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State/Territory Name: Nevada

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 19-019

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) CMS 179 Form/Summary Form (with 179-like data)
- 3) Approved SPA Pages

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services 90 Seventh Street, Suite 5-300 (5W) San Francisco, CA 94103-6706



Regional Operations Group

November 5, 2019

Suzanne Bierman Administrator Nevada Division of Health Care Financing and Policy 1210 S. Valley View, Suite 104 Las Vegas, NV 89702

Dear Ms. Bierman:

Enclosed is an approved copy of Nevada State Plan Amendment (SPA) 19-019. The SPA updates NV's 1915(i) Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Quality Management Strategy. This SPA is approved effective October 1, 2019.

Attached is a copy of the following approved pages to be incorporated into your state plan:

• Attachment 3.1-I Pgs. 1-17

If you have any questions, please contact Peter Banks by phone at (415) 744-3782 or by email at Peter.Banks@cms.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Allen

Director
Western Regional Operations Group

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Quality Improvement Strategy

Quality Measures

State: Nevada

(Describe the state's quality improvement strategy. For each requirement, and lettered sub-requirement, complete the table below):

- 1. Plan of Care a) address assessed needs of 1915(i) participants; b) are updated annually; and (c document choice of services and providers.
- 2. Eligibility Requirements: (a) an evaluation for 1915(i) State plan HCBS eligibility is provided to all applicants for whom there is reasonable indication that 1915(i) services may be needed in the future; (b) the processes and instruments described in the approved state plan for determining 1915(i) eligibility are applied appropriately; and (c) the 1915(i) benefit eligibility of enrolled individuals is reevaluated at least annually or if more frequent, as specified in the approved state plan for 1915(i) HCBS.
- 3. Providers meet required qualifications.
- 4. Settings meet the home and community-based setting requirements as specified in this SPA and in accordance with 42 CFR 441.710(a)(1) and (2).
- 5. The SMA retains authority and responsibility for program operations and oversight.
- 6. The SMA maintains financial accountability through payment of claims for services that are authorized and furnished to 1915(i) participants by qualified providers.
- 7. The state identifies, addresses, and seeks to prevent incidents of abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

(Table repeats for each measure for each requirement and lettered sub-requirement above.)

Requirement	1.a) Service plans address assessed needs of 1915(i) participants.	
Discovery		
Discovery Evidence	Number and percent of service plans reviewed that adequately address the assessed needs of 1915(i) participants.	
(Performance Measure)	N = Number of service plans reviewed that adequately address the assessed needs of 1915(i) participants.	
	D = Total number of service plans reviewed.	
Discovery Activity	Record reviews, on-site. Less than 100% review. The State will obtain a sample size that will produce a probability of 95% and confidence level of 5% using	
(Source of Data & sample size)	Raosoft Sample Size Calculator.	

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	Monitoring Responsibilities	State Medicaid Agency (SMA) Quality Assurance (QA) and 1915(i) Units.
	(Agency or entity that conducts discovery activities)	
	Frequency	Annually
R	Remediation	
	Remediation Responsibilities	SMA will remediate any issue or non-compliance within 30 days.
	(Who corrects, analyzes, and aggregates remediation activities; required timeframes for remediation)	Deficiencies are remediated through the monthly quality improvement (QI) meeting. The QI team consists of SMA QA and 1915(i) Units.
	Frequency (of Analysis and Aggregation)	Monthly, Quarterly, Annually

K	Requirement	1.b) Service plans are updated annually
Discovery		
	Discovery Evidence	Number and percent of service plans that are updated at least once in the last 12 months.
	(Performance Measure)	N = Number of service plans that are updated at least once in the last 12 months.
		D = Total number of service plans reviewed.
	Discovery Activity	Record reviews, on-site. Less than 100% Review.
	(Source of Data & sample size)	The State will obtain a sample size that will produce a probability of 95% and confidence level of 5% using Raosoft Sample Size Calculator.
	Monitoring Responsibilities	SMA QA Unit
	(Agency or entity that conducts discovery activities)	

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	Frequency	Annually
R	emediation	
	Remediation Responsibilities	SMA will remediate any issue or non-compliance within 30 days.
	(Who corrects, analyzes, and aggregates remediation activities; required timeframes for remediation)	Deficiencies are remediated through the monthly quality improvement (QI) meeting. The QI team consists of SMA QA and 1915(i) Units.
	Frequency (of Analysis and Aggregation)	Monthly, Quarterly, and Annually

Requirement	1.c) Service plans document choice of services and providers	
Discovery		
Discovery Evidence	Number and percent of service plans reviewed that indicate 1915(i) participants were given a choice when selecting services.	
(Performance Measure)	N = Number of service plans reviewed that indicate 1915(i) participants were given a choice when selecting services.	
	D = Total number of service plans reviewed	
Discovery Activity	Record reviews, on-site. Less than 100% Review.	
(Source of Data & sample size)	The State will obtain a sample size that will produce a probability of 95% and confidence level of 5% using Raosoft Sample Size Calculator.	
Monitoring Responsibilities	SMA QA Unit	
(Agency or entity that conducts discovery activities)		
Frequency	Annually	
Remediation		
Remediation Responsibilities	SMA will remediate any issue or non-compliance within 30 days.	

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(Who corrects, analyzes, and aggregates remediation activities; required timeframes for remediation)	Deficiencies are remediated through the monthly quality improvement (QI) meeting. The QI team consists of SMA QA and 1915(i) Units.
Frequency (of Analysis and Aggregation)	Monthly, Quarterly, and Annually

Discovery Evidence (Performance Measure)	Number and percent of service plans reviewed that indicate 1915(i) participants were given a choice when selecting providers. N = Number of service plans reviewed that indicate 1915(i) participants were given a choice when selecting providers. D = Total number of service plans reviewed
Discovery Activity	Record reviews, on-site. Less than 100% Review.
(Source of Data & sample size)	The State will obtain a sample size that will produce a probability of 95% and confidence level of 5% using Raosoft Sample Size Calculator.
Monitoring Responsibilities	SMA QA Unit
(Agency or entity that conducts discovery activities)	
Frequency	Annually
Remediation	
Remediation Responsibilities	SMA will remediate any issue or non-compliance within 30 days.
(Who corrects, analyzes, and aggregates remediation activities; required timeframes for remediation)	Deficiencies are remediated through the monthly quality improvement (QI) meeting. The QI team consists of SMA QA and 1915(i) Units.
Frequency	Monthly, Quarterly, and Annually

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State plan Attachment 3.1-I: Page 5

(of Analysis and Aggregation)

Requirement 2. (a) an evaluation for 1915(i) State plan HCBS eligibility is provided to a applicants for whom there is reasonable indication that 1915(i) services in be needed in the future	
Discovery	
Discovery Evidence (Performance	Number and percent of new applicants who had an evaluation indicating the individual met the 1915(i) needs-based eligibility criteria prior to receiving services.
Measure)	N: Number of new applicants who had an evaluation indicating the individual met the 1915(i) needs-based eligibility criteria prior to receiving services.
	D: Number of new applicants receiving 1915(i) services reviewed.
Discovery Activity (Source of Data & sample size)	Record reviews, on-site. Less than 100% Review. The State will obtain a sample size that will produce a probability of 95% and confidence level of 5% using Raosoft Sample Size Calculator.
Monitoring Responsibilities	SMA 1915(i) Unit
(Agency or entity that conducts discovery activities)	
Frequency	Monthly, Quarterly and Annually
Remediation	
Remediation Responsibilities	SMA will remediate any issue or non-compliance within 30 days.
(Who corrects, analyzes, and aggregates remediation activities; required timeframes for remediation)	Deficiencies are remediated through the monthly quality improvement (QI) meeting. The QI team consists of SMA QA and 1915(i) Units.
Frequency (of Analysis and Aggregation)	Quarterly, Annually

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	Discovery Evidence (Performance Measure)	Number and percent of applicants who receive an evaluation for 1915(i) State plan HCBS eligibility for whom there is reasonable indication that 1915(i) services may be needed in the future. N: Number of applicants who receive an evaluation for 1915(i) State plan HCBS eligibility for whom there is reasonable indication that 1915(i) services may be needed in the future. D: Number of 1915(i) applicants
	Discovery Activity (Source of Data & sample size)	Record reviews, on-site. Less than 100% Review. The State will obtain a sample size that will produce a probability of 95% and confidence level of 5% using Raosoft Sample Size Calculator.
	Monitoring Responsibilities	SMA 1915(i) Unit.
	(Agency or entity that conducts discovery activities)	
	Frequency	Monthly, Quarterly and Annually
R	emediation	
	Remediation Responsibilities	SMA will remediate any issue or non-compliance within 30 days.
	(Who corrects, analyzes, and aggregates remediation activities; required timeframes for remediation)	Deficiencies are remediated through the monthly quality improvement (QI) meeting. The QI team consists of SMA QA and 1915(i) Units.
	Frequency (of Analysis and Aggregation)	Quarterly, Annually

Requirement	2. (b) the processes and instruments described in the approved state plan for determining 1915(i) eligibility are applied appropriately
Discovery	
Discovery Evidence	Number and percent of reviewed 1915(i) evaluations that were completed using the processes and instruments approved in the 1915(i) HCBS state plan.
(Performance Measure)	

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		N = Number of reviewed 1915(i) evaluations that were completed using the processes and instruments approved in the 1915(i) HCBS state plan. D = Total number of 1915(i) evaluations reviewed
	Discovery Activity (Source of Data & sample size)	Record reviews, on-site. Less than 100% Review. The State will obtain a sample size that will produce a probability of 95% and confidence level of 5% using Raosoft Sample Size Calculator.
	Monitoring Responsibilities	SMA Quality Assurance
	(Agency or entity that conducts discovery activities)	
	Frequency	Annually
R	Frequency emediation	Annually
R		Annually SMA is responsible for the collection of documentation of monitoring findings, remediation, analysis of effectiveness of remediation, documentation of system improvement. Documentation of sample selection process for program review, monitoring tools, monitoring findings reports and management reports.
R	emediation Remediation Responsibilities (Who corrects,	SMA is responsible for the collection of documentation of monitoring findings, remediation, analysis of effectiveness of remediation, documentation of system improvement. Documentation of sample selection process for program review,

Requi	irement	2. (c) the 1915(i)-benefit eligibility of enrolled individuals is reevaluated at least annually or if more frequent, as specified in the approved state plan for 1915(i) HCBS
Discove	ery	
Evic	covery dence	Number and percentage of enrolled recipients whose 1915 (i) benefit Needs Based eligibility Criteria, was reevaluated annually.
	formance isure)	N: Number of enrolled recipients whose Needs Based Criteria was reevaluated annually;
		D: Number of enrolled recipients reviewed.
	covery ivity	Record reviews, on-site. 100% Review

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	(Source of Data & sample size)	
	Monitoring Responsibilities	SMA QA
	(Agency or entity that conducts discovery activities)	
	Frequency	Quarterly, Annually, Continuously and Ongoing
R	emediation	
	Remediation Responsibilities	SMA will remediate any issue or non-compliance within 30 days.
	(Who corrects, analyzes, and aggregates remediation activities; required timeframes for remediation)	Deficiencies are remediated through the monthly quality improvement (QI) meeting. The QI team consists of SMA QA and 1915(i) Units.
	Frequency (of Analysis and Aggregation)	Quarterly, Annually, Continuously and Ongoing

Requirement	Providers meet required qualifications.
Discovery	
Discovery Evidence	Number and percent of 1915(i) providers who meet the State's certification standards, as required, prior to providing 1915(i) services.
(Performance Measure)	N: Number of 1915(i) providers who meet the State's certification standards, as required, prior to providing 1915(i) services.
	D: Total number of 1915(i) providers reviewed.
Discovery Activity	Record reviews. 100% Review
(Source of Data & sample size)	
Monitoring Responsibilities	SMA 1915(i) Unit, Provider Enrollment Unit and SMA Fiscal Agent.

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	(Agency or entity that conducts discovery activities)	
	Frequency	Annually
R	emediation	
	Remediation Responsibilities (Who corrects, analyzes, and aggregates remediation activities; required timeframes for remediation)	SMA 1915(I), and Provider Enrollment Units and Fiscal Agent. State Medicaid Agency will remediate any issue or non-compliance within 30 days. All provider enrollment applications and revalidations are submitted electronically through the Interchange. The Fiscal Agent and SMA Provider Enrollment Unit monitor and review all applications and documents and make appropriate action as needed.
	Frequency (of Analysis and Aggregation)	Ongoing and Annually or on re-validation schedule

Requirement	4. Settings meet the home and community-based setting requirements as specified in this SPA and in accordance with 42 CFR 441.710(a)(1) and (2).
Discovery	
Discovery Evidence	Number and percent of HCBS settings that meet Federal HCBS settings requirements.
(Performance Measure)	N: Number of HCBS settings that meet Federal HCBS settings requirements.
Wiedsin Cy	D: Total # of HCBS settings providing 1915(i) services.
Activity (Source of Date & sample size)	*
Monitoring Responsibiliti	es SMA QA
(Agency or entity that conducts discovery activities)	

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	Frequency	Annually
R	Remediation	
	Remediation Responsibilities	State Medicaid Agency will remediate any issue or non-compliance within 30 days.
	(Who corrects, analyzes, and aggregates remediation activities; required timeframes for remediation)	Deficiencies are remediated through the monthly quality improvement (QI) meeting. The QI team consists of SMA QA and 1915(i) Units.
	Frequency (of Analysis and Aggregation)	Annually

Requirement	5. The SMA retains authority and responsibility for program operations and oversight.
Discovery	
Discovery Evidence (Performance Measure)	Number and percent of issues identified in contract monitoring reports that were remediated as required by the state. N = Number of issues identified in contract monitoring reports that were remediated as required by the State. D = Total number of issues identified.
Discovery Activity (Source of Data & sample size)	Provider application. Less than 100% Review. The State will obtain a sample size that will produce a probability of 95% and confidence level of 5% using Raosoft Sample Size Calculator.
Monitoring Responsibilities (Agency or entity that conducts discovery activities)	SMA 1915(i) Unit.
Frequency	Annually
Remediation	
Remediation Responsibilities	SMA will remediate any issue or non-compliance within 30 days.

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(Who corrects, analyzes, and aggregates remediation activities; required timeframes for remediation)	On a monthly basis, HCC supervisor reviews random sample of case files and if deficiencies are found, will take action as needed such as one-on-one education with the HCC as well as remediation discussion during the monthly QI meeting.
Frequency (of Analysis and Aggregation)	Annually

Requirement	6. The SMA maintains financial accountability through payment of claims for services that are authorized and furnished to 1915(i) participants by qualified providers.
Discovery	
Discovery Evidence	Number and percent of claims paid to 1915(i) service providers who are qualified to furnish 1915(i) services to 1915(i) recipients.
(Performance Measure)	N: Number of claims paid to 1915(i) service providers who are qualified to furnish 1915(i) services to 1915(i) recipients.
	D: Number of claims reviewed.
Discovery Activity	Financial records (including expenditures); Less than 100% Review. The State will obtain a sample size that will produce a probability of 95% and confidence
(Source of Data & sample size)	level of 5% using Raosoft Sample Size Calculator.
Monitoring Responsibilities	SMA QA
(Agency or entity that conducts discovery activities)	
Frequency	Annually
Remediation	
Remediation Responsibilities	SMA will remediate any issue or non-compliance within 30 days.
(Who corrects, analyzes, and aggregates remediation activities; required timeframes for remediation)	Deficiencies are remediated through the monthly quality improvement (QI) meeting. The QI team consists of SMA QA and 1915(i) units.

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Frequency	Monthly, Quarterly, Annually
(of Analysis and Aggregation)	

\boldsymbol{D}	Discovery		
	Discovery Evidence	Number and percent of claims verified through a review of provider documentation that have been paid in accordance with the individual's service plan.	
	(Performance Measure)	N: Number of claims verified through a review of provider documentation that have been paid in accordance with the individual's service plan. <u>D</u> : Total number of claims reviewed.	
	Discovery Activity (Source of Data	Financial records (including expenditures); Less than 100% Review. The State will obtain a sample size that will produce a probability of 95% and confidence level of 5% using Raosoft Sample Size Calculator.	
	& sample size)		
	Monitoring Responsibilities	SMA QA	
	(Agency or entity that conducts discovery activities)		
	Frequency	Annually	
R	emediation		
	Remediation Responsibilities	SMA will remediate any issue or non-compliance within 30 days.	
	(Who corrects, analyzes, and aggregates remediation activities; required timeframes for remediation)	Deficiencies are remediated through the monthly quality improvement (QI) meeting. The QI team consists of SMA QA and 1915(i) Units.	
	Frequency (of Analysis and Aggregation)	Monthly, Quarterly, Annually	

Requirement	7. The state identifies, addresses, and seeks to prevent incidents of abuse, neglect, and exploitation.
Discovery	

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State: Nevada

	Discovery Evidence (Performance Measure) Discovery Activity (Source of Data & sample size)	Number and percent of 1915(i) recipients who receive information/education about how to report abuse, neglect, exploitation and other critical incidents. N: Number of recipients who received information or education about how to report abuse, neglect, exploitation and other critical incidents. D: Number of participants reviewed. Records review on-site, 100% Review.
	Monitoring Responsibilities	SMA
	(Agency or entity that conducts discovery activities)	
	Frequency	Annually, Continuously and Ongoing
R	emediation	
	Remediation Responsibilities (Who corrects, analyzes, and aggregates remediation activities; required timeframes for remediation)	SMA will remediate any issue or non-compliance within 30 days. During initial and annual assessment, potential recipient/recipient will be educated and sign the acknowledgement form indicating they were given information on how report and provided a list of contacts for reporting critical incidence. The form will be kept in the case file for 1915(i) supervisor review monthly and for SMA QA review annually.
	Frequency (of Analysis and Aggregation)	Monthly, Quarterly, Annually

\boldsymbol{D}	Discovery		
	Discovery Evidence (Performance	Number and percent of incident reviews/investigations that were initiated regarding unexplained deaths, abuse, neglect, exploitation and unapproved restraints as required by the SMA.	
	Measure)	N: Number of incident reviews/investigations that were initiated regarding unexplained deaths, abuse, neglect, exploitation and unapproved restraints as required by the SMA. D: Number of incidents reviewed.	
	Discovery Activity	Records review on-site, 100% Review.	

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(Source of Data & sample size)	
Monitoring Responsibilities	SMA
(Agency or entity that conducts discovery activities)	
Frequency	Annually, Continuously and Ongoing
Remediation	
Remediation Responsibilities (Who corrects, analyzes, and aggregates remediation activities; required timeframes for remediation)	SMA will remediate any issue or non-compliance within 30 days. All Serious Occurrence Reports (SOR) must be reported within 24 hours of discovery. All SORs are entered into the database called Harmony, including follow-ups by HCCs. On a weekly basis or as needed, HCC supervisor reviews and approves follow-ups to ensure appropriate action is taken and the health and safety of the recipients have been addressed timely. Reports are generated upon request. Within 5 business days, HCC will conduct all necessary follow-ups to include plan of correction, report submitted to law enforcement, EPS or Health Care Quality and Compliance (HCQC) if applicable. The Harmony database monitors and tracks all incidents and generates reports upon request. The 1915(i) Supervisor will review SORs on a weekly or as needed basis.
Frequency (of Analysis and Aggregation)	Monthly, Quarterly, Annually

\boldsymbol{D}	Discovery		
	Discovery Evidence (Performance Measure)	Number and percent of incident reviews/investigations involving unexplained deaths, abuse, neglect, exploitation and unapproved restraints for recipients that were completed by the SMA.	
	measure)	N: Number of incident reviews/investigations involving unexplained deaths, abuse, neglect, exploitation and unapproved restraints for recipients that were completed by the SMA.	
		D: Number of incidents reviewed.	
	Discovery Activity	Records review on-site, 100% Review.	
	(Source of Data & sample size)		

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	Monitoring Responsibilities	SMA
	(Agency or entity that conducts discovery activities)	
	Frequency	Annually, Continuously and Ongoing
R	emediation	
	Remediation Responsibilities (Who corrects, analyzes, and aggregates remediation activities; required timeframes for remediation)	SMA will remediate any issue or non-compliance within 30 days. All Serious Occurrence Reports (SOR) must be reported within 24 hours of discovery. All SORs are entered into the database called Harmony, including follow-ups by HCCs. On a weekly basis or as needed, HCC supervisor reviews and approves follow-ups to ensure appropriate action is taken and the health and safety of the recipients have been addressed timely. Reports are generated upon request. Within 5 business days, 1915(i) HCC will conduct all necessary follow-ups to include plan of correction, report submitted to law enforcement, EPS or Health Care Quality and Compliance (HCQC) if applicable. The Harmony database monitors and tracks all incidents and generates reports upon
	Frequency (of Analysis and Aggregation)	request. The 1915(i) Supervisor will review SORs on a weekly or as needed basis. Monthly, Quarterly, Annually

D_i	Discovery		
	Discovery Evidence (Performance Measure)	Number and percent of incidents reviewed involving abuse, neglect, exploitation, unexplained deaths, and unapproved restraints that had a plan of prevention/documentation of a plan developed as a result of the incident. N: Number of incidents reviewed involving abuse, neglect, exploitation, unexplained deaths, and unapproved restraints that had a plan of prevention/documentation of a plan developed as a result of the incident.	
		D: Number of incidents reviewed.	
	Discovery Activity	Records review on-site, 100% Review.	
	(Source of Data & sample size)		
	Monitoring Responsibilities	SMA	

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State:	Nevada

	(Agency or entity that conducts discovery activities)	
	Frequency	Annually, Continuously and Ongoing
R	emediation	
	Remediation Responsibilities (Who corrects, analyzes, and aggregates remediation activities; required timeframes for remediation)	SMA will remediate any issue or non-compliance within 30 days. All Serious Occurrence Reports (SOR) must be reported within 24 hours of discovery. All SORs are entered into the database called Harmony, including follow-ups by HCCs. On a weekly basis or as needed, HCC supervisor reviews and approves follow-ups to ensure appropriate action is taken and the health and safety of the recipients have been addressed timely. Reports are generated upon request. Within 5 business days, the 1915(i) HCC will conduct all necessary follow-ups to include plan of correction, report submitted to law enforcement, EPS or Health Care Quality and Compliance (HCQC) if applicable. The Harmony database monitors and tracks all incidents and generates reports upon
	Frequency (of Analysis and Aggregation)	request. The 1915(i) Supervisor will review SORs on a weekly or as needed basis. Monthly, Quarterly, Annually

System Improvement

(Describe the process for systems improvement as a result of aggregated discovery and remediation activities.)

1. Methods for Analyzing Data and Prioritizing Need for System Improvement

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On an ongoing basis, the 1915(i) and QA Units collaborate in a Quality Improvement Team to assess quality improvements needed to ensure required performance measures are met. Monthly Comprehensive QI meetings review performance measures below 86% to determine remediation and mitigation efforts using CMS guidelines. Such guidelines include, but are not limited to, identifying probable cause, development of interventions to improve performances, trend analysis on performance measures, etc. On an as needed basis, the QA Unit conducts educational trainings with the 1915(i) Unit regarding how to perform case file and provider reviews. Provider reviews are entered into the ALis database to be tracked and deficiencies flagged. Depending on the deficiency, referrals are sent to an appropriate state agency for review and corrective action plan as appropriate.

Case Management records are in a SAMS database which generates reports needed for QA case file reviews. Provider records are managed through the InterChange (Medicaid Management Information System) and reviewed by the SMA Fiscal Agent and Provider Enrollment Unit. Electronic submission of claims is also done through InterChange, which has built-in edits to ensure claims are processed correctly and appropriately.

Serious Occurrence Reports (SORs) are tracked through a Harmony system which is monitored and reviewed by the 1915(i) Supervisor.

2. Roles and Responsibilities

The SMA QA complete annual reviews of the performance measures outlined above excluding provider reviews which are conducted by the 1915(i) Unit.

1915(i) and QA Unit participate in monthly and quarterly comprehensive QI meetings.

3. Frequency

State: Nevada

QI Team meet monthly to discuss remediations on deficiencies found during the annual review. QI Team also meet quarterly to review remediations and discuss system improvement to determine changes as needed to the process. The QIS is evaluated in its entirety prior to the 5-year renewal.

4. Method for Evaluating Effectiveness of System Changes

Through QI Team meetings, trend analysis is conducted on remediation efforts to determine effectiveness of such efforts and those performance measures needing continual improvement. As potential trends develop, specific activities will be identified that may need changing and an evaluation is conducted to remedy the issue.

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