



**CenCal** HEALTH<sup>®</sup>  
Local. Quality. Healthcare.

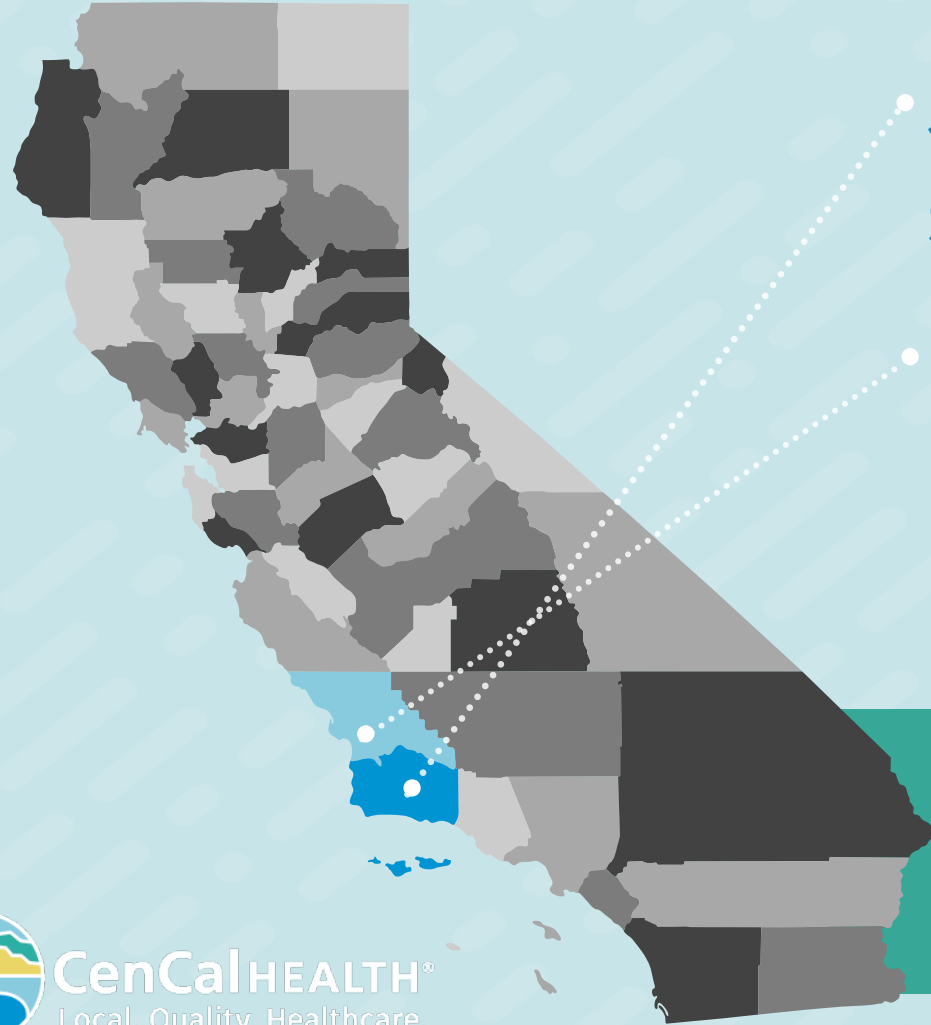
# CenCal Health: Medi-Cal in San Luis Obispo

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CenCal Health  
June 14, 2024

Presentation to the San Luis Obispo Healthcare Workforce

# WHO WE ARE



- Serving Santa Barbara County **since 1983.**

- Serving San Luis Obispo County **since 2008.**



Headquartered in Santa Barbara with San Luis Obispo & Goleta offices.

## Our Mission:

To improve the health and well-being of the communities we serve by providing access to high quality health services, along with education and outreach, for our membership.

## Our Vision:

To be a trusted leader in advancing health equity so that our communities thrive and achieve optimal health together.



# OUR MEMBERSHIP

More than  
240,000 Medi-Cal members

1 in 3

residents of  
Santa Barbara  
County

1 in 4

residents of  
San Luis Obispo  
County



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# Medi-Cal (CenCal Health) vs Medicare

- In Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties, CenCal Health provides Medi-Cal insurance to eligible residents. We are the only Medi-Cal Managed Care Organization in our two counties. Residents qualify for Medi-Cal based primarily on income.
- Medicare is a Federal program with eligibility based on age or disability. Medicare is administered by the federal government, or by a Medicare Advantage health plan.
- Some residents have Medi-Cal (CenCal Health) and Medicare.

# CenCal Health: Member Enrollment

- Residents enroll in Medi-Cal through their local department of social services (DSS). DSS reports eligibility to DHCS, who then tells CenCal Health who our members are each month.
- CenCal Health members are assigned to a primary care provider who serves as their medical home. All CenCal Health members (with a few exceptions) have a primary care provider.
- CenCal Health contracts with all hospitals and most specialists, primary care providers, and ancillary care providers in and around San Luis Obispo County.

# Medi-Cal vs Medicare Reimbursement

- DHCS establishes a Medi-Cal fee schedule for covered services.
- CenCal Health contracts with providers for services provided to Medi-Cal members. CenCal Health reimburses providers directly, mostly above the statewide Medi-Cal fee schedule.
- CenCal Health evaluates provider reimbursement regularly.
- Medicare rates are set by CMS (national level) based on geography, cost to practice, etc. Medicare rates are adjusted annually by CMS based on these factors.

# Local Investment Opportunities

- Timely access to care is a challenge at the local, state, and national level. Regardless of insurance provider, access is strained.
- As a Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan, CenCal Health reinvests in the communities we serve. We are developing a grant program to support access to care including provider recruitment and retention, capacity building, and career pathways.
- There are also opportunities through programs such as FQHC loan forgiveness and local foundations which could be leveraged.



# SLO Workforce Workgroup Opportunities

- Understand local investments and partnerships – pooling of resources towards a set of common causes.
- Provide guidance for where resources can be best utilized.
- Continue to forge unique partnerships between schools, employers, and housing agencies to expand the local healthcare workforce.
- Others?



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