## Tri Counties CalAIM PATH Collaborative

August 27, 2025







# Please introduce yourself in the chat!



#### **Today's Agenda**

Time	Agenda Topic
11:00-11:05	Welcome and Introductions
11:05-11:15	Local Spotlight: Clinicas del Camino Real
11:15-11:25	CalAIM Renewal Concept Paper
11:25-11:35	Looking Towards 2026
11:35-11:45	MCP Updates
11:45-12 pm	Announcements, DHCS Poll Questions & Closing
12:00-12:30	Office Hours



#### **2025 Collaborative Aim Statement**

By December 2025, the Collaborative will strengthen local implementation of CalAIM by creating a sustainable network of providers.

We will accomplish this through hosting quarterly peer learning sessions and at least 2 workforce development trainings.

Strengthen the capacity of providers to sustainably deliver CalAIM services

Build education and awareness of CalAIM among members, providers, and community partners to drive referrals Increase ECM & Community
Supports referrals and care
coordination among
providers



## Local CalAIM Successes: Clinicas



## CalAIM Renewal Concept Paper



#### **Background and Purpose**

- In July 2025, DHCS released the "Continuing the Transformation of Medi-Cal" Concept Paper outlining its vision and goals for Medi-Cal beyond 2026
- The plan continues DHCS' transformation efforts from CalAIM to make Medi-Cal more coordinated, person-centered, and equitable
- While the Medicaid waivers that created CalAIM expire at the end of 2026, California plans to apply for a renewal to enable CalAIM programs to continue



#### **Key Goals for the Renewal Period (2027-2031)**



## Centering Members in the Delivery System

Ensure Medi-Cal policies and initiatives are member-centered, focusing on improving their access to care and health outcomes.



## Improving Eligibility and Enrollment

Streamline and improve application and eligibility processes to ensure timely and accurate enrollment for all eligible members.



#### Comprehensive Purchasing Strategy

Develop a Medi-Cal purchasing strategy that incentivizes high-quality care, ensuring it's delivered at the right time and cost.



#### **Key Goals for the Renewal Period (2027-2031)**



## Increasing Data Sharing

Improve data sharing and coordination among Medi-Cal plans, providers, and community partners to enhance care coordination and member outcomes.



## **Strengthening Accountability**

Improve accountability across managed care, fee-for-service, and behavioral health services to enhance access and quality of care.



## Preparing for the Future

Ensure the Medi-Cal system is prepared to meet the health needs of California's aging population and continue to evolve through 2030



#### **CalAIM Waiver Renewal**

- ➤ Federal waiver authority is **not** required to continue ECM or 12 Community Supports categorized as In Lieu of Services (ILOS).
  - Concept paper: "No Section 1115 or 1915(b) authority is needed for California to operate ECM."
  - Concept paper: "Community Supports covered as ILOS are not dependent on DHCS' current CalAIM Section 1115 or 1915(b) waiver approvals."
- DHCS proposes to continue and strengthen several services in the next waiver, including the Justice-Involved Reentry Initiative, Community-Based Adult Services, Traditional Healers, and more.



#### CalAIM 2027-2031 Waiver Renewal Plan

#### **☑** Will be renewed under waiver authority:

- Section 1115: Recuperative Care, Short-Term Post-Hospitalization Housing, Contingency Management, Aligned Enrollment for Dually Eligible Members, Limiting Managed Care Plan Choice, IMD Waiver for SUD Services, Chiropractic from IHS/Tribal Facilities, Out-of-State Former Foster Care Youth, Global Payment Program, Asset Test Modification (Deemed SSI)
- <u>Section 1915(b):</u> Medi-Cal Managed Care (statewide), Dental Managed Care (Sacramento), Specialty Mental Health Services, DMC-ODS program.

## **──** Will transition to other CMS-approved authority (not renewed in waiver):

- Enhanced Care Management (ECM) – operates under managed care authority.
- 12 Community Supports (ILOS) operate under managed care authority.

#### **Will not be renewed in waiver:**

 PATH Initiative, DSHP (to support PATH), Extended Postpartum Benefits for Low-Income Pregnant Women.

#### **DHCS Waiver Renewal Estimated Timeline**





## Looking Towards 2026



#### **2026 Dates and Milestones**

#### January 2026

- Technical Assistance Marketplace Closes for new applications
- Transitional Rent Go-Live Date
- DHCS CalAIM Renewal submission to federal government
- Medi-Medi Plans (D-SNP) Expansion Statewide

#### January 31, 2026: Data Exchange Framework (DxF) Milestone

 Voluntary Signatories to the DxF, including community-based organizations, county agencies, and social services organizations, begin exchanging data

#### **December 31, 2026**

PATH Initiative sunsets



#### **Behavioral Health Connect (BH-Connect) Overview**

BH-CONNECT (Behavioral Health Community-Based Organized Networks of Equitable Care and Treatment) is a five-year demonstration intended to expand access to community-based behavioral health care for Medi-Cal members and aims to reduce reliance on inpatient and institutional care.

#### **Core Components and Initiatives**

#### **Evidence-Based Practices (EBPs)**

- All counties must provide fidelity-based EBPs for children and youth under 21, including High Fidelity Wraparound (<u>HFW</u>), multisystemic therapy (MST), and more, consistent with Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) and medical necessity
- Counties may opt in to cover select EBPs for adults including Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) and more

## Children and Youth Initiatives Community Transition In-Reach Services\*

#### **Populations of Focus**

- Children & youth in child welfare
- Individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness
- Justice-involved individuals

\*Counties may opt in to cover, though not required



#### **Behavioral Health Connect (BH-Connect) Implementation Timeline**

Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Q1 2026 Q2 2026				Q3 2026			Q4 2026				
• (C)	Counties sudraft of theil Integrated Integra	r Plans to  ust cover Rent as y benefit ral ulation overage gible	2026-2	es submit i 2029 draft d ced Plans to	of their	Into bel BH effe BE Act OH sta pul app and pra tim Bel Ou and	July 1, 2026 – County Integrated Plans for behavioral services under BH-CONNECT become effective statewide.  Behavioral Health Services Act goes into effect.  DHCS, in collaboration with stakeholders, will also publish biennial lists of approved evidence-based and community-defined practices.			Il launch the availability of sis stabilization le as part of e ncy and syste	inpatient on beds nhanced





## High Fidelity Wraparound (HFW) Concept Paper: Public Comment

Open for public comment through

5 pm P.T. on August 28, 2025.

Comments should be submitted to <a href="mailto:BH-CONNECT@dhcs.ca.gov">BH-CONNECT@dhcs.ca.gov</a> with the subject line:

Comments on Proposed Medi-Cal HFW Service Requirements Aligned with National Practice Standards



## MCP Updates



## **Tri-Counties PATH CPI Ventura County**

Gillian Stucki, Medi-Cal Local Engagement

August 2025

#### NEW Kaiser Permanente Referral Forms

Kaiser Permanente has released new CalAIM referral forms as of July 2025. New referral forms aim to improve successful linkages and enhance information collected, thereby reducing authorization delays.

- Enhanced Care Management, Complex Care Management (CCM), and Community Health Workers Referral Form
- Community Supports Referral Form Housing Insecurities
- Community Supports Referral Form Keeping Members at the Home and Chronic Conditions

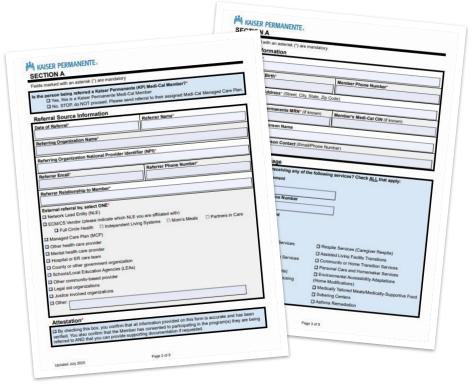


Enhanced Care Management (ECM), Complex Care Management (CCM), and Community Health Worker (CHW) Referral Form

#### Which services does this referral form cover?

This referral form is for the following:

- Enhanced Care Management (ECM)
- Complex Case Management (CCM)
- Community Health Workers (CHW)





#### **Community Supports Referral Form: Housing Insecurities**

#### Which Community Supports does this referral form cover?

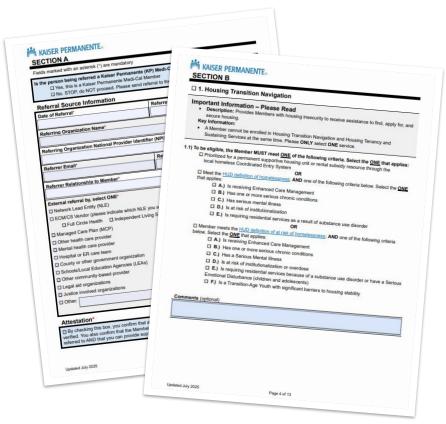
This referral form is for the CS services aimed to support Housing Insecurity, which includes:

#### **The Housing Trio**

- 1. Housing Transition Navigation Services
- 2. Housing Deposits
- 3. Housing Tenancy and Sustaining Services

#### And

- 4. Day Habilitation Programs
- 5. Recuperative Care (Medical Respite)
- 6. Short-Term Post-Hospitalization Housing





#### Community Supports Referral Form: Keeping Members at the Home and Chronic Conditions

#### Which Community Supports does this referral form cover?

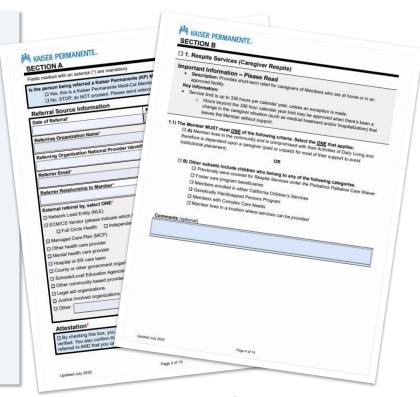
This referral form is for the CS services aimed to Keep the Member and Home and for Chronic Conditions, which includes:

#### **Keeping Members at Home**

- 1. Respite Services (Caregiver Respite)
- Assisted Living Facility Transitions
- 3. Community or Home Transition Services
- Personal Care and Homemaker Services
- 5. Environmental Accessibility Adaptations (Home Modifications)

#### **Chronic Conditions**

- 6. Medically Tailored Meals/Medically-Supportive Food
- Asthma Remediation





#### Submitting Referrals | ECM, CS, and CHW

Kaiser Permanente (KP) has a <u>no-wrong-door</u> approach to referrals.

- Referrals are accepted from any source (members, providers, family, community organizations, etc.)
- Referrals may be placed via email, via phone, or through KP Health Connect.



#### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNTIES

1-833-721-6012 (TTY 711) Monday-Friday (closed major holidays) 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Send completed <u>referral form</u> to <u>REGMCDURNs-KPNC@kp.org</u>

Subject line: "ECM Referral" or "CS Referral" or "CHW services request"

#### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNTIES

1-866-551-9619 (TTY 711) Monday-Friday (closed major holidays) 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Send completed <u>referral form</u> to <u>RegCareCoordCaseMgmt@kp.org</u>

Subject line: "ECM Referral" or "CS Referral" or "CHW services request"

NEW: For KP contracted providers/organizations submitting referrals to your own ECM/CS/CHW organization, please send the referral form directly to your contracted Network Lead Entity.





## Collaborative Updates, Announcements, and Resources



#### **BHSA - Opportunity to Get Involved**

Courtney Lubell, Ventura County Behavioral Health

Ventura County Behavioral Health is hosting Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Community Program Planning (CPP) meetings to share final-year updates of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) and to gather public feedback on upcoming Proposition 1 changes to behavioral health.

The Community Planning meetings will include two virtual CPP meetings and three in-person meetings. Locations, dates, and times can be accessed here:

www.WellnessEveryDay.org/bhsa.



### Sharing Best Practices: Interface Children & Family Services





Interface Children & Family Services and BluePath Health CalAIM TA Success Story

August 21, 2025

**Session Recording to be provided in newsletter** 



Kelly Brown
Community Information Officer
Interface Children & Family Services



## Reminder: TA Marketplace Applications due December '25

#### Step 1

#### Anyone Can Browse the TA Marketplace

Anyone can browse services on the TA Marketplace without creating an account! Browse the Marketplace and learn how to access free TA services to help implement ECM and Community Supports.

Browse Marketplace

#### Step 4 Select a TA Project

After exploring the TA Marketplace, approved TA Recipients should identify the TA Project and Vendor that meets their TA needs. You can compare vendors and projects based on Vendor's unique points and client testimonials.

#### Step 2

#### Find Out If I'm Eligible to Shop the TA Marketplace

While anyone can browse the TA Marketplace, you must qualify and apply to be a TA Recipient to shop and receive free TA services from the Marketplace.

Learn More

#### Step 5 (Recommended) Connect with a Vendor

Approved TA Recipients can reach out to TA Vendors directly to discuss their ability to provide the types of TA services that their organization might need. This is highly recommended for TA Recipients that select Hands-On projects. Contact information for the TA Vendor is available on every TA Vendor Profile Page.

### Step 3 Apply to Shop the TA Marketplace

Ready to shop? Start your application to become a TA Recipient and shop the Marketplace.

Apply Now

#### Step 6 Apply for a TA Project

Once TA Recipients have identified a TA Project and Vendor that meets their TA needs, Recipients must complete the Project Eligibility Application (PEA). The purpose of the PEA is to vet the ideas for TA Projects put forward by TA Recipients and Vendors for appropriateness within the CalAIM PATH framework.



## Please Share Your Input





### **DHCS** requests your feedback

This statewide PATH Collaborative survey measures:

- The impact of participation in the collaborative
- The value of partnerships across organizations
- The sustainability of our progress





## Medi-Cal Voices and Vision Council Application

The Voices and Vision Council offers a dedicated space for Medi-Cal members, MCPs, providers, community-based organizations, and state partners that work with Medi-Cal members to provide direct input to the DHCS executive leadership team regarding Medi-Cal program policies, programs, and implementation.





## **Looking Ahead**

Sept. I	7
11am-12:30	pm

on Zoom

**All Tri Counties Collaborative Meeting** 

#### Oct. 16

12-1:30pm in person

Ventura Collaborative Meeting
Ventura County Community Foundation Building, Camarillo

#### **Nov. 19**

11am-12:30pm **on Zoom**  **All Tri Counties Collaborative Meeting** 

#### **Dec. 17**

11am-12:30pm on **Zoom**  All Tri Counties Collaborative Meeting



#### Save the Date!



In-Person Meeting at the Ventura County
Community
Foundation Building

on Thursday, October 16

More details to follow!



#### See you in September!

## Tri Counties CalAIM PATH Collaborative Meeting

September 17 | 11:00am - 12:30pm *On Zoom* 

# Register for the Collaborative:



## Thanks for joining!

Questions? pathinfo@bluepathhealth.com



## **Office Hours**



# Questions?



# Appendix

### Closed-Loop Referral (CLR) Overview

#### **Definition**

**Closed-Loop Referral (CLR):** A referral initiated on behalf of a Medi-Cal Managed Care Member that is tracked, supported, monitored and results in a *known closure*. A **known closure** occurs when a Member's initial referral loop is completed with a known outcome.

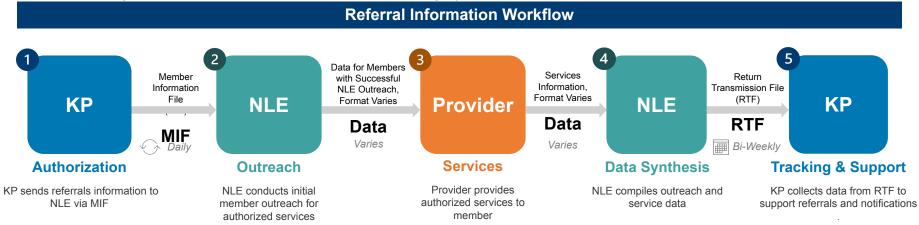
#### **Background Requirement Components** CLR requirements effective on July 1, 2025 solely apply Tracking Referral: Track a minimum set of data for two services: elements for each referral Enhanced Care Management – all Population of Focus (PoF) Community Supports – all services upon go-live, except Supporting Referral & Closure: Provide **Sobering Centers** assistance with referral and processing, notifying members and referring entities and work with The goal is to increase the share of Medi-Cal Members providers to troubleshoot challenges successfully connected to the services they need by identifying and addressing gaps in referral practices and service availability. Monitoring Referrals: Monitor data to resolve DHCS intends to expand similar CLR requirements to challenges across referral partners, internal other applicable services (i.e. CHW) over time. An official operations, and providers timeline has not been shared other than for BH services beginning in some time in 2026.

<sup>\*</sup>DHCS has shared that they are giving Plans a 1-year grace period to implement systems and processes for CLR for ECM/CS after the CLR policy is effective on July 1, 2025.



### **ECM & CS Provider Reporting Changes Due to CLR Guidance**

- Data elements will be updated on the MIF and RTF to meet Closed Loop Referral (CLR) data requirements, including but not limited to:
  - Contact Information for Referring Organization / Person
  - Referral Status: Pending, Accepted, Declined, Outreach Initiated, Referral Loop Closed
  - Reason for Referral Loop Closure: Services Received, Service Provider Declined, Unable to Reach Member, Member No Longer Eligible for Services, Member No Longer Needs Services or Declines, Other, Authorization Denied (determined only by KP)
- For more information on how **CLR** and **MIF/RTF** updates may impact your organization, please contact your contracted **Network Lead Entity** (Full Circle Health Network, Independent Living Systems, Partners in Care).



### Additional NLE Provider Support | NLE Contact Information, SCAL

Kaiser Permanente is working with Network Lead Entities (NLEs) to develop a network of community-based ECM, CS, and CHW providers.







#### **Contracted Providers**

Second/Fourth Thursdays 1:00 – 2:00 pm <u>Join Meeting Now</u>

#### **Prospective Providers**

First Thursdays of the Month 1:00 - 2:00 pm Join Meeting Now

#### **Questions?**

 $\frac{ILSCAProviderRelations@ilshealth.co}{\underline{m}}$ 

Phone number: 844-269-3447

#### **Contracted Providers**

Tuesdays 3:00 - 4:00 pm Register and Join Here

#### **Prospective Providers**

Second/Fourth Thursdays of the Month

12:00 - 1:00 pm

Register and Join Here

#### **Questions?**

network@fullcirclehn.org

Phone number: 888-749-8877

#### **Questions?**

Email: Hubinfo@picf.org Phone: 818-837-3775

\* Partners In Care only serves the Southern California region



## **Kaiser Permanente Appendix Items**

Included in this meeting's appendix will be....



CalAIM (ECM/CS/CHW) Referral Information



Network Lead Entity Office Hours Information

- Current Providers
- Prospective Providers



Contact Information for Independent Living Systems (ILS), one of Kaiser Permanente's Network Lead Entities



Streamlined Authorization Recommendations for Enhanced Care Management

# Have additional questions?

Contact your county's Medi-Cal Engagement Representative!

Gillian Stucki (she/her)

Ventura County

Gillian.H.Stucki@kp.org



### NLE: Independent Living System (ILS) | Contact Information



General Questions?
<a href="#">ILSCAProviderRelations</a>
<a href="#">@ilshealth.com</a>
<a href="#">844-269-3447</a>

#### Northern CA

Lorena Ahumada

Lahumada@ilshealth.com

510-960-0980

Counties: Alameda, Amador, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, Placer, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Sutter, Yolo, Yuba

#### **Central CA**

**Kenya Buford-Shelley** 

Kshelley@ilshealth.com

559-894-0585

Counties: El Dorado, Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Monterey, Tulare

#### Southern CA

**Patty Martinez-Luna** 

Nmartinezluna@ilshealth.com

442-414-2285

Counties: Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Ventura



### **Streamlined Authorization for Enhanced Care Management (ECM)**

Below summarizes Kaiser Permanente's streamlined ECM authorization process.

#### **Details**

- Streamlined Authorization is <u>only</u> for ECM providers who are currently contracted with Network Lead Entities (NLEs).
- Streamlined Authorization applies only to ECM, not CS or CHW.
- Providers can begin working with members right away, but they must submit an ECM referral through their NLE no later than 5 working days before the end of the streamlined authorization period.
- Total Streamlined Authorization period is 30 days or up to the date KP makes and communicates the authorization, whichever comes first.
- Providers will be paid for the 30-day ECM authorization period.
- Streamlined Authorizations route back to the original provider and ECM Lead Care Manager through the NLE.

#### Do's & Don'ts

- DO submit an ECM referral through contracted NLEs.
- DO indicate "Streamlined Authorization" on the referral form
- DO add the first date of start of services to completed referral.
- DO submit an ECM referral no later than 5 business days before the Streamlined Authorization period ends.
- DON'T submit a Streamlined Authorization for CS or CHW; the Streamlined Authorization is for ECM only.

#### **How To Submit**

- Email the ECM referral directly to the contracted NLE.
  - Full Circle Health Network: referral@fullcirclehn.org
  - Independent Living Systems: kpreferrals@ilshealth.com
  - Partners in Care Foundation: <u>ECM@picf.org</u>
- Send any questions directly to the contracted NLE.
- To resolve issues, email the NLE and cc: medi-cal-externalengagemen t@kp.org



### Submitting Referrals | ECM, CS, and CHW

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# Resources for Supporting Immigrant Communities



<u>Health Care Providers and</u>
<u>Immigration Enforcement: Know Your</u>
<u>Rights, Know Your Patients' Rights</u>



805 Immigrant Rapid Response
Network Resources (English and
Spanish) and Upcoming Trainings



Migrant Family Safety Plan Toolkit (English and Spanish)



## **Volume 1 Community Supports Revisions**

- DHCS released <u>updated Community Supports definitions</u> for the following services in February 2025, with minimal changes released in April:
  - Assisted Living Facility (ALF) Transitions
  - Asthma Remediation
  - Community or Home Transition Services
  - Medically Tailored Meals/Medically Supportive Food
  - Personal Care and Homemaker Services (PCHS)
- These new definitions are effective July 1, 2025
- Added HCPCS Codes for all Community Supports definitions



# Community Supports With No Significant Updates (Volume 1)

- The following services do not have major definition updates:
  - Environmental Accessibility Adaptations (Home Modifications)
  - Respite Services
  - Sobering Centers



# Community Supports Revisions: Medically Tailored Meals Definitions

**Medically Tailored Meals (MTM):** Meals that adhere to established, evidence-based nutrition guidelines for specific nutrition-sensitive health conditions.

**Medically Tailored Groceries (MTG):** Preselected whole food items that adhere to established, evidence-based nutrition guidelines for specific nutrition-sensitive health conditions.



# **Community Supports Revisions: Medically Supportive Food**

**Medically Supportive Groceries:** Preselected foods that follow the DGA\* and meet recommendations for the recipients' nutrition-sensitive health conditions.

Produce Prescriptions: Fruits and vegetables, typically procured in retail settings, such as grocery stores or farmers' markets, obtained via a financial mechanism such as a physical or electronic voucher or card.

Healthy Food Vouchers: Vouchers used to procure pre-selected foods that follow the DGA\* and meet recommendations for the recipients' nutrition-sensitive health conditions, via retail settings such as grocery stores or farmers' markets.

**Food Pharmacy:** Often housed in a health care setting, providing patients with coordinated clinical, food, and nutrition education services targeted at specific nutrition-sensitive health conditions. The healthy food "prescription" includes access to a selection of specific whole foods appropriate for the specific health condition(s) that follow the DGA\* and meet recommendations for the targeted health condition(s).



# **Community Supports Revisions: Eligibility Criteria**

Individuals who have chronic or other serious health conditions that are nutrition sensitive, such as (but not limited to):

Cancer(s)

Cardiovascular disorders

Chronic kidney disease

Chronic lung disorders or other pulmonary

conditions such as asthma/COPD

Heart failure

Diabetes or other metabolic conditions

Elevated lead levels

End-stage renal disease, High cholesterol

Human immunodeficiency virus

Hypertension

Liver disease

Dyslipidemia

Fatty liver

Malnutrition

Obesity

Stroke

Gastrointestinal disorders

Gestational diabetes

High risk perinatal conditions

chronic or disabling mental/behavioral

health disorders



# **Community Supports Revisions: Asthma Remediation**

- Asthma Self-Management Education and In-Home Environmental Trigger Assessments are now covered under the Asthma Preventive Services (APS) Benefit (transition effective January 2026)
- Streamlines eligibility and documentation requirements
- Clarifies eligible supplies
- Confirms that supplies do not need to be delivered at a single point as long as service complies with \$7500 lifetime maximum



# Community Supports Revisions: Nursing Facility Transition

- Clarifies that members residing in private residences or public subsidized housing can be eligible for this support
- Clarifies that there are two distinct components of this Community Support:
  - Time-limited transition services and expenses
  - Ongoing assisted living services (not room and board, but support with Activities of Daily Living, meal prep, transportation, companion services, etc)



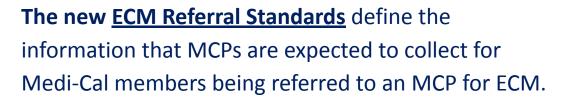
# **Community Supports Revisions: Community Transition Services**

- Clarifies that members may receive Housing
   Transition Navigation, Housing Deposits, and/or
   Home Modifications at the same time as
   Community Transition Services
- Clarifies that there are two distinct components of this Community Support:
  - Transitional coordination services (securing housing, landlord communication, etc.)
  - One-time set-up expenses (security deposits, utility set-up fees, air conditioner or heater, etc.)

## **ECM Referral Standards and Form**



DHCS developed new <u>ECM Referral Standards and Form Template</u> to streamline and standardize ECM Referrals made to Managed Care Plans (MCPs) from providers, community-based organizations, and other entities.



The new **ECM Referral Form Templates** are forms for use by MCPs and referring organizations that prefer a PDF or hard copy form to make a referral.

## **ECM Referral Standards and Form**



### The ECM Referral Standards and Form Templates define the following:

- Medi-Cal Member Information
- Referral Source Information
- Eligibility Criteria for Adults and Children/Youth
- Enrollment In Other Programs
- Referral Transmission Methods including guidance encouraging batch referrals

<sup>\*</sup>Note: The ECM Referral Standards will not change the existing processes for the MIF and RTF.