



April 17th, 2024

To: Yakima County Board of Commissioners

Cc: Melissa Holm

Re: PNWU Behavioral Health Services, Mental Health Sales Tax 2024 Contract (PNWU-BHS-MHST-2024)

To whom it may concern, the below is a report of progress on the PNWU-BHS-MHST project between 1/1/2024 and 4/20/2024. In agreement with the project scope, terms, and conditions, the project team has accomplished the following:

- Dr. Pitonyak has conducted a SWOT analysis and environmental scan of the occupational therapy needs within Triumph Treatment services.
- Dr. Pitonyak has completed onboarding requirements and will soon be trained on the Triumph electronic health record (HER) system so that she can document her services with clients.
- Dr. Pitonyak has provided in-service training to providers at the Triumph site to familiarize them with the role of OT and the services she will be providing to pregnant and parenting women and their children (when applicable).
- Dr. Pitonyak is working on preparing the clinical documentation template. Triumph currently does not have an EHR template that fits the requirements of occupational therapy documentation, so some minor modifications to the existing EHR are needed. This step also included meeting with Triumph staff to plan for eventual coding and billing of OT services.
- Dr. Pitonyak has completed the necessary steps to be able to supervise 4 occupational therapy students on their level IA clinical rotations over the summer.
- Dr. Pitonyak has initiated the ordering of several standardized assessments that are commonly used for occupational therapy initial evaluation in behavioral health settings.

The project is running on schedule and in some areas, is ahead of schedule. In the coming quarter our goals are to have the EHR established for documentation, data collection, and mechanisms developed to capture data for assessing billing and cost of services. Dr. Pitonyak is planning to begin providing services to clients starting this summer.

Sincerely,

Heather Fritz

Associate Professor and Founding Director, School of Occupational Therapy
Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences
200 University Parkway, Yakima WA