

SHBP PDC RESOLUTION # 2023-13

RESOLUTION OF THE STATE HEALTH BENEFITS PLAN DESIGN COMMITTEE TO MODIFY RESOLUTION 2019-2 AND TO CLARIFY AND EXPAND ELIGIBILITY FOR FIRST RESPONDERS DIRECT PRIMARY CARE MEDICAL HOME PILOT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14-17.29 et seq. the State Health Benefits Program (SHBP) provides health coverage to qualified employees and retirees of the State and participating local employers; and

WHEREAS, the SHBP was enacted in 1961 for the purpose of providing affordable health care coverage for public employees on a cost-effective basis; and

WHEREAS, all SHBP plans, with the exception of Medicare Advantage plans, are self-funded, which means that the money paid out for benefits comes directly from an SHBP fund supplied by the State, participating local employers, and member premiums; and

WHEREAS, on April 16, 2019, the SHBP Plan Design Committee (SHBP PDC) adopted Resolution 2019-02 that established a First Responders Direct Primary Care Medical Home (DPCMH) Pilot Program; and

WHEREAS, the Pilot Program was established to provide comprehensive primary care services for eligible members, including pharmacy, preventive care, episodic sick care, basic urgent care, and disease management; and to coordinate care of comprehensive specialist, hospital and outpatient services for eligible members; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 2019-2 stated eligible members who participate in the Pilot Program “shall pay no cost-sharing (copays, deductibles, or coinsurance) for medical services provided by the Pilot Program”; and

WHEREAS, in Resolution 2019-2 the SHBP Plan Design Committee reserved the right to make necessary adjustments to the Pilot Program to improve participation, improve qualitative results and maximize the outcomes as intended, and created a sub-committee of the SHBP PDC to be established by the SHBP PDC co-chairs to facilitate the goals of the Pilot Program; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 2021-01 which extended the duration of the Pilot Program, the Pilot Program will end on March 24, 2026; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 2019-2, the SHBP defined members eligible for the Pilot Program as “only first responders and their dependents, as well as certain designated support staff who require specialized medical care and ease of access to that care in light of the trauma they may experience, emanating from their roles as public safety and emergency services”; and

WHEREAS, the SHBP PDC wishes to clarify and expand the definition of members eligible for the services and enhanced benefits provided by the Pilot Program; and

WHEREAS, the SHBP PDC recognizes that in order to appropriately evaluate the qualitative results and assess the outcomes of the Pilot Program, and to advise the SHBP PDC accordingly, the Division of Pensions and Benefits requires additional, detailed, regular and frequent information from the Pilot Program vendor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. SHBP PDC Resolution 2019-02 is hereby modified to clarify and expand the employee titles which are eligible to participate in the First Responders Primary Medical Home (FRPMH) Pilot Program.
2. Members eligible for the Pilot Program as “First Responders” are those for the purposes of this Resolution are defined as the SHBP members, as well as their eligible dependents, who a) respond to emergencies or b) regularly are required by their job descriptions to engage with clients or patients who are experiencing trauma. For illustration purposes, the following are examples of members eligible for the Pilot Program in addition to those members set forth in Resolution 2019-2: employees of police and fire departments, emergency medical service personnel, dispatchers, park rangers, state and local correctional facility personnel, medical examiners, Office of the Attorney General investigators and county prosecutor’s office investigators, certain prison personnel, certain Department of Children and Families personnel such as child protection & permanency investigators and Institution Abuse Investigation Unit personnel and investigators and support staff who fit the definition above.), Department of Environmental Protection personnel (such as State Forest Firefighters and Emergency Response Specialists and support staff who fit the definition above) both paid and volunteer; Office of the Law Guardian Investigators and support personnel who fit the definition above; Department of Human Services personnel who fit the definition above (such as the Office of Program Integrity and Accountability personnel), and local developmental center facility personnel and local psychiatric facility personnel who fit the definition above.
3. The SHBP Plan Design Committee requests the Division of Pensions and Benefits work with the vendor(s) operating the Pilot Program, as well as any other vendor involved in the Pilot Program’s operation or implementation, to develop processes and requirements for the determination of any SHBP member’s eligibility for the Pilot Program.
4. The SHBP Plan Design Committee requests the Division of Pensions and Benefits obtain all documents and information it deems necessary and advisable for purposes of ensuring the Pilot Program’s consistency and compliance with this and all other applicable Resolutions, laws, regulations, and SHBP requirements.

5. The SHBP Plan Design Committee requests the Division of Pensions and Benefits develop processes for obtaining on a regular and frequent basis from the Pilot Program vendor all information, including but not limited to participating members' claims data, that the Division deems necessary and advisable for purposes of measuring and assessing Pilot Program qualitative results, savings or costs to the SHBP, clinical performance, health outcomes, and other aspects of the Pilot Program's operations that the Division may deem relevant to and consistent with the SHBP Plan Design Committee's objectives.

6. In addition to the members deemed eligible for the Pilot Program pursuant to Resolution 2019-2, members in the following titles are eligible for the Pilot Program.

Department of Children and Families

Child Protection & Permanency Investigators
Family Service Specialist Trainee
Family Service Specialist 1
Family Service Specialist 2
Supervising Family Service Specialist 1
Supervising Family Service Specialist 2
Supervisor of Investigations Child Protection
Asst Fmly Svc Wkr 1
Asst Fmly Svc Wkr 2
Asst Fmly Svc Wkr 3

Department of Human Services

Institution Abuse Investigation Unit
Investigator 1 Child Protection
Investigator 2 Child Protection
Investigator 3 Child Protection

Office of Program Integrity and Accountability, specifically the Incident Verification Unit and the Office of Investigation

Quality Assurance Coordinator (55955 & 55971)
Quality Assurance Specialist Health Services (55954 & 55954C)

Department of Environmental Protection

Section Forest Fire warden
Regional Forester
Assistant Regional Forester
Other DEP Divisions
Forest Fire Observer
Forest Fire Control Technician

Section Forest Firewarden
Forest Fire Pilot
Assistant Division Forest Firewarden
Supervising Forest Firewarden
Communications Operator Trainee (EP)
Communications Operator 1 (EP)
Communications Operator 2 (EP)
Communications Operator 3 (EP)
Communications Officer

Office of the Law Guardian Investigators

Investigator Apprentice (33350 & 33350C)
Investigator 1 (33453 & 33453C)
Investigator 2 (33454 & 33454C)
Investigator 3 (33455)

Institutional Titles

Psychiatrist
Psychologist
Charge Nurses
Supervisor of Nurses
Assistant Director of Nursing Services 1 (03855F & 03855G)
Advanced Practice Nurse
Social Worker 1
Social Worker 2
Assistant Social Worker Supervisor
Social Worker Supervisor
Nursing Services Clerk
Admitting Officer
Behavior Support Technician
Substance Abuse Counselor 2, 1
Cottage Training Supervisor
Residential Living Specialist
Emergency Medical Services Technician
Human Services Assistant
Human Services Technician
Institutional Trade Instructor 1
Institutional Trade Instructor 2
Medical Security Officer Recruit
Occupational Therapy Assistant
Physical Therapy Assistant
Practical Nurse
Principal Social Services Aide
Recreation Aide
Recreation Assistant
Senior Medical Security Officer

Senior Social Service Aide
Senior Therapy Program Assist
Senior Youth Worker
Social Service Aide
Sr Cott Trng Techn
Sr Hmn Svcs Techn
Sr Practl Nrs
Substance Abuse Assistant
Therapy Aide
Therapy Program Assistant
Training Assistant
X Ray Technician
Youth Worker

Public Safety Telecommunicator Trainee
Public Safety Telecommunicator
Senior Public Safety Telecommunicator
Supervising Public Safety Telecommunicator
Chief Public Safety Telecommunicator
County Emergency Management Coordinator

DATED: September 27, 2023