



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL



OFFICE OF AUDIT SERVICES, REGION IX
90 - 7TH STREET, SUITE 3-650
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

January 21, 2016

Report Number: A-09-15-02040

Manuel Jimenez Jr., MA, LMFT
Director
Alameda County Behavioral Health Services Agency
2000 Embarcadero Cove, Suite 400
Oakland, CA 94606

Dear Mr. Jimenez:

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Inspector General (OIG), is conducting an audit of California's specialty mental health services (SMHS) program. Our objective is to determine whether the Department of Health Care Services (State agency) complied with certain Federal and State requirements when claiming Federal Medicaid reimbursement for SMHS expenditures. Our audit will include the SMHS expenditures that the State agency claimed for Federal reimbursement from October 1, 2013, through September 30, 2014.

To accomplish our objective, we will review supporting documentation for a statewide random sample of SMHS expenditures. At least one expenditure from the Alameda County Behavioral Health Services Agency was selected for review. A member of my staff will contact you to request the supporting documentation that we will review, give you instructions on how to provide the documentation, and, if necessary, arrange for a site visit. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter and will make every effort to minimize any disruption to the work of your office.

OIG performs independent reviews of HHS programs and operations pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, 5 U.S.C. App. § 4(a)(1). Medicaid providers of services, under the authority contained in section 1902(a)(27) of the Social Security Act, must provide such information as the Secretary of HHS or the appropriate State agency requests regarding payments claimed for services.

Under the health information privacy regulation that implements the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, providing information to us is a permitted disclosure because it (1) is "required by law" to be produced to OIG as part of your participation in a Government benefits program (45 CFR §§ 164.512(a) and 164.103) and (2) will be used for "health oversight" activities by OIG, which meets the definition of a "health oversight agency" (45 CFR §§ 164.512(d) and 164.501).

When transmitting any audit information to OIG's Office of Audit Services over the Internet, please properly safeguard the information. We request that you use the HHS/OIG Delivery Server, not email or attachments to email. Information transmitted through the HHS/OIG Delivery Server complies with Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 140-2, *Security Requirements for Cryptographic Modules*.

We are required to report as a security breach any audit information sent to us that does not meet FIPS 140-2 requirements.

If you have any questions or concerns about our review, please call me at (206) 615-2252 or Troy Butcher, Senior Auditor, at (916) 491-2732. Please refer to report number A-09-15-02040 in all correspondence. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gerald Illies', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gerald Illies
Audit Manager