



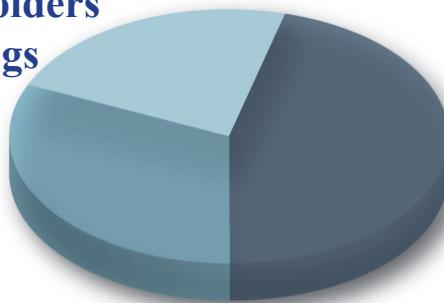
SB 946 IMPLEMENTATION & OUTREACH

June - October 2012

By the numbers

380 total face to face stakeholders trained

**85 General Stakeholders
via Regional Meetings**



120 TCRC & FRC Staff

**175 New Parents
via Orientations**

70 Live Events

30 of these events...

are Behavioral Services Orientations held once a month at most offices. Includes personal Health Insurance Q&A.

**500 Email &
Phone Responses**

TCRC Insurance Workgroup Projects Currently Under Construction

- Proposed Procedure Revisions reflecting new understanding of co-insurance and deductibles
- Revised information for parents and guidelines for Service Coordinators supporting families
- Billing Procedures for Vendors
- Vendorization Guidelines for New ABA Providers in Insurance Networks
- Health Plan Provider Network Update

SB 946 Implementation Report

Many families are currently in the process of accessing their health insurance for Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) treatment. Tri-Counties Regional Center has developed a system for payment of co-pays to vendors. ABA providers who are not currently vendored with TCRC but are contracted with health insurance providers are now able to complete vendor applications for co-pay payments only.

New questions are arising regarding payment of co-insurance costs. Many other Regional Centers are also beginning to view the co-insurance charges similarly to co-pays. TCRC will be developing additional rates and billing codes to reflect the various co-insurance rates which will also be considered for reimbursement through the exception process. Some health plans recently have begun charging only co-insurance and are waiving the co-pay because the services are provided in the home setting and are not considered an office visit.

Individual exception requests for assistance with out-of-pocket costs are being presented twice monthly at the Services Review Committee (SRC). This provides an opportunity to understand the various configurations of out-of-pocket costs, analyze the potential cost-effectiveness to TCRC and inform our decision-making process around issues still needing clarification.

As many health plans are nearing the end of the calendar year, TCRC is also considering the cost-effectiveness of meeting all or part of the individual deductible and attempting to determine the benefit of paying directly for the behavioral service through the end of this calendar year and beginning the new plan year by paying towards the deductible. We anticipate using the SRC forum to review cases through November and then expect to have enough information to complete revised procedures for payment of out-of-pocket insurance costs. An internal cross-department workgroup will be reviewing the emerging issues and making revisions to procedures related to SB 946 implementation during the coming weeks, as a result of the learning from SRC.

DMHC (Department of Managed Health Care) released new draft regulations regarding the implementation of SB 946 on 10/29. These regulations emphasize the expectation of Healthy Families and Cal PERS plans to provide services based upon the original intent of AB 88, CA Mental Health Parity Act, and states that the behavioral health treatments can be delivered by non-licensed providers (qualified autism services paraprofessionals) as defined in SB 946.

ABA Provider Update

- A Los Angeles provider and Keogel Autism Services will allow many families to continue with Keogel through private insurance.
- CenCal will transition all Healthy Families cases to Medi-Cal in January; therefore, TCRC expects to continue payment of ABA services for Healthy Families recipients in SB & SLO counties.
- Healthy Families Ventura is currently funding ABA services and will not transition until August, 2013, and has contracted with multiple TCRC ABA vendors to cover services through Healthy Families funding.