
HOUSE BILL 1851

State of Washington **68th Legislature** **2023 Regular Session**

By Representatives Callan, Macri, Bergquist, and Gregerson

Read first time 03/28/23. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to implementation of a sustainable funding model
2 for the services provided through the first approach skills training
3 program; and amending RCW 71.24.061, 71.24.063, and 71.24.064.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 71.24.061 and 2021 c 126 s 1 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) The authority shall provide flexibility to encourage licensed
8 or certified community behavioral health agencies to subcontract with
9 an adequate, culturally competent, and qualified children's mental
10 health provider network.

11 (2) To the extent that funds are specifically appropriated for
12 this purpose or that nonstate funds are available, a children's
13 mental health evidence-based practice institute shall be established
14 at the University of Washington department of psychiatry and
15 behavioral sciences. The institute shall closely collaborate with
16 entities currently engaged in evaluating and promoting the use of
17 evidence-based, research-based, promising, or consensus-based
18 practices in children's mental health treatment, including but not
19 limited to the University of Washington department of psychiatry and
20 behavioral sciences, Seattle children's hospital, the University of
21 Washington school of nursing, the University of Washington school of

1 social work, and the Washington state institute for public policy. To
2 ensure that funds appropriated are used to the greatest extent
3 possible for their intended purpose, the University of Washington's
4 indirect costs of administration shall not exceed ten percent of
5 appropriated funding. The institute shall:

6 (a) Improve the implementation of evidence-based and
7 research-based practices by providing sustained and effective
8 training and consultation to licensed children's mental health
9 providers and child-serving agencies who are implementing
10 evidence-based or researched-based practices for treatment of
11 children's emotional or behavioral disorders, or who are interested
12 in adapting these practices to better serve ethnically or culturally
13 diverse children. Efforts under this subsection should include a
14 focus on appropriate oversight of implementation of evidence-based
15 practices to ensure fidelity to these practices and thereby achieve
16 positive outcomes;

17 (b) Continue the successful implementation of the "partnerships
18 for success" model by consulting with communities so they may select,
19 implement, and continually evaluate the success of evidence-based
20 practices that are relevant to the needs of children, youth, and
21 families in their community;

22 (c) Partner with youth, family members, family advocacy, and
23 culturally competent provider organizations to develop a series of
24 information sessions, literature, and online resources for families
25 to become informed and engaged in evidence-based and research-based
26 practices;

27 (d) Participate in the identification of outcome-based
28 performance measures under RCW 71.36.025(2) and partner in a
29 statewide effort to implement statewide outcomes monitoring and
30 quality improvement processes; and

31 (e) Serve as a statewide resource to the authority and other
32 entities on child and adolescent evidence-based, research-based,
33 promising, or consensus-based practices for children's mental health
34 treatment, maintaining a working knowledge through ongoing review of
35 academic and professional literature, and knowledge of other
36 evidence-based practice implementation efforts in Washington and
37 other states.

38 (3) (a) To the extent that funds are specifically appropriated for
39 this purpose, the authority in collaboration with the University of
40 Washington department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences and

1 Seattle children's hospital shall implement the following access
2 lines:

3 (i) The partnership access line to support primary care providers
4 in the assessment and provision of appropriate diagnosis and
5 treatment of children with mental and behavioral health disorders and
6 track outcomes of this program;

7 (ii) The partnership access line for moms to support
8 obstetricians, pediatricians, primary care providers, mental health
9 professionals, and other health care professionals providing care to
10 pregnant women and new mothers through same-day telephone
11 consultations in the assessment and provision of appropriate
12 diagnosis and treatment of depression in pregnant women and new
13 mothers; (~~and~~)

14 (iii) The mental health referral service for children and teens
15 to facilitate referrals to children's mental health services and
16 other resources for parents and guardians with concerns related to
17 the mental health of the parent or guardian's child. Facilitation
18 activities include assessing the level of services needed by the
19 child; within an average of seven days from call intake processing
20 with a parent or guardian, identifying mental health professionals
21 who are in-network with the child's health care coverage who are
22 accepting new patients and taking appointments; coordinating contact
23 between the parent or guardian and the mental health professional;
24 and providing postreferral reviews to determine if the child has
25 outstanding needs. In conducting its referral activities, the program
26 shall collaborate with existing databases and resources to identify
27 in-network mental health professionals; and

28 (iv) The first approach skills training program to provide brief,
29 evidence-based behavioral therapy for youth and families with common
30 mental health concerns.

31 (b) The program activities described in (a) of this subsection
32 shall be designed to promote more accurate diagnoses and treatment
33 through timely case consultation between primary care providers and
34 child psychiatric specialists, and focused educational learning
35 collaboratives with primary care providers.

36 (4) The authority, in collaboration with the University of
37 Washington department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences and
38 Seattle children's hospital, shall report on the following:

39 (a) The number of individuals who have accessed the resources
40 described in subsection (3) of this section;

1 (b) The number of providers, by type, who have accessed the
2 resources described in subsection (3) of this section;

3 (c) Demographic information, as available, for the individuals
4 described in (a) of this subsection. Demographic information may not
5 include any personally identifiable information and must be limited
6 to the individual's age, gender, and city and county of residence;

7 (d) A description of resources provided;

8 (e) Average time frames from receipt of call to referral for
9 services or resources provided; and

10 (f) Systemic barriers to services, as determined and defined by
11 the health care authority, the University of Washington department of
12 psychiatry and behavioral sciences, and Seattle children's hospital.

13 (5) Beginning December 30, 2019, and annually thereafter, the
14 authority must submit, in compliance with RCW 43.01.036, a report to
15 the governor and appropriate committees of the legislature with
16 findings and recommendations for improving services and service
17 delivery from subsection (4) of this section.

18 (6) The authority shall enforce requirements in managed care
19 contracts to ensure care coordination and network adequacy issues are
20 addressed in order to remove barriers to access to mental health
21 services identified in the report described in subsection (4) of this
22 section.

23 **Sec. 2.** RCW 71.24.063 and 2020 c 291 s 3 are each amended to
24 read as follows:

25 (1) The University of Washington department of psychiatry and
26 behavioral ((health)) sciences shall collect the following
27 information for the partnership access line described in RCW
28 71.24.061(3)(a)(i), partnership access line for moms described in RCW
29 71.24.061(3)(a)(ii)((A)), ((and)) the psychiatric consultation line
30 described in RCW 71.24.062, and the first approach skills training
31 program described in RCW 71.24.061(3)(a)(iv), in coordination with
32 any hospital that it collaborates with to administer the programs:

33 (a) The number of individuals served;

34 (b) Demographic information regarding the individuals served, as
35 available, including the individual's age, gender, and city and
36 county of residence. Demographic information may not include any
37 personally identifiable information;

38 (c) Demographic information regarding the providers placing the
39 calls, including type of practice, and city and county of practice;

1 (d) Insurance information, including health plan and carrier, as
2 available;

3 (e) A description of the resources provided; and

4 (f) Provider satisfaction.

5 (2) The University of Washington department of psychiatry and
6 behavioral ((health)) sciences shall collect the following
7 information for the program called the ((~~partnership access line for~~
8 ~~kids referral and assistance service~~)) mental health referral service
9 for children and teens described in RCW 71.24.061((~~(3)(a)(ii)(B)~~))
10 (3)(a)(iii), in coordination with any hospital that it collaborates
11 with to administer the program:

12 (a) The number of individuals served;

13 (b) Demographic information regarding the individuals served, as
14 available, including the individual's age, gender, and city and
15 county of residence. Demographic information may not include any
16 personally identifiable information;

17 (c) Demographic information regarding the parents or guardians
18 placing the calls, including family location;

19 (d) Insurance information, including health plan and carrier, as
20 available;

21 (e) A description of the resources provided;

22 (f) Average time frames from receipt of the call to referral for
23 services or resources provided;

24 (g) The most frequently requested issues that parents and
25 guardians are asking for assistance with;

26 (h) The most frequently requested issues that families are asking
27 for referral assistance with;

28 (i) The number of individuals that receive an appointment based
29 on referral assistance; and

30 (j) Parent or guardian satisfaction.

31 **Sec. 3.** RCW 71.24.064 and 2020 c 291 s 4 are each amended to
32 read as follows:

33 (1) Beginning July 1, 2021, the partnership access lines
34 described in RCW 71.24.061(3)(a), ((and)) the psychiatric
35 consultation line described in RCW 71.24.062, and the first approach
36 skills training program described in RCW 71.24.061(3)(a)(iv) shall be
37 funded as follows:

38 (a) The authority, in consultation with the University of
39 Washington department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences and

1 Seattle children's hospital shall determine the annual costs of
2 operating each program, as well as the authority's costs for
3 administering the programs.

4 (b) For each program, the authority shall calculate the
5 proportion of clients that are covered by programs administered
6 pursuant to chapter 74.09 RCW. The state must cover the cost for
7 programs administered pursuant to chapter 74.09 RCW through state and
8 federal funds, as appropriated.

9 (c)(i) The authority shall collect a proportional share of
10 program costs from each of the following entities that are not for
11 covered lives under contract with the authority as medicaid managed
12 care organizations:

13 (A) Health carriers, as defined in RCW 48.43.005;

14 (B) Self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangements, as
15 defined in RCW 48.125.010;

16 (C) Employers or other entities that provide health care in this
17 state, including self-funding entities or employee welfare benefit
18 plans.

19 (ii) For entities listed in (c)(i) of this subsection, a
20 proportional share of the entity's annual program costs for each
21 program must be calculated by determining the annual cost of
22 operating the program not covered under (b) of this subsection and
23 multiplying it by a fraction that in which the numerator is the
24 entity's total number of resident insured persons among the
25 population served by the program and the denominator is the total
26 number of residents in the state who are served by the program and
27 not covered by programs administered pursuant to chapter 74.09 RCW.
28 The total number of resident insured persons among the population
29 served by the program shall be determined according to the covered
30 lives per calendar year determined by covered person months.

31 (iii) The entities listed in (c)(i) of this subsection shall
32 provide information needed to calculate the proportional share of
33 program costs under this section to the authority.

34 (d) The authority's administrative costs for these programs may
35 not be included in the assessments.

36 (2) The authority may contract with a third-party administrator
37 to calculate and administer the assessments of the entities
38 identified in subsection (1)(c)(i) of this section.

1 (3) The authority shall develop separate performance measures for
2 the partnership access lines described in RCW 71.24.061(3)(a), and
3 the psychiatric consultation line described in RCW 71.24.062.

4 (4) The University of Washington department of psychiatry and
5 behavioral sciences, in coordination with any hospital that it
6 collaborates with to administer the programs, shall provide quarterly
7 reports to the authority on the demographic data collected by each
8 program, as described in RCW 71.24.063 (1) and (2), any performance
9 measures specified by the authority, and systemic barriers to
10 services, as determined and defined by the authority, the University
11 of Washington, and Seattle children's hospital.

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