

Updates on Waiver Renewals and Statewide Transition Plan

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Waiver Renewal Overview

- All DD Waivers are approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.
- Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) and the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) work together on approvals and renewals. Together they make the State response.
- Initial approvals are for a period of three years.
- Renewals are issued for five-year periods.

Waiver Renewal Overview, #2

- All three waivers are up for renewal:
 - Adult, Children’s Support, Children’s Residential
- The renewal process can be lengthy
- CMS sends questions and the State issues responses
- If a renewal period is over, the Waiver can be extended while the question and answer period continues.

Status of Two Children's Waivers (Residential and In-Home Support)

- Both renewal applications are pending with CMS.
- CMS issued a joint Request for Additional Information (RAI) for both Waivers.
- The State submitted its most recent draft response to the RAI on 8/26/16.
- Once CMS indicates the draft responses are acceptable, the State must submit the response formally and modify its renewal application accordingly.
- Both Waivers are now operating under 90-day extension periods while CMS and the State discuss issues.
- As long as the discussions are progressing and the State responds timely, CMS should continue the extensions.
- The expiration date of the current renewals was June 30, 2015.

Status of Adult Waiver Renewal

- The State completed and submitted its evidentiary report, which is the first step of the renewal process, on October 28, 2015.
- The evidentiary report describes: review and sampling methods, lists all performance measures; indicates evidence of compliance; and summarizes remediation activities for non-compliance.
- The renewal application must be submitted no later than March 31, 2017. It is the State's intention to submit the application prior to that date.
- To date, CMS found the State in compliance in 5 of 6 areas. Some concerns were expressed about sampling methodology for the review of provider qualifications.
- The expiration date of the current renewal is June 30, 2017.

Status of Adult Waiver Amendment

- The State submitted an Amendment to the Adult Waiver that includes:
 - An increase in the number of Behavior Intervention hours funded per year from 66 to 104 hours
 - An increase in overall Waiver capacity from 19,600 to 20,840 to address the Ligas expansion
 - The addition of the 24-hour stabilization services, and
 - Technical changes regarding standard Medicaid eligibility consistent with the Affordable Care Act.
- The amendment was approved in June 2016. The Division is now preparing a draft Information Bulletin for public comment regarding implementation of behavior intervention increase.

Status of Transition Plan for Home and Community-based Service Rule

- The State submitted its initial draft Statewide Transition Plan in March of 2015.
- CMS provided feedback on the draft plan.
- HFS published a second draft of the plan for public comment. The public comment period has ended.
- HFS continues to respond to CMS regarding draft plan.
- Concurrently, HFS asked providers to complete a self-assessment of the level of compliance of their residential and day program sites.
- The State is now conducting site visits to those sites that were reported to be out of compliance and a sample of those sites that were reported to be at various levels of compliance.

Questions?

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Presentation: Flexible Day Services