as approved by CMS. In partnership with our MCOs, TennCare is working toward distributing the targeted payments by August 15, 2020. The individual provider payments are based on a percentage of the TennCare reimbursements from January and February 2020. Targeted Payments are calculated based on direction from TennCare. The MCOs will not be reprocessing claims to determine the Targeted Payment amount.

TennCare will monitor and evaluate and ensure that each MCO complies with the direction.

You can also find additional information regarding TennCare's and TDMHSAS' response during this emergency period by visiting:

<https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/information-statistics/tenncare-information-about-coronavirus.html>.

<https://www.tn.gov/behavioral-health/covid19.html>

TennCare will continue to provide pertinent updates throughout the process. Again, thank you and your staff for serving the TennCare members and TDMHSAS clients.