

# Homebuilders

**DRAFT**



## Medicaid Medical Coverage Policy

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## Description

Homebuilders is an evidenced based in-home service program that utilizes clinical strategies (~~eg, such as,~~ motivational interviewing, cognitive and behavioral interventions ~~/therapies,~~ relapse prevention, skills training) for families with children ~~aged 0-18~~ between 0 through 18 years of age, ~~for youth who are~~ at significant risk ~~of for~~ out of home placement, or being reunified from placement. The goals of Homebuilders are to reduce child abuse and neglect, family conflict, and child behavior problems, and improve parenting skills, family interactions, and family safety to prevent the imminent need for placement or successfully reunify children.

### Homebuilders consists of the following:

- Intensity: An average of eight to ten hours per week of face-to-face contact, with telephone contact between sessions. Services average 38 face-to-face hours. Therapists schedule sessions during the day, evening and on weekends with 3-5 or more sessions per week based on safety and intervention needs;
- Duration: Four to six weeks. Extensions beyond four weeks must be approved by the Homebuilders consultant. Two aftercare 'booster sessions' totaling five hours are available in the six months following referral. Additional booster sessions can be approved by the Homebuilders consultant; and

- **Crisis Intervention: Homebuilders therapists are available 24/7 for telephone and face-to-face crisis intervention.**

Homebuilders is provided to members that demonstrate the following characteristics:

- Children/youth with serious behavioral and/or emotional problems in the home, school, and/or community;
- Family members with substance abuse problems, mental health problems, poverty related concerns (lack of adequate housing, clothing, and/or food);
- Babies that were born substance-exposed or considered failure to thrive;
- Teenagers/adolescents that run away from home, have suicidal risk, have attendance and/or behavioral problems at school, have drug and alcohol use, and/or experience parent-teen conflict(s); and/or
- Children/youth who have experienced abuse, neglect, or exposures to violence or other trauma.

~~The Homebuilders® model is designed to eliminate barriers to service while using research-based interventions to improve parental skills, parental capabilities, family interactions, children's behavior, and well-being, family safety, and the family environment.~~

## Coverage Determination

Humana Healthy Horizons in Louisiana members may be eligible under the Plan for **Homebuilders for the following indications:**

- **Child is re-**are characterized as, at least, one of the following:
  - Returning from placement into foster care, group or residential treatment, psychiatric inpatient hospital or juvenile justice facility; **OR**
  - At risk of placement into foster care, group or residential treatment, psychiatric inpatient hospital or juvenile justice facility; **OR**
- ~~Homebuilders is appropriate for~~ **Child and family** are identified with **ANY of the following:** ~~children and families are identified with:~~
  - Academic problems;
  - Caregiver and/or child emotional/behavioral management problems;
  - Delinquency;
  - Family conflict and violence;
  - Incurability;
  - Mental health concerns (depression/mood disorders, anxiety, etc.);

- Parental/caregiver use of physical punishment, harsh, and/or erratic discipline practices;
  - Poor/ineffective parenting skills;
  - Running away;
  - Sibling antisocial behavior;
  - Single parent families;
  - Substance use;
  - Trauma exposure;
  - Truancy; ~~and/or~~
  - Additional topics such as:
    - Lack of education
    - Lack of supports and resources
    - Poverty; or
    - Substandard housing;
- **For children and families engaged in Homebuilders,** treatment plans must **document that the following requirements are met:**
    - Participants ~~engaged in Homebuilders~~ are working on therapeutic goals to improve parenting skills, family functioning, parent/caregiver and children's behavior and emotion management skills, increase safety of all family members, in order for children/youth to live safely at home; **AND**
    - A homework/practice component. ~~Homework shall~~ be individually tailored based on family goals; usually includes practicing skills and implementing interventions

## Coverage Limitations

Humana Healthy Horizons in Louisiana members may **NOT** be eligible under the Plan **for Homebuilders if the provider agency is not an approved Homebuilders provider for Louisiana.**

## References

1. Louisiana Department of Health. Medicaid Services Manual. Chapter 2: Behavioral Health Services. <https://ldh.la.gov/medicaid>. Published March 14, 2017. Updated January 12, 2024.

## Change Summary

09/18/2023: Policy creation

12/11/2023: Changed to new template.

01/16/2024: Minor changes made.

**09/02/2025 Annual Review, No Coverage Change. New Clinical Coverage Policy Template Edits align with state-specific content**