

09/10/2022

Hi REDC Members,

Below is your policy update for the week.

Friendly reminder!

REDC Serving as a Supporting Partner for Telehealth Awareness Week

- Telehealth Awareness Week (Sept. 18-24) is quickly approaching and the REDC is a partner org for the event. We welcome REDC members to take part in the #TelehealthIsHealth campaign on social media.
- Attached is the **custom REDC social media graphic** REDC members can use to highlight your role as an endorsing partner. The full social media toolkit for use can be [found here](#).

Parity

REDC Participating in Upcoming Parity Roundtable

- The REDC was invited to participate in an upcoming roundtable hosted by the U.S. Department of Labor on September 23, 2022.
 - Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) Assistant Secretary Khawar will facilitate an open and interactive dialogue to advance parity implementation, best practices, as well as inform EBSA's efforts to ensure individuals enjoy the full protections of MHPAEA.

[Senators Introduce Legislation to Give DOL Authority to Enforce Parity](#)

- The legislation led by Sens. Murphy (D-CT), Smith (D-MN) and Lujan (D-NM) would give DOL the authority to assess civil monetary penalties for violations of mental health parity requirements.

Telehealth

[Inspector General Releases Report on Telehealth Fraud](#)

- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Inspector General issued a report this week showing only a small fraction of Medicare claims for telehealth during the COVID-19 pandemic were at high risk of being fraudulent.
 - The agency watchdog examined claims from 742,000 providers and found 0.2% posed a high risk to Medicare for fraud, waste or abuse.
 - The IG office deemed providers risky if they billed for a large number of telehealth hours or ordered medical equipment

Health Care Capacity for Pediatric Behavioral Health Act (S. 4472)

- The REDC signed onto a letter led by the Children's Hospital Association in support of S. 4472 led by Sens. Casey (D-PA) and Cassidy (R-LA).
- The legislation includes:
 - Supporting community-based pediatric mental health services and innovative solutions to increase care coordination and integration.
 - Investing in the pediatric mental health and addiction workforce through enhanced training.
 - Expanding our national capacity to provide care to children across the continuum of care, including for those who require inpatient treatment and step-down levels of care.

Warm Regards,

Center Road Solutions Team