

QUALITY MANAGEMENT MEMO

To: System of Care Providers
From: Steve Jones, LCSW, QM Program Manager

Date: 9/7/18

Re: Specialty Mental Health Services Billing for Employment and Housing Specialists

Dear Mental Health Providers,

The memo applies only to Adult/Older Adult mental health programs that employ Employment Specialists (ES) and/or Housing Specialists (HS) and enter information into CCBH.

Effective immediately, the Quality Management Unit is directing all A/OA programs that employ either ES or HS positions to discontinue/cease providing or billing for Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS). This decision is based on a review of progress notes and billing that have been submitted for claiming to Medi-Cal.

At this time, QM has determined that ES and HS do not have the necessary training, education or experience to provide and claim for SMHS. While employment and housing services are important to the success and recovery of our clients, it has not yet been determined how and if these types of services can be claimed as SMHS. QM will be exploring this issue with the BHS A/OA CORS and BHS executive management.

QM is recommending that ES/HS use service code 815, non-billable support service Code to capture ES/HS services to clients. Information entered using a non-billable code will retain tracking for productivity expectations. If the program has questions, please contact your COR directly to discuss.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Please contact the QM Unit at QIMatters.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov with any questions.