From: Margo Fritz

To: EBSA MHPAEA Request for Comments

Subject: Mental Health Insurance Reimbursement

Date: Saturday, August 19, 2023 12:09:49 AM

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I am a clinical social worker and mental health therapist. I work primarily with queer and trans individuals who have experienced trauma, and many of my clients are in financial distress. In order to make my work accessible, it is important to me to accept insurance, particularly medical assistance. However, it is not feasible for me to manage my own finances while being reimbursed at the rate insurance companies pay out. The number of clients I need to see in order to pay my bills is astronomical and has driven me to my own physical and mental health crises multiple times. Mental health parity and higher reimbursement would allow me to provide consistent, quality care for people in need.

Margo Fritz (she/her/hers)