

HIV Health Services Planning Council Sacramento TGA

Policy and Procedure Manual

Subject: Other Critical Need

No.: SSC 16

Date Approved: 5/26/04

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1. Ryan White funding is to be used for HIV/AIDS medical services and for psycho-social and support services which significantly improve access and adherence to medical services. As such, any other critical needs services which are provided by agencies which receive Ryan White funding (“RW Agencies”) shall be related to healthcare or other critical needs.
2. Ryan White funding is to be expended in a cost effective, equitable manner which is based upon verified client need and encourages self-empowerment of clients. Other Critical Needs services which are paid for with Ryan White funds shall be administered through case management services which are provided in accordance with the allocations priorities and directives which are adopted by the Sacramento TGA HIV Health Services Planning Council (Planning Council), or through an alternative assessment process administered by a RW Agency.
3. In accordance with the above:
 - a. This assistance is intended to provide access to a range of services which address needs frequently encountered by People Living with HIV (PLWH). The emphasis is on maintenance of health.
 - i. To be eligible for Other Critical Need assistance, the requested service must directly assist the client in overcoming a barrier to accessing medical care or adhering to a medical regimen.
 - b. All requests for funding will be accompanied by an assessment of the individual’s need for the designated service, completed by a designated representative of the case management agency. Assessment findings will be documented in case notes.
 - c. Vendor payment is required.
 - i. Assistance shall not be given in the form of direct cash to clients.
 - d. In conjunction with accessing Other Critical Need assistance, the case manager will work with the client to develop a budget that enables the client to live within their existing resources.
 - e. Other Critical Needs assistance will identify and utilize the most cost effective solution to the presented problem.

4. RW Agencies which provide Other Critical Needs assistance shall develop and adhere to budgets which reflect the principles referred to above. In addition, if available funding levels are anticipated to be less than the total need, agencies shall ensure that funds are distributed among the maximum possible number of clients who rely on RW funded Other Critical Needs assistance. Agencies shall assure that no client receives any RW funded services unless such client is found to be eligible for services under such Eligibility Standards as may be adopted by the Planning Council.
5. Medical Case Managers at RW Agencies may at any time submit to the RW Fiscal Agent requests for interpretation and/or exception of these or any other service standards adopted by the HIV Health Services Planning Council, based on the unique medical needs of a client or on unique barriers to accessing medical care which may be experienced by a client.
6. RW Agencies shall provide a means by which Medical Case Managers can obtain in-service training and advice related to interpreting client medical needs.
7. Clients shall have the right to request a review of any service denials under this or any other Services Standards adopted by the HIV Health Services Planning Council. The most recent review / grievance policies and procedures for the RW Agency shall be made available to each client upon intake.

Kane R. Ortega

Adopted:

Kane Ortega, Chair

Date: 4/27/11