



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Innovations in Wraparound Conference to Highlight Wyoming

CHEYENNE –Wyoming’s High Fidelity Wraparound program, also known as Medicaid’s Care Management Entity, will be featured as a best practice at the National Innovations in Wraparound conference in Tampa, Florida in March. The presentation will focus on data collection with an analysis of successful outcomes achieved by Wyoming’s program. Wyoming’s Care Management Entity was chosen as a best practice because of its year-over-year demonstration of how a frontier state using a High Fidelity Wraparound service delivery model can use creative resources to address prevalence of trauma in its population.

Funded through the Wyoming Department of Health, Division of Healthcare Financing (Medicaid), Wyoming’s Care Management Entity uses a care coordination and planning process that brings people together from different areas of a family’s life to form a support team. This team creates steps to help the youth, some of whom may be exiting psychiatric care, to be successful in their homes, schools and communities. Care Management Entity services are an added benefit for youth with complex behavioral health needs, and are provided through Medicaid at no cost to families that qualify.

Magellan Healthcare in Wyoming began in 2015 after being selected by Wyoming Medicaid to administer the Care Management Entity. As of February 2019, Magellan of Wyoming has served 943 youth since the Care Management Entity program began.

The nationally recognized, evidence-based High Fidelity Wraparound service delivery model the Care Management Entity adheres to these and other guiding principles:

- family voice and choice,



- team- and community-based approach,
- natural supports,
- culturally appropriate, and
- individualized strength-based plans of care.

By relying on this model, Wyoming youth who struggle with mental health or behavioral health challenges receive additional care coordination services unique to their specific situations. Care Management Entity services work to teach families skills to manage complex behavioral health needs, and identify additional supports the family can readily access after Care Management Entity program services end.

“Our program is all about supporting youth and their families at home and in their own community whenever possible. People often ask why this is important. It’s important for people to have options fitting their needs,” said Tammy Cooley, Director of Operations for Magellan in Wyoming.

“Meeting people where they are, and creating a team of support that uses a variety of options that works for an individual’s needs is key,” Cooley added.

As the Care Management Entity for youth with complex behavioral health conditions, Magellan of Wyoming trains, certifies and coaches currently over a hundred service providers throughout the state, to deliver High Fidelity Wraparound based services. Providers are skilled Wyoming residents who make a difference in the lives of children throughout the state.

“By providing free training and certification, Magellan of Wyoming offers opportunities for Wyoming youth and adults with lived experience to gain meaningful employment and provide a much needed service in their community,” Cooley said. “After training, Magellan acts as a referral source to our providers so that they may work directly with families to create successful wraparound teams.”

Since the Care Management Entity began in Wyoming, hundreds of youth across the state have benefited from this service delivery model. Services available through the program include family care coordination, adult peer support, youth peer support and respite. The Care Management Entity program helps children and youth stay connect to family, and:

- Develop life skills,
- Keep ties to their communities,
- Supports good health and

Supports youth to become successful adults better able to manage their on-going mental care needs and minimizes their time away from home. “As a home and community-based option, the Care Management entity connects young people to services in their community or via the use of telehealth, helps identify and build lasting support and allows individual access to healthcare where they live,” Cooley said.

The following outcomes will be highlighted at the national Innovations in Wraparound conference next month:

- In 2018, the total Medicaid costs for youth served in psychiatric residential treatment facilities and who had no affiliation with the Medicaid Care Management Entity program cost Medicaid \$58,027 per youth. Care Management Entity enrolled youth who graduated from the program as meeting their goals during 2018 total Medicaid costs were \$14,898 per youth served. Given that both groups of youth meet at least one Medicaid inpatient psychiatric criteria, the cost reduction for youth served in the community is remarkable and demonstrates that community-based alternatives to institutional care can work to help youth remain safely in their communities while reducing costs to Wyoming's Medicaid program.
- For most Wyoming youth participating in the Care Management Entity program, positive changes become most noticeable in the data around the sixth-month enrollment mark. This allows youth, their family and their community supports the time needed to work the model, and develop an individualized plan of care that identifies goals and progress towards those goals.
- Medicaid claims data reveals a decrease in out of home placements for youth enrolled in the Care Management Entity program for six months or more. During 2018, 16 percent (16%) of youth enrolled in the Care Management Entity program were in some type of out of home placement. That is an 8 percent decrease from 2016, when 24 percent (24%) of enrolled youth were in an out of home placement.
- The length of stay in out of home placements has decreased for youth enrolled in the Care Management Entity. During 2018, the length of stay for youth enrolled in High Fidelity Wraparound decreased by 62 percent (62%).
- Readmissions to inpatient psychiatric care for Care Management Entity enrolled youth decreased by 33 percent (33%) from 2015 to 2018. For youth who participated for six months or more and discharged from the program, data shows these same youth continued to avoid admission to inpatient psychiatric care and were able to maintain in the community for at least six months post discharge.

“Studies show youth experiencing behavioral health challenges, in need of additional behavioral support or having complex mental healthcare needs, do much better overall when care is individualized and coordinated with a blend of professional and natural supports, providing positive types of intervention,” Cooley said. “Our High Fidelity Wraparound care coordination model provides people a way to become connected or stay connected to the kinds of individualized support their children need. This doesn't mean a youth will never need hospitalization or that type of intervention. It means there is an additional option available for the kind of on-going support they will need after a hospital stay, better able to remain at home, in school and out of trouble.”

Youth enrolling in the Care Management Entity program must meet at least one Medicaid criteria for inpatient care and must be able to be safely served in the community with adequate services and supports in place. The youth's primary care or mental health treatment professionals attest that the youth can be safely served in the community as part of the enrollment process.

Magellan Healthcare in Wyoming, in collaboration with the Wyoming Departments of Health and Family Services, WyHealth and Care Management Entity providers across the state have worked diligently to keep youth in their homes, in their schools and in their communities.

For more information about Wyoming's Care Management Entity program, visit www.MagellanOfWyoming.com or call 307-459-6159

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Tammy Cooley Bio



Tammy Cooley is the Director of Operations for Magellan Healthcare in Wyoming which oversees High Fidelity Wraparound statewide. Tammy's work began in 2010 as a peer, providing youth and family support and family care coordination. She was among Wyoming's few certified High Fidelity Wraparound coaches which led to creating the state's first agency dedicated to High Fidelity Wraparound in 2013. Tammy's lived experience parenting a child with Social Emotional Disorder, navigating the juvenile justice system and other child serving systems, along with her education and professional management experience, provides exceptional leadership to expand High Fidelity Wraparound across Wyoming.