

Sandhills Center Continues Open Enrollment for Statewide Child Treatment Provider Network

What is happening?

North Carolina's Local Management Entities/Managed Care Organizations (LME/MCOs) launched the ***NC Child and Family Improvement Initiative*** on May 1, 2022, to create a statewide solution to the current pressing challenges of the service delivery system for youth in foster care.

Building on the ongoing successes of the ***NC Child and Family Improvement Initiative***, Sandhills Center continues to formalize a statewide network of child treatment providers to ensure that youth in the foster care system have continuity of care without delay when moving from one area of North Carolina to another.

The LME/MCOs offered an open enrollment period for all child treatment providers from August 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022. From August 1, 2022, to November 30, 2022, the LME/MCOs received a total of 1,301 applications for network enrollment, an average of 325 applications per month.

Based on the strong provider response to date, *Sandhills Center will continue accepting applications for network enrollment of child treatment providers to ensure children and adolescents have access to the services they need statewide.*

When is this happening?

Open Enrollment for child treatment providers is extended beyond December 31, 2022.

How is this affecting providers?

Sandhills Center will continue to offer an open enrollment period for child Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF), Level IV, Level III, Level II group and family, and Facility-Based Crisis (FBC) providers.

Provider Action Required:

If you are a child PRTF, Level IV, Level III, Level II group and family, or FBC provider and want to join Sandhills Center network, please submit the required information for review. Please note that your enrollment with NCTracks is a pre-requisite. Data for the provider agency, including NPI, taxonomy, sites, and affiliated clinicians, must all be in NCTracks to continue contracting with Sandhills Center or make changes to your contract .

What if a provider does not want to join an LME/MCO network at this time?

For providers who do not want to join an LME/MCO network, all LME/MCOs are offering out-of-network agreements for community-based and non-hospital services. While NC DHHS directs

reimbursement for these services to be 90% of the Medicaid rate, the LME/MCOs have agreed to pay at least 100% of the Medicaid rate for these services to strengthen statewide network and service capacity.

Who should providers contact with questions?

If you have questions, please contact us.

To learn more about the NC Child and Family Improvement Initiative, [click here](#).