BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH SOLUTIONS

Montana Behavioral Add-On

Transition Review Committee

Transition Review Committee

Testimony provided by:

Dr. Kristina Kovacs, PhD
Chief Clinical Officer
Behavioral Health Solutions

Bill Treese
CEO and Founder
Behavioral Health Solutions

Updated Application Outcomes

Submission Results: 99 applications total (**29** submitted since 10/23/24 update with 8 still pending)

- **Approved:** 69 total

- **19** approved since 10/23/24 update
  - 10 Approved prior to appeal (34% approval)
  - 9 Approved after appeal (65% overall approval)

Despite meeting the criteria for the levels applied for, many applications were still downgraded or denied.

Barriers to Communication and Policy Transparency

Processing Add-On Requests with Mountain Pacific Quality Health QIO

- **Poor Communication:**
- Only method of contact is 1-800-219-7035
- Leave voicemails and do not receive return call
- Often transferred repeatedly to get questions answered
- Receive conflicting information and answers
- **Lack of Transparency:**
- Refusal to provide denial justification or link to policy
- Answer is to resubmit
- Cycle of submission, denial, appeal, resubmission

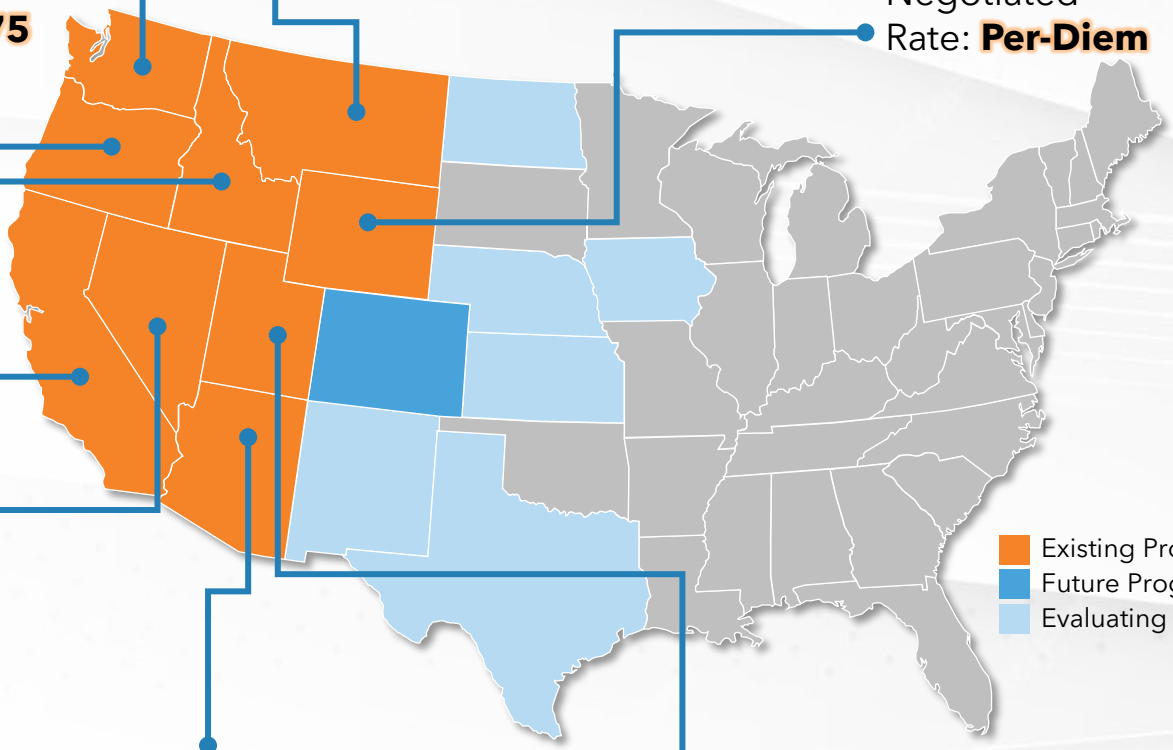
Category D ALF

Dr. Kristi Kovacs, PhD

- Multi-state comparison
- ARM act as deterrent to participation
- Stringent requirements disincentivize:
  - Construction
  - Staffing
  - Administrator

Behavioral Health Programs

Current programs and rates



Expanded Behavioral Supports (EBS & EBS+)
Add-on Rate: $80 - $175

Medicaid Nursing Facility Add-on
Add-on Rate: $80 - $225

Extraordinary Care Negotiated Rate: **Per-Diem**

Locked Specialized Units (ECU)
Rate: $765

Behavioral Care Units (BCU's)
Add-on Rate: $150 - $200

STP/PATCH Program
Add-on Rate: $200 - $800

Behaviorally Complex Care Program (BCCP)
Add-on Rate: $111 - $326

Behavioral Care Units (locked units)
Negotiated Enhanced Rate: $125 - $500

Behaviorally Complex Program (BCP)
Add-on Rate: $7.50

- States are creating behavioral health programs to assist with consistent challenges:
  - Difficult to discharge patients
  - Lack of available behavioral care
  - High utilizers bouncing from acute to homelessness to jails to psych hospital
  - Significant inpatient lengths of stay

Advocacy Update

Bill Treese

- Met with Governor Gianforte Oct. 23rd to discuss value of behavioral add-ons in MT.
- Met with Governor's Policy Director, Rachel Green November 15 to discuss challenges and potential resolutions.
- Response on resolution expected 12/16/24

BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH SOLUTIONS
THANK YOU