



MEETING AGENDA / MINUTES

Meeting/Project Name:	Quarterly Partnership/Carelon & County Mental Health Directors Meeting		
Date of Meeting:	06/11/2025	Time:	12:00 PM
Meeting Facilitator:	Mark Bontrager	Location:	Webex

Meeting Objective/s

Quarterly Mental Health Directors' Meeting with Carelon and Discussion with County BH and Housing Departments on Transitional Rent

Meeting Agenda

Topic	Person(s) Responsible	Time Allotted
Welcome	Mark Bontrager	5 Minutes
Transitional Rent	Lisa O'Connell	30 Minutes
Utilization	Alison French	20 Minutes
Closed Loop Referral Tracking	Alison French & Eric Rushing	10 Minutes
MOU Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Execution 18/23 (Sierra – N/A) • Data Sharing • Quality Activities – MOU Reporting Requirements • ECM/CSS • Member Engagement • Dispute Resolution • Care Coordination 	Mark Bontrager	25 Minutes

Attendees

Name	Department/Division	Attended
Josh J		X
Samantha Holland		X
Alison French	Carelon	X
Inna Liu	Carelon	X
Tony Hobson	Colusa County	X
Cindy Ross	Glenn County	X
Jack Breazeal	Humboldt County	X
Paul Bugnacki	Humboldt County	X
Robert Ward	Humboldt County	X

Scott Abbott	Lake County	X
Tiffany Armstrong	Lassen County	X
Christine Lias	Marin County	X
Gary Naja-Riese	Marin County	X
Todd Schirmer	Marin County	X
Stacy Sphar	Modoc County	X
Jenna Bolyarde	Napa County	X
Phebe Bell	Nevada County	X
Carina Monroy	Partnership	X
Carolyn Moulton	Partnership	X
Cindy Wilson	Partnership	X
Eric Rushing	Partnership	X
Jaymee James	Partnership	X
Jill Blake	Partnership	X
Katherine Barresi	Partnership	X
Kathryn Power	Partnership	X
Leigha Andrews	Partnership	X
Lisa O'Connell	Partnership	X
Mark Bontrager	Partnership	X
Rebecca Strak	Partnership	X
Tim Sharp	Partnership	X
Vicky Klakken	Partnership	X
Donnell Ewert	Partnership Consultant	X
Che Shannon	PCBH	X
Kyle Hardee	PCBH	X
Lisa Beck	PCBH	X
Maddelyn Bryan	Siskiyou County	X
Sarah Collard	Siskiyou County	X
Emery Cowan	Solano County	X
Wendy Wheelwright	Sonoma County	X
Besty Gowan	Sutter County	X
Rick Bingham	Sutter County	X
Johnny Burke	Sutter/Yuba Homless Consotrium	X
Jesse Ferguson	Trinity County	X
DeShawn Waters	Yolo County	X
Kerrie Covert	Yolo County	X

Notes, Decisions, Issues

- I. Welcome
 - a. Meeting started with reviewing objectives
 - b. Introductions done via chat
- II. Transitional Rent
 - a. Lisa O’Connell shared Transitional Rent slides (attached)
 - i. Transitional Rent Eligibility Criteria
 - 1. Meet clinical risk factors
 - 2. Experiencing or at risk of homelessness
 - 3. And meet criteria for specified “Transitioning Populations”
 - ii. Benefits
 - 1. Bridge to permanent housing
 - 2. Improved health outcomes
 - 3. Reduced healthcare costs
 - 4. Access to supportive services
 - 5. Transition from institutions
 - 6. Targeted support
 - iii. MCP vs County BH Responsibilities and Activities (Specific to Transitional Rent)

MCPs	County BH Agencies
Required go-live date: 1/1/2026 Optional go-live date: 7/1/2025	30% of BHSA funds must be spent on Housing Interventions starting 7/1/2026
Administer Transitional Rent for eligible members	Coordinate with MCPs to ensure no duplication of services
Housing Support Plan must be in place prior to authorizing Transitional Rent	Provide BHSA Housing Intervention documentation after Transitional Rent
Track Room and Board (6 months total in 12 months)	Can contract with MCPs as CS providers
Coordinate with ECM, CS, Housing Authorities, and Flex Pools	Use BHSA to fund non-MCP covered supports
Contract, credential, and oversee Transitional Rent providers	Support long-term housing stability post-Transitional Rent

- iv. Transitional Rent Covers
 - 1. Rental assistance for up to 6 months
 - 2. Storage and amenity fees
- v. Transitional Rent Providers
 - 1. Charts explaining what providers will do and which providers are allowed
- vi. Flex Pools
 - 1. County BH Departments, MCPs, and County/City Governments
- vii. What is a Flex Pool?
- viii. Proposed Value of Flex Pools
- ix. Authorization Requirements
 - 1. Housing support plan & coordination with County BH agency
- x. Payment Methodology

- 1. Released 5/30/2025
 - a. Open to public comments until 6/29/2025
 - b. Admin Rates based on region
 - c. Link to CY 2025 Transitional Rent Payment model
 - 2. Rents based on HUDs Small Area Fair Market Rents (SAFMR) for 2025
 - a. Link to look up FY2025 Small Area FMRs
 - b. Up to 110% reimbursement of SAFMR (most, not all)
 - xi. Regions
 - 1. Map shown and regions broken down: A, B, C, D, F, H
 - b. Nevada County Behavioral Health
 - c. Solano County Health and Social Services
 - d. Discussion
- III. Utilization
 - a. Alison French shared PHC/Carelon BH Quarterly County Meeting slides (attached)
 - i. Managed by Carelon BH
 - 1. Psychotherapy, psychological testing, PCP decision, and no wrong door
 - ii. BH Eligibility Criteria
 - 1. Members screened to determine severity of symptoms. Non-Specialty MH member is referred to a Carelon provider. Specialty Mental Health member is referred to county.
 - iii. Carelon and County Coordination
 - 1. Where to send completed screening tools and TOC emails provided for County to Carelon. Carelon to County: Carelon will email/fax to county contact and reach out to county POC for follow-up
 - iv. Quarterly County Screenings and Referrals
 - 1. Q1 2025 graph on screen, along with Q1 2023 – Q4 2024 for comparison
 - v. Q1 2025 Screenings and Referrals by County
 - 1. Breakdown of graph from previous screen by county
 - 2. +1 is an add-on service, counts as an additional referral
 - vi. Carelon Care Management Program
 - 1. CM Program is available to help members with BH care needs
 - a. Program Goals
 - i. Improve access to MH and SUD services
 - ii. Promote member engagement
 - iii. Increase care collaboration
 - iv. Coordinate access to the most appropriate LOC
 - v. Improve overall member health outcomes
 - 2. Clinical Case Management Program Updates
 - a. Members referred by PHC, Carelon Call Center, County Partners, or PCP
 - b. Letters are being sent out to members not reached
 - c. All CM performance within target
 - vii. Utilization
 - 1. Unique utilizers – 12mo Rolling Unique Utilizers
 - a. 2025 increase due to increase in membership
 - 2. Utilization by Age and County (Legacy Counties)
 - a. Not much movement
 - b. Similar trend as other quarters: Shasta and Humboldt highest utilization
 - c. Increase in adolescent numbers

- 3. Utilization by Age and County (Expansion Counties)
 - a. Leveled out compared to last quarter where Nevada was at 25%
 - b. Starting to see a new “normal” as utilization and eligibility coming in, as well as providers getting used to billing
- 4. FTF vs Telehealth
 - a. Visit distribution total
 - b. MH: Mental Health
 - c. SU: Substance Use
 - d. FTF still higher
 - e. 0-12 higher FTF compared to Youth, Adult, and Senior
- 5. Carelon Points of Contact
 - a. Alison French, Katherine Halley, Mandy Kullar, Regina Kendall, and Karen Black
- IV. Closed Loop Referral (CLR) Tracking
 - a. Software used for tracking referrals between counties and Carelon (and vice versa) to ensure members are connected with services.
 - b. Graph created shows status with CLRs for 2025 (through April).
 - c. About 15 counties are 100% up to date. If your county is in red, please reach out to Lulu Salinas (Partnership Project Coordinator).
- V. MOU Updates
 - a. MCP and County MHP MOU – 18/24 counties executed
 - b. Quarterly and Annual MOU reporting request received from Sonoma County but Christina not in meeting to discuss
 - i. DHCS wants quarterly report on what activities/contacts have been made between MCPs and County BH Plan
 - ii. Quarterly meetings and meeting minutes are being sent out as evidence of meetings – if DHCS auditors need documentation, you can use the meeting minutes.

Action Items		
Action	Owner	Due Date
1. Meeting minutes to Participants	Carina Monroy	06/25/2025
2.		
3.		