

# Update Concerning Certain Mental Health Services In Nevada

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**EXHIBIT J – HEALTH CARE**  
Document consists of 21 pages.  
Entire exhibit provided.  
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# **I. Mental Health Care and the Affordable Care Act**

1. Provides tax credits and government subsidies for people (individuals, families, and adults without children) with incomes 138% - 400% of the federal poverty level.

**2. Medicaid Expansion (2014):  
Covers single adults up to 138 %  
of federal poverty**

# **Mental Health Care and the Affordable Care Act**

There will be four systems in place for reimbursement

1. Current Medicaid – 18-64
2. Medicaid expansion-Childless adults 18-64 at or below 138% FPL
3. Exchange- FPL 138-400% -Silver State Exchange
4. Private Insurances

# Mental Health Care and the Affordable Care Act: Medicaid Expansion | New Eligibles

Starting 2014, the ACA creates a new mandatory eligibility group that expands Medicaid to adults with incomes at or below 138 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL); \$15,415 for an individual in 2012. These individuals are considered “New Eligibles” under the Act and include those who are:

- Ages 19-65;
- NOT Pregnant;
- NOT entitled to/enrolled for benefits under Medicare;
- NOT otherwise eligible for Medicaid under the Social Security Act; and
- Whose income does not exceed 138% of the FPL.

This includes most of the Mental Health population in the system today

# Mental Health Care and the Affordable Care Act: Medicaid Expansion

## Federal funding for New Eligibles

- Cost of New Eligibles enrollees funded 100% by federal government in 2014 – 2016.
- State's share for New Eligibles will be 5% in 2017, increasing to 10% in 2020 and beyond.

# Mental Health Care and the Affordable Care Act: Nevada MHDS Data

- 30% of MHDS active clients are currently enrolled in Medicaid
- 57% of MHDS active clients have no insurance coverage
- 9% of active clients have another form of insurance (private ,Medicare)
- Based on MHDS Management Analyst Data

# Mental Health Care and the Affordable Care Act:

## Nevada MHDS Data

- Matching the Mental Health Uninsured population with income data from the Welfare data base we know that the majority (86%) of these clients fall below the 138% FPL.
- All of the current MHDS active clients that are uninsured and under 138% of FPL will become Medicaid eligible after Jan 2014.
- Estimated number of clients in system to be covered as newly eligible is 8,000.
- Other Nevadans not in our system may also qualify and will need to be counted.

# Mental Health Care and the Affordable Care Act: Essential Benefits

- Medicaid and the Exchange's health plans must cover "essential health benefits".
- Determination of these benefits is left up to individual states.
- Federally **"mental health and substance abuse disorder services, including behavioral health treatment"** is to be covered.



# Mental Health Care and the Affordable Care Act: Essential Benefits

We are working with Medicaid in the development of the Essential Benefit Package.

## Proposed Behavioral Health Services to consider:

- Inpatient-
- Step down services-partial hospitalization, outpatient services, intensive outpatient services
- Community based services
- Substance abuse –Inpatient detox and rehab.
- Substance abuse Step down-Intensive outpatient programs, telemedicine
- Habilitation-residential.

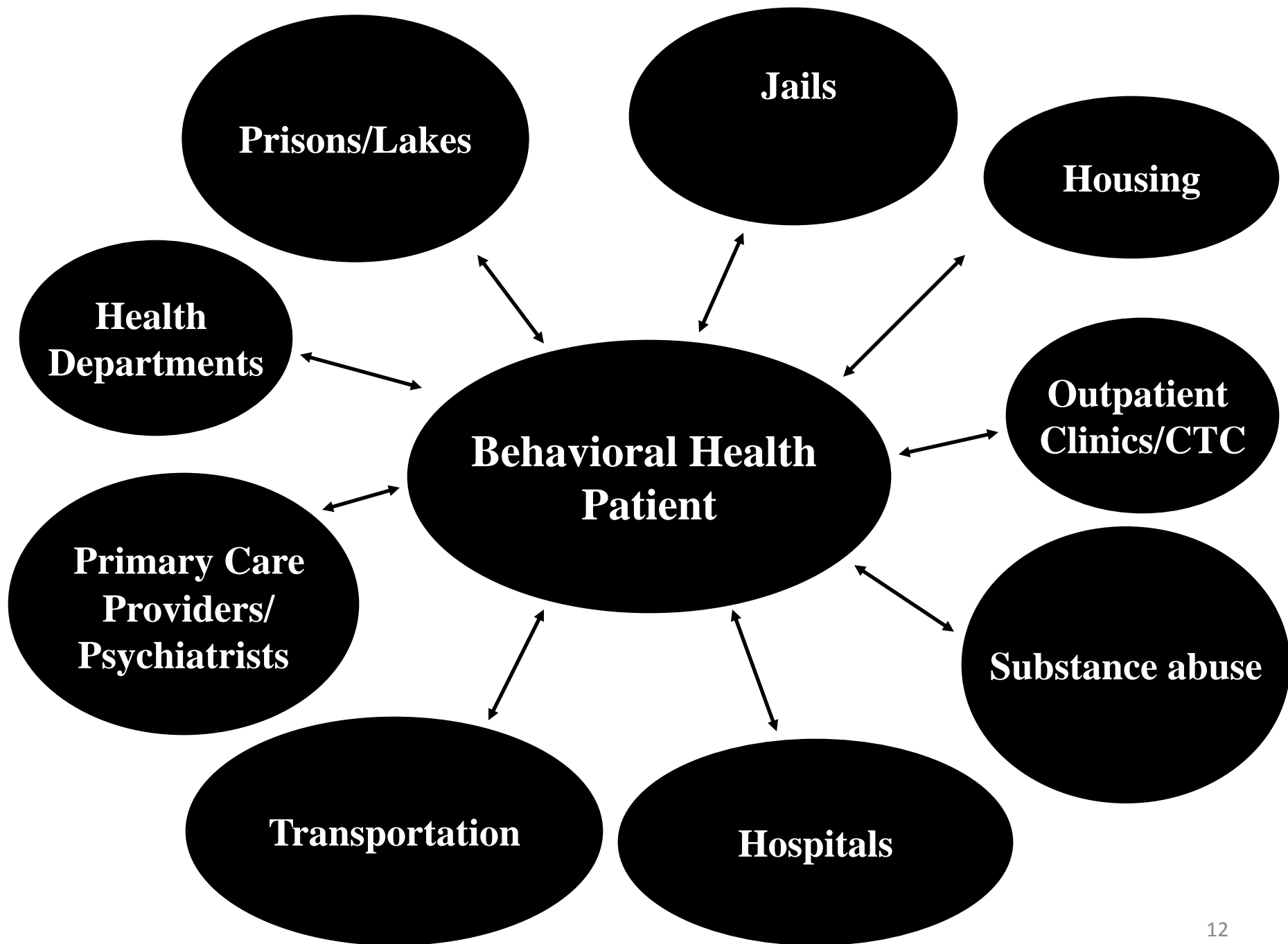
## II. Emergency Mental Health Services

Substance abuse or addiction  
needs to be included in Behavioral  
Health

Behavioral Health will be covered  
in the essential benefit package

# Emergency Mental Health Services

- Fragmented system
- Many clients enter the system via the Criminal Justice system or Emergency rooms.
- Primary medical care is Psychiatrist visit without integration of any medical services
- *Critical to integrate Medical and Behavioral health services!!!!*



# Emergency Mental Health Services

Adequacy of the current  
treatment delivery system

I. Mental Health

II. Substance abuse

# Emergency Mental Health Services: Forensic Jail Program

- Using the Public Health model of data collection a group of individuals were identified that had more than 2 hospitalizations in a period and involvement in the criminal justice system either jail, prison or parole.
- Using the integrated model for some frequent users of the system a Forensic Reentry program has been established that provides wrap around services for this group of high users. (PACT team)
- Program for Assertive Community Treatment

# Emergency Mental Health Services

**“Psychiatric patients, including children, routinely overwhelming emergency departments.”**

June 2008 study of the American  
College of Emergency Physicians

# Emergency Mental Health Services: Medical Clearance

Hospitals are available 24/7 and a system has been created where all mental health clients are taken to emergency rooms for medical clearance even when there is no indication or need for an emergency medical evaluation.



## NRS 433A.165

### Examination required before admission of person to mental health facility

- **Examination required before admission of person to mental health facility; treatment of certain medical conditions required before admission to mental health facility; payment of costs; exceptions; regulations.**
- 1. Before a person alleged to be a person with mental illness may be admitted to a public or private mental health facility pursuant to [NRS 433A.160](#), the person must:
  - (a) First be examined by a licensed physician or physician assistant licensed pursuant to [chapter 630](#) or [633](#) of NRS or an advanced practitioner of nursing at any location where such a physician, physician assistant or advanced practitioner of nursing is authorized to conduct such an examination to determine whether the person has a medical problem, other than a psychiatric problem, which requires immediate treatment; and
  - (b) if such treatment is required, be admitted for the appropriate medical care.

# Emergency Mental Health Services:

## Medical Clearance

- Worked with the Nevada Hospital Association and met with all Acute Care and Psychiatric Hospitals in their membership to review the emergency room issues and medical clearance.
- Established mechanism for alternative medical clearance sites
- We have created a standard medical clearance form

# Emergency Mental Health Services: Medical Clearance

- Co-locating CTC at NNAMHS for medical clearance
- EMS and law enforcement triaging and bringing clients to our facility for medical clearance
- Free standing psychiatric hospitals with medical staff providing their own medical clearance
- FQHC and Urgent cares providing the service of medical clearance.

# Emergency Mental Health Services:

## CPC: Civil Protective Custody

- Chronic inebriates are usually picked up by law enforcement and taken to the Emergency room for medical clearance
- In Northern Nevada all CPC clients are now triaged by EMS and law enforcement and are taken to the Community Triage Center where medical clearance occurs and triage occurs.
- Training done for law enforcement and EMS
- Model pending in the South

