

Behavioral Health Redesign Brief:

Guidance for the Specialized Recovery Services Referral Process

In the [MITS BITS sent on May 2](#), providers were instructed to refer individuals that may be eligible for the new Specialized Recovery Services (SRS) program to Ohio Medicaid. Ohio Medicaid will use this information to connect individuals to a recovery manager that will conduct an initial assessment to determine eligibility for the program.

The SRS program was designed in part to ensure continued access to Medicaid coverage for individuals who currently spend down their income to be eligible for benefits. **We encourage providers to prioritize these individuals in their referral** so that timely enrollment can occur prior to their next Medicaid eligibility renewal when spenddown will no longer apply.

In order to keep this process as effective and manageable as possible, providers are encouraged to prioritize their referrals based on the criteria below.

Please do not send a full list of all clients served who meet some of the criteria. Individuals must meet all criteria to be eligible.

Only refer individuals who meet the following three criteria:

- » Are age 21 or older;
- » Are diagnosed with a serious and persistent mental illness as listed in the [appendix](#) of Rule 5160-43-02; and
- » Have received Medicaid through spenddown at least once in the last 12 months. *Indicate the most recent month in which the client met spend down within the past 12 months.*

Additional eligibility criteria are listed below. We know that many providers may not have information available regarding these criteria. However, we encourage providers that have this information to prioritize individuals accordingly.

- » Have been determined disabled by the Social Security Administration. *The best evidence of an individual's disability determination is a Medicare card or a Social Security Administration Award letter;*
- » Have an income between \$743 and \$2,199 per month. *The best evidence of an individual's income is a Social Security Administration award letter;*
- » Need help with daily living activities such as medical appointments, social interactions and living skills; and
- » Do not live in a Nursing Facility, ICF-IID or are on a home and community-based waiver program such as Ohio Home Care, PASSPORT, Assisted Living, Individual Options, Level 1, SELF or Transition DD.

Providers should send referrals to the Ohio Department of Medicaid via secure e-mail at BHCP@medicaid.ohio.gov, with the subject line: *SRS Program Referrals*. Follow the instructions at the end of this notice to establish a secure e-mail connection with Ohio Medicaid.

The e-mail should include:

- » person's Medicaid ID (if on Medicaid);
- » name;
- » address;
- » telephone number; and
- » e-mail address.

Or, providers may download, complete, and submit the [referral template](#) via secure e-mail.

For help determining an individual's eligibility for the SRS program, providers may visit: <https://benefits.ohio.gov/ddr.html>

Directions for Establishing a Secure E-mail Connection with Ohio Medicaid:

- 1) Access the State's secure e-mail system: <https://web1.zixmail.net/s/login?b=oit>. *(Please Note: Providers can only use the State secure e-mail system to send secure e-mail to State of Ohio e-mail addresses.)*
- 2) Click the "Register" button at the bottom center of the page.
- 3) Follow the registration directions and establish an account.
- 4) Log-in and use the "Compose" tab to send an SRS referral e-mail or attach a completed SRS referral template to: BHCP@medicaid.ohio.gov

For More Information:

Visit <http://bh.medicaid.ohio.gov> often for regular updates and for upcoming materials which providers may use to assist with enrollment and education of individuals in the SRS program.

Sign up for our BH Redesign newsletter for all of the latest information: <http://bh.medicaid.ohio.gov/Newsletters>

Thank you for your cooperation to support the SRS enrollment process.