

March 30, 2016

## **Uniform Patient Fee Schedule and 2016 Federal Poverty Level Guidelines**

Dear Providers:

Please see the attached '**Uniform Patient Fee Schedule**' aligned with '**2016 Federal Poverty Level (FPL) Guidelines**' to determine a yearly Sliding Fee amount that the Client or their Responsible Party can pay for mental health services they received from BHS (*formerly known as CBHS*) Providers. **Note:** Family Registration form must be completed every year in order to determine a Client's UMDAP liability amount in the Avatar CalPM system.

The UMDAP (Uniform Method for Determining Ability to Pay) has not changed since a single statewide fee schedule was issued in 1989, based on the California Tax Schedule Rate. According to the 2016 FPL, anyone with a monthly income of **\$950 or LESS**, may qualify for Medi-Cal or for Healthy San Francisco (HSF) program, regardless of their immigration status, employment status, or pre-existing medical conditions. County Providers are required to refer these Clients to an Eligibility Worker so they can obtain Medi-Cal benefits and/or other entitlements. Providers may adjust UMDAP amounts for therapeutic reasons or financial hardships. The UMDAP Adjustment Reason must be documented in the Client's chart or progress notes.

## **History**

The UMDAP System was developed and implemented in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 1972/73 for use by Short-Doyle (SD) funded local mental health and contract providers.

Originally, UMDAP had four fee schedules for different geographic parts of the state. These fee schedules were based on income tax rates and the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics family budget data which was discontinued in 1982. From 1982-1985, the Consumer Price Index was used to update the regional fee schedules.

Effective July 1, 1985, the fee schedules were revised into a single statewide fee schedule. The single schedule was based on the California Tax Schedule rate and was adjusted for each additional family member's consumption. The DMH developed the fee schedule after obtaining input from county mental health administrators and clinicians.

The last Uniform Fee Schedule (Attachment C) was issued as part of DMH Information Notice No. 89-52 on September 20, 1989. The fee schedule went into effect October 1, 1989 and remains applicable.

During 1993 and 1994, DMH obtained input on the fee schedule through the Financial Services Committee of the California Mental Health Director's Association (CMHDA). No change in the fee schedule resulted.

In 1996, CMHDA established a work group under the Financial Services Committee to recommend UMDAP changes. The UMDAP work group is currently in the midst of identifying and getting concurrence on their suggested changes.