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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
JFK Federal Building, Government Center
Room 2275
Boston, Massachusetts 02203



Division of Medicaid and Children's Health Operations / Boston Regional Office

March 25, 2015

Roderick Bremby, Commissioner
Department of Social Services
55 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105

Dear Mr. Bremby:

We are pleased to enclose a copy of approved Connecticut State Plan Amendment (SPA) No. 14-028, submitted to my office on September 29, 2014. This SPA transmitted a proposed amendment to Connecticut's approved Title XIX State Plan Attachment 3.1A/3.1B expanding coverage for licensed behavioral health clinician services (licensed psychologist, licensed clinical social workers, licensed marital and family therapists, licensed alcohol and drug counselors, and licensed professional counselors) to Medicaid beneficiaries age twenty-one and older.

This SPA has been approved effective July 1, 2014, as requested by the State.

Changes are reflected in the following sections of your approved State Plan:

- Attachment 3.1A pages 4b, 4d, 4d(i), 4e
- Attachment 3.1B pages 4b, 4d, 4d(i), 4e

If you have any questions regarding this matter you may contact Marie DiMartino (617) 565-9157 or by e-mail at Marie.DiMartino@cms.hss.gov

Sincerely,

/s/

Richard R. McGreal
Associate Regional Administrator

cc: Kate McEvoy, Director of Medical Administration - Health Services and Supports

**TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL
OF STATE PLAN MATERIAL
FOR: HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION**

1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER:
14-028

2. STATE: CT

3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE
SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)

TO: CMS/CMSO
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE
July 1, 2014

5. TYPE OF STATE PLAN MATERIAL (Check One):

☐ NEW STATE PLAN ☐ AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN ☒ AMENDMENT

COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT (Separate Transmittal for each amendment)

6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION:
Section 1905(a)(6) of the Social Security Act;
42 C.F.R. § 440.60

7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT:
a. FFY 2014 - \$1,515,000 Costs
b. FFY 2015 - \$6,146,000 Costs

8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT:
Attachment 3.1-A, Addendum Pages 4b, 4d, 4d(i), and 4e
Attachment 3.1-B, Addendum Pages 4b, 4d, 4d(i), and 4e

9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN
Attachment 3.1-A, Addendum Pages 4b, 4d, 4d(i), and 4e
Attachment 3.1-B, Addendum Pages 4b, 4d, 4d(i), and 4e

10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT: Effective July 1, 2014, SPA 14-028 amends Attachments 3.1-A and 3.1-B of the Medicaid State Plan and the Alternative Benefit Plan (Attachment 3.1-L of the Medicaid State Plan) to expand coverage for licensed behavioral health clinician services (licensed psychologists, licensed clinical social workers, licensed marital and family therapists, licensed alcohol and drug counselors, and licensed professional counselors) to Medicaid beneficiaries age twenty-one and older. The State Plan and the ABP previously limited such coverage to beneficiaries under age twenty-one. This change is designed to expand access to behavioral health services, which is likely to result in better and more cost-effective care. In addition, in order to ensure that services performed by behavioral health clinicians in independent practice are covered only when performed by licensed clinicians, this SPA removes services provided by certified alcohol and drug counselors as a covered service from Attachments 3.1-A and 3.1-B of the Medicaid State Plan and from the Alternative Benefit Plan (Attachment 3.1-L of the Medicaid State Plan).

11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One):

☒ GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT
☐ COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED
☐ NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL

☐ OTHER, AS SPECIFIED:

12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL:

/s/

16. RETURN TO:

13. TYPED NAME: Roderick L. Bremby

State of Connecticut
Department of Social Services
55 Farmington Avenue, 9th Floor
Hartford, CT 06105-3725
Attention: Ginny Mahoney

14. TITLE: Commissioner

15. DATE SUBMITTED:
September 26, 2014

FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY

17. DATE RECEIVED: September 29, 2014

18. DATE APPROVED: March 10, 2015

PLAN APPROVED - ONE COPY ATTACHED

19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL:
July 1, 2014

20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL:

/s/

21. TYPED NAME: Richard R. McGreal

22. TITLE: Associate Regional Administrator
Division of Medicaid and Children's Health Oper.

23. REMARKS: Per State's permission pen and ink change made to box 8 and 9 removing Attachment 3.1L pages

State: CONNECTICUT

AMOUNT, DURATION AND SCOPE OF SERVICES PROVIDED
CATEGORICALLY NEEDY GROUP(S): ALL

OFFICIAL

-
- c. Chiropractor Services – Not Covered
 - d. Licensed Psychologist Services
 - i Psychologists must be licensed under Chapter 383, Section 20-186 through 195 of the Connecticut General Statutes
 - ii Services are limited to routine diagnostic, assessment, treatment, rehabilitation or palliative services or psychological testing and within a psychologist's scope of practice and as set forth on the applicable published fee schedule. The following limits also apply, each of which may be exceeded with prior authorization based on medical necessity:
 - (1) Only one diagnostic interview in any twelve month period by a psychologist for the same beneficiary; and
 - (2) Only two staff consultations per year by a psychologist for the same beneficiary.
 - e. Naturopathic Services
 - i Naturopaths must be licensed pursuant to Chapter 373 of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), Section 20-34 through 20-42.
 - ii The Department will pay enrolled naturopaths only for services provided to individuals under twenty-one (21) years of age.
 - iii Services are limited to a naturopath's scope of practice and as set forth in Sections 17b-262-547 through 558 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies and the applicable published fee schedule.

TN# 14-028
Supersedes
TN# 13-006

Approval Date 3/10/15

Effective Date: 07-01-2014

State: CONNECTICUT
AMOUNT, DURATION AND SCOPE OF SERVICES PROVIDED **OFFICIAL**
CATEGORICALLY NEEDY GROUP(S): ALL

h. Licensed Clinical Social Worker Services

- i Clinical social workers must be licensed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) (a) after (i) completing a doctorate or master's degree in a social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education or a program outside the United States deemed equivalent by the Council on Social Work Education, (ii) complete 3,000 hours of post-master's social work experience, including at least 100 hours under supervision by a licensed clinical or certified independent social worker, with such hours completed in Connecticut as a licensed master social worker, (iii) pass the clinical level examination of the Association of Social Work Boards or any other examination prescribed by DPH or (b) without meeting the above requirements if the individual is licensed or certified as a clinical social worker in another jurisdiction whose requirements are substantially similar or higher than Connecticut's requirements and who has also passed the clinical level examination of the Association of Social Work Boards or any examination prescribed by DPH.
- ii Services are provided under the benefit category of 42 C.F.R. § 440.60, other licensed practitioners, and include routine diagnostic, assessment, treatment, rehabilitation or palliative services provided to individuals with a behavioral health disorder, within a licensed clinical social worker's scope of practice and as set forth on the applicable published fee schedule. In addition, only one diagnostic interview may be provided by a licensed clinical social worker in any twelve month period for the same beneficiary, which may be exceeded by prior authorization based on medical necessity.

i. Licensed Marital and Family Therapists Services

- i Marital and family therapists must be licensed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) (a) after (i) completing a graduate degree program in marital and family therapy from a regionally accredited college or university or an accredited postgraduate clinical training program approved by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education and recognized by the U.S.

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Department of Education, (ii) completing a supervised practicum or internship with emphasis on marital and family therapy supervised by the program granting the degree or by an accredited postgraduate clinical training program approved by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education and recognized by the U.S. Department of Education with at least 500 clinical hours, including 100 hours of clinical supervision, (iii) complete at least twelve months of relevant postgraduate experience after being awarded a master's or doctorate or the training specified in (ii) and including at least 1,000 hours of direct client contact offering marital and family therapy and 100 hours of postgraduate clinical supervision by a licensed marital and family therapy, and (iv) passed an examination prescribed by DPH or (b) without taking the examination if the individual is currently licensed or certified as a marital or marriage and family therapist in another jurisdiction whose standards, in DPH's opinion, are equivalent to or higher than Connecticut's standards. However, an individual licensed or certified as a marital or marriage and family therapist in another jurisdiction whose standards are not equivalent to or higher than Connecticut's standards may substitute five years of licensed or certified work experience in the practice of marital and family therapy in lieu of the requirements of (a)(ii) and (iii) above.

- ii Services are provided under the benefit category of 42 C.F.R. § 440.60, other licensed practitioners, and include routine diagnostic, assessment, treatment, rehabilitation or palliative services provided to individuals with a behavioral health disorder, within a licensed marital and family therapist's scope of practice and as set forth on the applicable published fee schedule. In addition, only one diagnostic interview may be provided by a licensed marital and family therapist in any twelve month period for the same beneficiary, which may be exceeded by prior authorization based on medical necessity.

TN# 14-028
Supersedes
TN# 12-010

Approval Date 3/10/15

Effective Date: 07-01-2014

State: CONNECTICUT
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CATEGORICALLY NEEDY GROUP(S): ALL

OFFICIAL

j. Licensed Professional Counselor Services.

- i Professional counselors must be licensed under Chapter 376b, Section 20-74s through 74t of the Connecticut General Statutes.
- ii Services include routine diagnostic, assessment, treatment, rehabilitation or palliative services provided to individuals with a behavioral health disorder, within a licensed professional counselor's scope of practice, and as set forth on the applicable published fee schedule. In addition, only one diagnostic interview may be provided by a licensed professional counselor in any twelve month period for the same beneficiary, which may be exceeded by prior authorization based on medical necessity.

k. Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor Services.

- i Alcohol and drug counselors must be licensed under Chapter 383c, Section 20-195aa through 195cc of the Connecticut General Statutes.
- ii Services include routine diagnostic, assessment, treatment, rehabilitation or palliative services provided to individuals with alcohol and drug dependency problems, within a licensed alcohol and drug counselor's scope of practice, and as set forth on the applicable published fee schedule. In addition, only one diagnostic interview may be provided by a licensed alcohol and drug counselor in any twelve month period for the same beneficiary, which may be exceeded by prior authorization based on medical necessity.

TN# 14-028
Supersedes
TN# 07-013

Approval Date 3/10/15

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TN# 14-028
Supersedes
TN# 07-013

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