



# North Sound Behavioral Health Organization, LLC

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North Sound BHO Contract Memorandum 2018-012

Date: June 7, 2018

To: Tom Sebastian, Compass Health and Compass Whatcom  
Donna Konicki, Bridgeways  
Jenny Billings, Lake Whatcom RTC  
Will Rice, Catholic Community Services Northwest  
Claudia D'Allegrì, Sea Mar  
Cammy Hart-Anderson, Snohomish County MH/CD/Vets Division Manager  
Phil Smith, Volunteers of America  
Shanon Hardie, Unity Care NW  
Sue Closser, Sunrise Services  
Robert Sullivan, Pioneer Human Services  
Beratta Gomillion, Center for Human Services  
Corky Hundahl, Phoenix Recovery Services  
Julie Lord, Pioneer Human Services  
Linda Grant, Evergreen Recovery Services  
Marli Bricker, Therapeutic Health Services

From: Joe Valentine

Subject: Revised Policy

Greetings BHA Providers:

Attached is Policy 1549.00, which was reviewed and approved with the following minor changes:

- a. All references to North Sound Mental Health Administration/NSMHA were changed to North Sound Behavioral Health Organization/North Sound BHO;
- b. All references to Designated Mental Health Professional/DMHP were changed to Designated Crisis Responder/DCR;
- c. Unidentified acronyms were identified the first time used; and
- d. All references to mental health were changed to behavioral health.

## **Policy 1549.00 – Disaster Preparedness**

This revised policy has been through the review and approval process. The Executive Director signed and approved this policy June 7, 2018.

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Please ensure all appropriate staff receives this information.

The NM contains policy below for your convenience.

Full implementation of this policy should occur no later than 60 days after this memo.

A redlined copy of Policy 1549.00 will be included as separate attachments via the email.

cc: Cindy Ferraro, Bridgeways  
Becky Olson-Hernandez, Compass Health  
Kay Burbidge, Lake Whatcom RTC  
Pat Morris, Volunteers of America  
Katherine Scott, Sea Mar  
Richard Sprague, Unity Care NW  
Danae Bergman, Center for Human Services  
Jackie Henderson, Island County Coordinator  
Barbara LaBrash, San Juan County Coordinator  
Rebecca Clark, Mental Health Program Coordinator Skagit County  
Anji Jorstad, Snohomish County Coordinator  
Anne Deacon, Whatcom County Coordinator  
Marsh Kellegrew, Evergreen Recovery Services  
Rowell Dela Cruz, Pioneer Human Services  
Perry Mowery, Whatcom County  
Contract File

Effective Date: 1/20/2015; 1/10/2008; 11/21/2005  
Revised Date: 7/3/2014  
Review Date: 6/6/2018

## **North Sound Behavioral Health Organization**

### Section 1500 – Clinical: Disaster Preparedness

Authorizing Source: North Sound BHO contract

Cancels:

See Also:

Providers must comply with this policy and may develop  
Individualized implementation guidelines as needed

Responsible Staff: Deputy Director

Approved by: Executive Director

Signature:

Date: 6/7/2018

## **POLICY #1549.00**

### **SUBJECT: DISASTER PREPAREDNESS**

### **PURPOSE**

To ensure the North Sound Behavioral Health Organization (North Sound BHO) complies with all state and federal requirements regarding disaster preparedness.

North Sound BHO is committed to meeting the needs of its enrolled individuals and all residents of our Region during disasters. Resources will be prioritized first to those with the greatest need.

### **POLICY**

North Sound BHO must participate in all disaster preparedness activities and respond to emergency/disaster events (e.g., natural disasters, acts of terrorism) when requested by Department of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR). North Sound BHO will comply with this policy through its subcontracts with providers.

### **PROCEDURE**

North Sound BHO shall:

1. Attend DBHR-sponsored training regarding the role of the public mental health system in disaster preparedness and response.
2. Participate in local emergency/disaster planning activities when county Emergency Operation Centers and local public health jurisdictions request collaboration.
3. Provide Disaster Outreach Services, required in the Behavioral Health State Contract (BHSC), in North Sound BHO's service area in the event of a disaster/emergency.
  - a. Disaster Outreach Services means contacting persons in their place of residence or in non-traditional settings for the purpose of assessing their behavioral health and social functioning following a disaster or increasing the utilization of human services and resources.
  - b. There are two basic approaches to outreach: mobile (going person to person) and community settings (e.g., temporary shelters, disaster assistance sites, disaster information forums) The outreach process must include the following:

- i. Locating persons in need of disaster relief services;
  - ii. Assessing their needs;
  - iii. Engaging or linking persons to an appropriate level of support or disaster relief services;
  - iv. Providing follow-up mental health services when clinically indicated.
4. Disaster Outreach can be performed by trained volunteers, peers and /or persons hired under Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Crisis Counseling Grant. These persons should be trained in disaster crisis outreach which is different than traditional mental health crisis intervention.
5. Conduct post-disaster outreach to determine the need for disaster related crisis counseling and assess the availability of local resources in meeting those needs.
6. Provide the name and contact information to DBHR for person(s) coordinating the North Sound BHO disaster/emergency preparedness and response plan upon request.
7. Provide information and preliminary disaster response plans to DBHR within 7 days following a disaster/emergency or upon request.
8. Partner in disaster preparedness and response activities with DBHR and other DSHS entities, the State Emergency Management Division, FEMA, the American Red Cross and other volunteer organizations.
  - a. This must include participation when requested in local and regional disaster planning and preparedness activities and coordination of disaster outreach activities following an event.
  - b. Disaster outreach crisis services for enrolled North Sound BHO individuals will be coordinated between North Sound BHO, North Sound BHO's Integrated Crisis Response Services (ICRS) and outpatient providers.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

None