SECTION I – PURPOSE, PRINCIPLES AND GOALS

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health Local Mental Health Plan (LMHP) is to administer all Medi-Cal and State grant funds for Specialty Mental Health services that are in compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and designed to ensure availability and accessibility of quality mental health care for Los Angeles County Medi-Cal beneficiaries. These services include, but are not limited to, mental health assessment; individual, collateral group and family therapy; mental health services in inpatient, outpatient, and residential settings; medication support and psychological testing.

The LMHP is responsible for informing Individual and Group Providers (formerly known as Fee For Service 2) of the specialty mental health services provided by the LMHP, referring Medi-Cal beneficiaries to qualified mental health network providers, maintaining a HIPAA-compliant information system, providing quality management services, processing submitted claims, reimbursement, and evaluating clinical outcomes of mental health services.

PRINCIPLES

The LMHP is governed by the following principles:

- Services are provided to any Medi-Cal eligible individual meeting medical necessity criteria for specialty mental health services;
- Culturally sensitive services are delivered to ethnically diverse populations in the communities in which they are located;
- Services are client-centered, family-focused and culturally competent;
- Treatment is provided to the greatest extent possible in the individual's own community and at the least restrictive but most effective level of care;
- Innovative treatment approaches and clinical practices are utilized to optimize the clinical outcome;
- Possibilities for relapse are reduced through the identification and coordination of ongoing mental health services; and
- Medi-Cal beneficiary's treatment preference and selection of a network provider are honored.

GOALS

- Establish working relationships in a public-private partnership with network providers to provide quality specialty mental health services;
- Maintain a network of skilled and effective network providers selected and retained based on demonstrated clinical performance;
- Match treatment needs to a network provider with specialized skills to address the needs of the Medi-Cal beneficiary;
- Maintain a comprehensive well-managed mental health system to relieve clinical and symptomatic distress; and
- To create hope, wellbeing and recovery that improves the quality of life for Medi-Cal beneficiaries.