

CalAIM: MidPen's Experience

9/28/2023

About CalAIM

- California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) is a statewide program created in 2022 that seeks to improve access to healthcare services for multiple populations, including children, seniors, and people transitioning out of homelessness.
- Through CalAIM, Medi-Cal (Medicaid) managed care plans (MCPs) will forge partnerships with a wide variety of community-based organizations (CBOs), including housing and homeless service providers, to deliver person-centered care through a new statewide Enhanced Care Management (ECM) benefit and optional Community Supports.
- Housing-related community supports include:
 - Housing transition navigation services (e.g., assistance applying for and finding housing, signing a lease, securing resources for setup, utilities, moving in, reasonable accommodations);
 - Housing tenancy and sustaining services (e.g., early intervention around behaviors that might jeopardize housing, dispute resolution with landlords and neighbors, Ras, recertification support); and
 - Housing deposits.
- CalAIM is funded through the state MediCal system. The Department of Health Care Services administers the program regulations. Reforms will be phased in through 2027.
- County health departments are required to create a plan for how they will support community organizations with the aim of reducing utilization of county emergency health systems among people experiencing homelessness.

MidPen & CalAIM: Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Mateo Counties

- MidPen is currently only providing Community Supports or tenancy sustaining services, which are intended to aid the resident in maintaining their housing.
- These services are a combination of the general resident services that MidPen provides throughout our portfolio and the more specific services that our Services teams provides at our supportive housing communities.
- We are currently contracted with two Managed Care Plans: Health Plan San Mateo and Central Coast Alliance on Health.
- The reimbursement rate that we receive on a monthly basis per resident is \$444 for CCAH and \$464 for HPSM.
- We currently have about 110 residents signed up (across both counties) at 7 sites.
- We are currently serving high-need residents and we expect to increase the number of residents we serve modestly (by no more than 70 residents) across the existing sites in 2024.

- In 2024, we will add another community, Bienestar in Santa Cruz, serving 15 high needs residents. The reimbursement rate in Santa Cruz County is also \$444 per member per month.

Looking Forward

- It is important to recognize the corporate considerations that accompany CalAIM participation:
 - A CBO within CalAIM (defined as a Covered Entity) will be required to develop and implement HIPAA policies and procedures to address compliance with the law by making operational and applications changes to operational and application changes to integrate HIPAA policies, procedures, and best practices. This may affect billing, communications, technology and storage, and more.
- Current Challenges:
 - Healthcare system is siloed and fragmented. Not aligned with how we deliver housing. CalAIM is a step in the right direction, but there is a long road ahead.
 - While there is excitement about initial results, there are risks to demonstration/pilots in that they are not permanent; reliance on a waiver is somewhat risky.
 - Participation in the program can be a significant administrative burden on housing service providers, and counties are not aligned in their requirements, creating challenges for organizations that work across multiple counties.
- MidPen aims to share our experience and learn from other industries, join research and advocacy efforts, and help to shape a system where housing and healthcare dollars are better aligned.
- 2024 priority – Governor’s mental health reform and funding
 - SB 326 (Eggman) consists of MHSA reforms including updates to local categorical funding buckets, including 30% for housing interventions
 - AB 531 (Irwin) consists of a \$6.4 billion general obligation bond to fund a variety of interim/transitional beds and permanent supportive housing units.