Current Regional Support Networks and Medicaid Covered Lives

2SSB 6312 provides that for purposes of purchasing behavioral health services and medical care services, the Department of Social and Health Services and the Health Care Authority must use common regional service areas. These regional service areas must "include a sufficient number of Medicaid lives to support full financial risk managed care contracting." In response to questions from an affected Regional Support Network (RSN) the Department of Social and Health Services and the Health Care Authority clarified their interpretation of this provision on June 6. Their recommendation is that, in an effort to moderate the risk to the Behavioral Health Organization (BHO) in terms of the impacts of "high use" versus "low use" individuals and to reduce administrative burdens, regional service areas covered by BHO's should contain a minimum of 60,000 to 65,000 Medicaid covered lives.

Current Regional Support Networks	Counties	Medicaid Covered Lives*
King County RSN	King	339,005
North Sound RSN	Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Whatcom	213,708
Greater Columbia RSN	Asotin, Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Garfield, Kittitas, Klickitat, Walla Walla, Yakima	200,482
Spokane County RSN	Adams, Ferry, Grant, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens	193,710
Optum (Pierce County) RSN	Pierce	173,238
Southwest WA Behavioral Health RSN	Clark, Cowlitz, Skamania	124,778
Peninsula RSN	Clallam, Jefferson, Kitsap	64,164
Thurston-Mason RSN	Thurston, Mason	62,743
Chelan-Douglas RSN	Chelan, Douglas	30,567
Timberlands RSN	Lewis, Pacific, Wahkiakum	27,235
Grays Harbor RSN	Grays Harbor	20,727

The RSNs as currently configured, do not all meet this recommended minimum standard. Below, you can see that 3 current RSNs fall below this threshold and two others are very close.

*ProviderOne data for May 2014