



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

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**LME-MCO Communication Bulletin #J335**

Date: August 1, 2019  
To: Local Management Entities/Managed Care Organizations (LME-MCOs)  
From: Kathy Nichols, Associate Director of Services and Supports, DMH/DD/SAS,  
Deb Goda, Behavioral Health Unit Manager, NC Medicaid  
Subject: State-Funded Peer Support Services (PSS) authorizations

This bulletin informs LME-MCOs that effective Aug. 1, 2019 the State-funded Peer Support Services (PSS) service definition will go live and the following billing codes will be used for State-funded PSS:

<b>PSS- individual</b>	<b>PSS- group</b>
H-0038	H-0038HQ

DMHDDSAS recognizes that some individuals currently receiving State-funded PSS could have existing authorizations in place that extend through the implementation of the new service definition. These authorizations may have to be re-issued to reflect the change in billing code for the service. Per the new service definition, a Comprehensive Clinical Assessment (CCA) or assessment that contains the same clinical information as a CCA, a Person-Centered Plan (PCP), and service order for medical necessity are required for any authorizations effective Aug. 1, 2019, and thereafter.

LME-MCOs have the authority to determine if it is clinically appropriate to waive the CCA and PCP requirements on extended or re-issued authorizations to allow PSS providers to continue to access unused units on existing authorizations. This exception would only be considered for authorizations dated prior to Aug. 1, 2019. Alternatively, LME-MCOs can determine that new authorizations and new documentation are to be submitted by PSS providers for authorizations dated prior to Aug. 1, 2019, using unmanaged units as defined in the new service definition. PSS providers will be expected to submit the required documentation for any service authorizations effective Aug. 1, 2019, or later. PSS providers should contact their LME-MCO to determine what documentation they will require to re-issue existing authorizations for PSS services.

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**NC MEDICAID • DIVISION OF HEALTH BENEFITS**

LOCATION: 1985 Umstead Drive, Kirby Building, Raleigh, NC 27603  
MAILING ADDRESS: 2501 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2001  
27699-3001 www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-855-4100 • FAX: 919-715-9451

**DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL  
DISABILITIES AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES**

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PSS are an evidenced-based model of care that provides community-based recovery services directly to an adult diagnosed with a mental health or substance use disorder. PSS provides structured, scheduled services that promote recovery, self-determination, self-advocacy, engagement in self-care and wellness and enhancement of community living skills of individuals. PSS services are directly provided by Certified Peer Support Specialists (CPSS) who have self-identified as a person(s) in recovery from a mental health or substance use disorder. PSS can be provided in combination with other approved mental health or substance use services or as an independent service, and can be delivered in an individual's home, community, office, hospital emergency department or hospital in-patient setting. They can be provided in group or individual settings.

If you have any questions, please contact Stacy A. Smith at 919-715-2368 or [stacy.smith@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:stacy.smith@dhhs.nc.gov).

Previous bulletins can be accessed at: [www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/mhddsas/joint-communication-bulletins](http://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/mhddsas/joint-communication-bulletins)

cc: Kody Kinsley, DMH/DD/SAS, DSOHF  
Dave Richard, NC Medicaid  
Helen Wolstenholme, DSOHF  
NC Medicaid Leadership Team  
DMH/DD/SAS Leadership Team

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