



**STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES  
Bureau for Medical Services**

**Bill J. Crouch**  
Cabinet Secretary

**Cynthia E. Beane**  
Commissioner

TO: Licensed Behavioral Health Center (LBHC) Providers

FROM: Cynthia Beane  
Commissioner

DATE: 10/14/2021

SUBJECT: Temporary Rate Increases for Direct Care Services

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) which was signed into law on March 11, 2021, increases the federal matching rate for Medicaid HCBS spending by 10 percentage points from April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022. The law specifies that states must use the enhanced funds to “implement, or supplement the implementation of, one or more activities to enhance, expand, or strengthen” Medicaid HCBS.

West Virginia is directing that the majority of its enhanced funds is to assist provider agencies with the recruitment and retention of direct-care workers. This is critical as COVID-19 continues to significantly impact the availability of direct-care workers in Home and Community-Based (HCBS) programs.

The rates for direct-care services specified in the table below will be increased as indicated. Provider agencies will be required to attest in writing that at least eighty-five percent (85%) of the increased rate payments will be passed on to direct-care workers in the form of compensation increases as well as other incentives which may include but are not limited to retention bonuses, hiring bonuses, raises in wages, and increased benefit packages.

The increased rates for Licensed Behavioral Health Centers were entered in Gainwell’s system on 10/01/2021. Retroactive payments (ad pays) for these programs will automatically be issued by Gainwell for paid claims with dates of service between 7/1/21 and 3/31/22. Licensed Behavioral Health Centers are not to reverse and replace paid claims for which they have received ad pays. Managed Care Organizations (MCO’s) will adjust their systems accordingly. Agencies that are not currently providing the above services are not eligible to receive the retroactive rate increases.

For the purposes of this effort to address the workforce shortage, the term “direct-care” includes all workers that provide a Medicaid reimbursable service to behavioral health members. In addition to increasing compensation and benefits for workers that provide these services listed above, a portion of the 85% of the increased rate payments may be used to increase compensation and benefits to other workers of direct care services at the agency. Agencies have until 12/31/2024 to obligate the ARPA funds received through the increased rates. Agency directors, administrators, board members, clerical workers and other staff that do not regularly provide direct-care services are not eligible for increased compensation or benefits from the 85% of the increased rate payments.

If you have questions regarding the rate increases or other information in this memo, please contact Cynthia Parsons, BH & LTC Director Email: [Cynthia.A.Parsons@wv.gov](mailto:Cynthia.A.Parsons@wv.gov) Phone: 304-352-4254

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND ATTESTATION

My signature below acknowledges that I have read and understand the information and requirements addressed in this memo, including that 85% of the referenced payment increases will be passed on to direct-care workers in the form of compensation increases and other incentives. Further, my signature attests that the agency will comply with the terms and conditions of receiving said funds and will report any discrepancies to the West Virginia Bureau for Medical Services.

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Agency Name and Address

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CEO/President Printed Name

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Printed Title

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Signature

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Date

Please return signed document by October 31, 2021, to Laura Radcliff, [laura.g.radcliff@wv.gov](mailto:laura.g.radcliff@wv.gov) 350 Capitol Street, Room 250, Charleston, WV 25301. FAX 304-558-1451

Program	Service	Service Code	Unit	Current Rate	Rate Increase	% of Increase	Effective Dates for Rate Increase
LBHC	Behavioral Health Counseling Supportive Individual	H0004	15 min	\$16.92	\$28.76	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22.
LBHC	Behavioral Health Counseling Professional, Individual	H0004 HO	15 min	\$30.84	\$52.43	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Behavioral Health Counseling Professional, Group	H0004 HO HQ	15 min	\$6.60	\$11.22	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Behavioral Health Counseling Supportive Group	H0004 HQ	15 min	\$4.80	\$8.16	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Mental Health Assessment by a Non-Physician	H0031	Event	\$144.00	\$244.80	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Mental Health Service Plan Development	H0032	15 min	\$19.98	\$33.97	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Mental Health Service Plan Development by Psychologist	H0032 AH	15 min	\$36.00	\$61.20	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Community Psychiatric Support Services CSU	H0036	15 min	\$16.08	\$27.34	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Assertive Community Treatment ACT	H0040	Per calendar day	\$73.90	\$125.63	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Comprehensive Medication Services	H2010	15 min	\$18.20	\$30.94	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Crisis Intervention	H2011	15 min	\$19.90	\$33.83	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Skills Training 1:2-4 by Professional	H2014HNU1	15 min	\$9.95	\$16.92	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Skills Training 1:1 by Professional	H2014HNU4	15 min	\$19.90	\$33.83	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Skills Training 1:2-4 by Paraprofessional	H2014U1	15 min	\$5.00	\$8.50	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Skills Training 1:1 by Paraprofessional	H2014U4	15 min	\$10.00	\$17.00	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Comprehensive Community Support Services CFT	H2015 U1	15 min	\$2.70	\$4.59	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Comprehensive Community Support Services CFT	H2015 U2	15 min	\$3.18	\$5.41	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Therapeutic Behavioral Services - Implementation	H2019	15 min	\$9.90	\$16.83	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Therapeutic Behavioral Services - Development	H2019HO	15 min	\$25.70	\$43.69	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Targeted Case Management	T1017	15 min	\$14.35	\$24.40	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22
LBHC	Peer Support Services	H0038	15	\$14.35	\$24.40	70%	7/1/21-3/31/22