

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Monday, April 3, 2023



**CONTACT:**

Karina Rivera, Alameda Alliance for Health

510-499-3419

krivera@alamedaalliance.org

---

**ALAMEDA ALLIANCE FOR HEALTH TO INSOURCE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

Effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, Mental Health and Behavioral Health Therapies for Members will be Administered by the Alameda Alliance for Health

**Alameda, CA** – Alameda Alliance for Health (Alliance), the local health plan that administers health care services to more than 350,000 Alameda County residents announced today that it has integrated all mental health services and behavioral health therapies for Alliance Medi-Cal and Group Care members. For nearly the past 10 years, the Alliance has delegated mental health services to Beacon Health Options (Beacon) which administered mild-to-moderate and autism spectrum services to the Alliance’s Medi-Cal members and administered a full set of mental health services for the Alliance’s Group Care members with mild-to-moderate and severe mental illnesses.

Research shows that behavioral health disorders are linked to poor health outcomes. National studies have found that individuals with behavioral health conditions receive less physical health preventive care and lower quality care. With this integration of the Alliance’s primary health care and behavioral health care, members with behavioral health conditions will have improved access to high-quality care. Additionally, this change will reduce the number of touchpoints for Alliance members and providers and allow the health plan to better assist patients directly and streamline the navigation of services. The insourcing of these critical services will also assist with the long-term integration of services between the Alliance and the plan’s Alameda County safety-net partners.

“We know that a significant portion of Americans struggling with mental illnesses do not get treatment when they need it, and that’s a big problem for their overall well-being,” said Alliance CEO Scott. “The integration of these vital services will ensure that our members have better access to quality behavioral health care that will ultimately lead to improved health outcomes.”

Over the last year, the Alliance conducted dozens of listening sessions with Alameda County Agencies and community-based organizations. Their feedback made it clear that insourcing mental health services will reduce barriers to care while improving the health plan’s continuum of mental health care services. Additionally, it will further support whole person care practices at both the health plan and provider levels. The Alliance is encouraged by the opportunity to improve access to mental health & behavioral health therapies and to offer higher quality care and more equitable health outcomes for its members.

To learn more about the Alliance, visit us at <http://alamedaalliance.org/>.

###

### **About Alameda Alliance for Health**

Alameda Alliance for Health (Alliance) is a local, public, not-for-profit managed care health plan committed to making high quality health care services accessible and affordable to Alameda County residents. Established in 1996, the Alliance was created by and for Alameda County residents. The Alliance Board of Governors, leadership staff, and provider network reflect the county's cultural and linguistic diversity. The Alliance provides health care coverage to over 350,000 low-income children and adults through National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) accredited Medi-Cal and Alliance Group Care programs.