**SW Washington and the Vision for Early Integration of Medicaid**

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**Opportunities from the Provider Perspective**

* An opportunity to be an active participant in redesigning the model of care in SW Washington with the goal of ensuring a seamless, integrated care experience for those we serve.
	+ A chance to influence how the system works regionally – allowing more local control before statewide implementation.
* An ability to better reach the “Triple Aim” for providing better care, reducing costs, and achieving identified outcomes.
* The opportunity to focus on the quality of the service rather than spending time estimating the quantity of services that might be needed.
	+ Focus on outcomes, performance and accountability.
* Bringing partners to the table in a meaningful way (Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol, Primary Care) and develop effective relationships with community partners.
	+ Example: Recent Primary Care Partnerships emerging with behavioral health outside of a typical grant opportunity.  A bottom up approach to designing care integration from the needs of the community.
* New possibilities for creativity and streamlining of processes.
* Better identification of populations being served by the agency so that it is clear what the needs are of those populations and what is being brought to the table as a specialty provider.

**Challenges from the Provider Perspective**

* Overcoming the “fear” factor.  There are always concerns in the unknown and SW WA is embarking on a very new way of business for our healthcare community.
* The need to be increasingly flexible as a business and in partnerships.
* Learning to work with multiple entities after being so reliant on the RSN
* Developing a financial reserve for the transition phase.
* Incorporating standardized clinical tools and an outcome measurement approach to treatment.
* Concerns about “gaps” in the continuum of care and how to address during this learning phase.

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