

November 24, 2014

<Organization Name>
<Organization Address1>
<Organization Address2>
<Organization City> <state> <zipcode5-zip4>

Dear Interested Party:

RE: Michigan's Draft Statewide Transition Plan for Home and Community-Based Settings

The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) provides Home and Community-Based Services to individuals served by Medicaid. These services support Michigan citizens with disabilities or other health issues to live in the community, rather than in institutions. The Department offers many of these services through "waivers," which are approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services recently released a new rule for Home and Community-Based Services waivers. The new rule, known as CMS 2249-F/2296-F, establishes requirements for Home and Community-Based settings under the §1915(c), §1915(i), and §1915(k) Medicaid authorities. The purpose of this rule is to improve the experience of individuals in these waiver programs by promoting greater access and integration with the community. The new rule can be found online at: www.medicare.gov >> Medicaid >> By Topic >> Long-Term Services and Supports >> Home & Community Based Services.

MDCH has five §1915(c) waivers that are impacted by the new rule. They are:

- Children's Waiver Program
- Habilitation Supports Waiver
- MI Choice Waiver
- MI Health Link Program
- Waiver for Children with Serious Emotional Disturbance

The Michigan Department of Community Health developed a draft statewide transition plan for bringing these waivers into compliance with the new rule. The draft statewide transition plan can be found online at: www.michigan.gov/mdch >> Health Care Coverage >> Home and Community-Based Services Program Transition >> Draft Statewide Transition Plan.

Please note that the MI Health Link program is not included in the statewide transition plan. Because the §1915(c) waiver for the MI Health Link program is a new waiver, the MI Health Link waiver must be in immediate compliance with the final rule.

The Department released the draft plan for public comment on November 24, 2014 and will be accepting comments until December 24, 2014. You may submit comments regarding the transition plan covered by this notice by e-mail to HCBSTransition@michigan.gov or by mail to:

Attention: HCBS Program Transition
Medicaid Policy
Michigan Department of Community Health
P.O. Box 30479
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7979

All comments on this topic should include a "HCBS Transition Plan Comment" reference somewhere in the written submission or in the subject line if an e-mail is used. Comments and related responses will be available at the above website following the end of the comment period. Please list or summarize your comments in a document or email. **Please do not submit an electronic version of the draft statewide transition plan using the "track changes" function.**

The purpose of this review and comment on the draft statewide transition plan is to develop and implement the best plan and process possible for review and assessment of settings. Discussion regarding evidence that a particular setting is "home and community-based" and/or similar comments will not be considered. Please limit your comments to the content of the draft plan.

The Michigan Department of Community Health will submit the final version of these documents to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for approval on January 16, 2015. At that time, the final version of these documents will be posted online.

There is no public hearing scheduled for the draft transition plan.

We thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen Fitton".

Stephen Fitton, Director
Medical Services Administration