This 2014 benefit changes endorsement is made a part of your Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Mexico (BCBSNM) health care plan benefit booklet and Summary of Benefits and replaces or supersedes any previous information you may have received.

Effective on July 1, 2014, the information regarding residential treatment centers, in your benefit booklet has been change/replaced with the following provision.

Covered Services/Providers will include residential treatment centers. Residential treatment centers are covered by this Plan. Preauthorization is required for all admissions before you are admitted to the facility. A residential treatment center is a facility offering a defined course of therapeutic intervention and special programming in a controlled environment which also offers a degree of security, supervision, and structure and is licensed by the appropriate state and local authority to provide such service. It does not include half-way houses, supervised living, group homes, boarding houses, or other facilities that provide primarily a supportive environment and address long-term social needs, even if counseling is provided in such facilities. Patients in residential treatment centers are medically monitored with 24-hour medical availability and 24-hour on-side nursing service for patients with mental illness and/or chemical dependency disorders.

BCBSNM requires that any mental health residential treatment center must be appropriately licensed in the state where it is located or accredited by a national organization that is recognized by BCBSNM as set forth in its current credentialing policy, and otherwise meets all other credentialing requirements set forth in such policy.

The plan excludes:

- Hospitalization or admission to a skilled nursing facility (SNF), nursing home, or other facility for the primary purposes of providing custodial care services, convalescent care, rest cures, or domiciliary care to the patient.
- Services or supplies received during an inpatient stay when the stay is solely related to behavioral, social maladjustment, lack of discipline, or other antisocial actions which are not specially the result of mental illness. Note: This does not include services or supplies provided for the treatment of an injury resulting from an act of domestic violence or a mental condition (including both physical and mental health conditions).
- This plan does not cover custodial care. Custodial care is any service primarily for personal comfort or convenience that provides general maintenance, preventive, and/or protective care without any clinical likelihood of improvement of your condition. Custodial care includes those services which do not require the technical skills, provisional training and clinical assessment
ability of medical and/or nursing personnel in order to be safely and effectively performed. These services can be safely provided by trained or capable non-professional personnel assisting with routine medical needs (e.g. simple care and dressing, admission of routine medication, etc.), and/or assisting with activities of daily living (e.g., bathing, eating, dressing, etc.).