

Request for Information (RFI) for Equine Therapy

Purpose

The purpose of this Request for Information (RFI) is to gather information from qualified providers and organizations offering Equine Therapy Services. St. Clair County Community Mental Health (SCCCMH) is exploring opportunities to expand access to evidence-based equine therapy programs and services that support the physical, emotional, and behavioral health of youth with serious emotional disturbance and/or serious mental illness.

Through the RFI process, SCCCMMH seeks to better understand the range of available services, program models, staffing qualifications, facilities, structures, pricing and measurable outcomes currently offered in the field. The information collected will be used solely for planning and decision-making purposes and may inform the development of future Request for Proposals (RFP) or other procurement process.

This RFI does not obligate SCCCMMH to contract for any services, nor does it guarantee that a procurement will follow.

SCCCMMH is a provider of Medicaid services and functions as part of Region 10 Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (Region 10 PIHP). The PIHP is comprised of Genesee Health System, Lapeer County Community Mental Health, Sanilac County Community Mental Health, and SCCCMMH. Equine Therapy is intended to be available within the Children's Waiver Program (CWP) and Waiver for Children with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SEDW) service array in St. Clair County or surrounding counties.

General Expectations for Interested Providers

- Interested providers must have the appropriate and necessary agency credentials in order to provide services being sought, or the capacity to obtain.
- Interested providers agree to adhere to the provider enrollment and credentialing policies/procedures of SCCCMMH which includes being a credentialed member of SCCCMMH's Provider Panel through a formal contractual agreement. For additional information, please see SCCCMMH's policy #01-003-0011, *Provider Enrollment and Credentialing*, located on our website at <https://scccmh.org/policy-index/>.
- Interested providers must have sufficient qualified staff currently available to provide the services being sought, or in the alternative, identify an expected timeframe for acquiring qualified staff.

- Interested providers must have the financial capacity to establish, maintain, and/or expand existing service locations in St. Clair or surrounding counties for services being sought.
- Interested providers must currently be, or have the capacity to be, paneled as a Medicaid provider.

General Information

- Due date for RFI response with statement of interest: **Ongoing**
- Anticipated length of contract: TBD – Generally fiscal year to fiscal year with renewal on an annual basis solely at SCCCMH’s discretion.
- Equine Therapy may be billed using G0176.
- Equine services are limited to four therapy sessions per month.

Qualifications

- Must hold a current license in the State of Michigan as an occupational therapist, physical therapist, speech pathologist, clinical social worker, psychologist, or professional counselor.
- Specialized training includes (but is not limited to) the following credentials:
 - Certification by the American Hippotherapy Certification Board
 - Certification by other MDHHS-approved certification boards as follows:
 - The Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International Certified Therapeutic Riding Instructor (PATH Int.)
 - Council for Education and Certification in Therapeutic Horsemanship (CECTH)
 - Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association (Eagala) * Requires two providers and only the clinician can bill G0176
 - OK Corral Series
 - Completion of documented coursework in an applicable training program that is administered by an accredited university and approved by MDHHS. Applicable training programs are identified as:
 - Bachelor of Science in Therapeutic Riding
 - Bachelor of Arts in Equine Assisted Services
 - Bachelor of Science in Equine Therapeutic Horsemanship
 - Minor in Equine Assisted Therapy
 - Minor in Equine Assisted Therapeutic Riding
 - Equine-Assisted Mental Health Practitioner Certificate
 - Psychology with a Concentration in Equine Assisted Psychotherapy (BA)

General Submission of Interest Information

All interest submissions should include the following components:

- Brief overview of the provider's current Equine Therapy service array/history
- General/high level narrative of how the provider would establish the requested services in St. Clair County
- General/high level description of the provider's sustainability plan for new or expanded service sites
- Any supportive documentation the provider may want to include
- All questions and statements of interest should be submitted in writing by email to:

Kimberly Prowse
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