

General Provider Communication

Maricopa County Regional Behavioral Health Authority
Magellan Health Services of Arizona, Inc.

Dear Provider,

The Arizona Department of Health Services/Division of Behavioral Health Services (ADHS/DBHS) has notified Magellan Health Services of Arizona that the National Weather Service (NWS) has issued an Excessive Heat Warning for Northwest Maricopa County, Greater Phoenix Area, Southwest Maricopa County, Northwest and North Central Pinal County, including the cities of Buckeye, New River, Wickenburg, Mesa, Phoenix, Gila Bend, Apache Junction, Casa Grande and Florence. This warning is in effect until 8 p.m. Wednesday, August 25, 2010.

Temperatures are expected to reach 108 to 112 degrees, with heat indices in excess of 115 on Tuesday afternoon. On Wednesday afternoon, temperatures are expected to rise to 106 to 110 with heat indices in excess of 110. Overnight lows will be in the mid 80s to around 90. [CLICK HERE](#) to view the NWS weather message.

In response to this communication, please have outreach staff assist homeless recipients in obtaining water, hats, sunscreen and shade due to the excessive heat. In addition, please implement the following activities as needed:

- Initiate outreach efforts and utilize available clinic staff to assist with communication and welfare checks for recipients who may be at risk of severe health impacts due to extreme heat.
- Advise area hospitals of the excessive heat warning and urge them to consider the extreme weather conditions when discharging recipients.
- Document all actions taken regarding outreach and contact (e.g., checking thermostats during home visits).
- The Maricopa Association of Governments has set up a series of water hydration stations and refuge locations throughout Maricopa County. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to access a printable map with those locations for the recipients that you serve.

For additional information on staying safe in Arizona's sweltering summers [CLICK HERE](#). If you have questions about this communication, please contact Mark Kern, Magellan of Arizona's emergency preparedness administrator, at (602) 652-5915 or via e-mail at MKern@MagellanHealth.com.

Thank you.

