



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

JAMES K. HAVEMAN
DIRECTOR

August 1, 2014

NAME
TITLE
ADDRESS
CITY STATE ZIP

Dear Tribal Chair and Health Director:

RE: Notice of Intent to Submit a §1915(b)/(c) Waiver Application for the MI Health Link Program

This letter, in compliance with Section 6505 of the Affordable Care Act, serves as notice of intent to all Tribal Chairs and Health Directors of the request by the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) to submit an application for a new §1915b/c waiver for the MI Health Link program to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). If the waiver is approved by CMS, the effective date of the program will be January 1, 2015.

The purpose of this waiver is to coordinate supports and services for individuals who are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid and reside in any of the four MI Health Link regions in Michigan. Medicare and Medicaid supports and services will be provided through managed care organizations called Integrated Care Organizations (ICOs) under contract with CMS and MDCH. All enrolled individuals may receive Medicaid State Plan physical health care supports and services through the MI Health Link §1915(b) waiver. MI Health Link Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) is a §1915(c) waiver that operates concurrently with the MI Health Link §1915(b) waiver. The MI Health Link HCBS waiver offers HCBS to MI Health Link enrollees who are elderly and/or physically disabled and meet nursing facility level of care.

The MI Health Link §1915b/c waiver applications may be viewed at: www.michigan.gov/mihealthlink.

Medicaid policy requires the Nursing Facility Level of Care Determination (NFLOCD) tool to be completed for all individuals residing in nursing facilities or to determine whether individuals are eligible for applicable HCBS waiver programs. The NFLOCD will be required for the MI Health Link §1915b/c waiver. MDCH is developing a process to identify the entity that will be conducting the NFLOCD for this program. For the waivers, CMS requires the NFLOCD process to be conflict-free, meaning the individuals authorizing and providing services must not also be responsible for eligibility and NFLOCD determination unless final approval for eligibility and nursing facility level of care is provided by the State, or an external entity conducts the NFLOCD assessment and makes the determination whether the individual meets or does not meet nursing facility level of care. MDCH has requested grant funding to procure an entity or entities to conduct the NFLOCD. If MDCH does not obtain grant funding, ICOs will conduct the NFLOCD and MDCH will have final approval for nursing facility level of care determinations.

You may submit comments regarding this Notice of Intent to msapolicy@michigan.gov. If you would like to discuss the Notice of Intent, please contact Lorna Elliott-Egan, MDCH Liaison to the Michigan Tribes. Lorna can be reached at (517) 373-4963 or via e-mail at Elliott-EganL@michigan.gov.

There is no public hearing scheduled for these waiver applications.

Sincerely,



Stephen Fitton, Director
Medical Services Administration

cc: Keri Toback, Region V, CMS
Leslie Campbell, Region V, CMS
Pamela Carson, Region V, CMS
Ashley Tuomi, MHPA, Executive Director, American Indian Health and Family Services of
Southeastern Michigan
L. John Lufkins, Executive Director, Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc.
Jenny Jenkins, Acting Area Director, Indian Health Service - Bemidji Area Office
Lorna Elliott-Egan, MDCH

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August 1, 2014**

Mr. Levi Carrick, Sr., Tribal Chairman, Bay Mills Indian Community
Ms. Vicki Newland, Health Director, Bay Mills (Ellen Marshall Memorial Center)
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Ms. Loi Chambers, Health Director, Grand Traverse Band Ottawa/Chippewa
Mr. Kenneth Meshigaud, Tribal Chairman, Hannahville Indian Community
Ms. G. Susie Meshigaud, Health Director, Hannahville Health Center
Mr. Donald Shalifoe Sr., President, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
Ms. Carole LaPointe, Health Director, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community - Donald Lapointe Health/Educ Facility
Mr. James Williams, Jr., Tribal Chairman, Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
Ms. Sadie Valliere, Health & Human Services Director, Lac Vieux Desert Band
Mr. Larry Romanelli, Ogema, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Ms. Jessica Burger, Acting Health Director, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Mr. Fred Kiogima, Tribal Chairman, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
Ms. Sharon Sierzputowski, Health Director, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa
Mr. DK Sprague, Tribal Chairman, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Potawatomi Indians (Gun Lake Band)
Ms. Phyllis Davis, Health Director, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Potawatomi
Mr. Homer Mandoka, Vice Tribal Chairman, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians
Ms. Rosalind Johnston, Health Director, Huron Potawatomi Inc.- Tribal Health Department
Mr. John Warren, Tribal Chairman, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
Mr. Matt Clay, Health Director, Pokagon Potawatomi Health Services
Mr. Dennis V. Kequom Sr, Tribal Chief, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Ms. Diana Quigno-Grundahl, Interim Health Director, Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center
Mr. Aaron Payment, Tribal Chairman, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
Ms. Bonnie Culfa, Health Director, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians - Health Center

CC: Leslie Campbell, Region V, CMS
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