



STATE OF MICHIGAN

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

ELIZABETH HERTEL
DIRECTOR

April 3, 2025

NAME
TITLE
ADDRESS
CITY STATE ZIP

Dear Tribal Chair and Health Director:

RE: Submission of Amendment for Children's Waiver Program (CWP)

This letter, in compliance with Section 1902(a)(73) and Section 2107(e)(1)(C) of the Social Security Act, serves as notice to all Tribal Chairs and Health Directors of the intent by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to submit a Children's Waiver Program (CWP) amendment request to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

MDHHS will be revising the assessment tools and eligibility determination process used for CWP. This change will allow Tribal Citizens and Native Americans increased access to Medicaid home and community-based services as a result of the aforementioned changes. MDHHS anticipates that the quality and effectiveness of Medicaid home and community-based services will increase as a result of strengthening statewide oversight of the assessment and eligibility determination process. Finally, these changes will not disrupt or delay access to services for Tribal Citizens and Native Americans and may instead reduce barriers to access in some circumstances. The anticipated effective date of this waiver amendment is October 1, 2025.

MDHHS scheduled two public hearing dates for this waiver amendment. The dates are listed below:

- Monday, April 28, 2025, 9:30 am to 11 am
- Monday, May 5, 2025, 12:30 pm to 2 pm

Information on the public hearings will be posted on the MDHHS website at the following location:

www.michigan.gov/mdhhs >> Keeping Michigan Healthy >> Adult Behavioral Health & Developmental Disability >> Mental Health >> Medicaid Waivers >> Children's Waiver Program

Input regarding this waiver amendment is highly encouraged, and comments regarding this notice of intent may be submitted to Lorna Elliott-Egan, MDHHS Liaison to the Michigan tribes. Lorna can be reached at 517-512-4146, or via email at Elliott-EganL@michigan.gov. **Please provide all input by May 19, 2025.** Copies of the proposed waiver amendment will also be available on the MDHHS website at the following location:

www.michigan.gov/mdhhs >> Keeping Michigan Healthy >> Adult Behavioral Health & Developmental Disability >> Mental Health >> Medicaid Waivers >> Children's Waiver Program

In addition, MDHHS is offering to set up group or individual consultation meetings to discuss the waiver, according to the tribes' preference. Consultation meetings allow tribes the opportunity to address any concerns and voice any suggestions, revisions, or objections to be relayed to the author of the proposal. If you would like additional information or wish to schedule a consultation meeting, please contact Lorna Elliott-Egan at the telephone number or email address provided above.

MDHHS appreciates the continued opportunity to work collaboratively with you to care for the residents of our state.

An electronic copy of this letter is available at www.michigan.gov/medicaidproviders >> Policy, Letters & Forms.

Sincerely,



Meghan E. Groen
Chief Deputy Director
Health Services

CC: Keri Toback, CMS
Nancy Grano, CMS
Chasity Dial, CEO, American Indian Health and Family Services of Southeastern Michigan
Asha Petoskey, Acting Area Director, Indian Health Service - Bemidji Area Office
Lorna Elliott-Egan, MDHHS

Distribution List for L 25-18
April 3, 2025

Ms. Whitney Gravelle, President, Bay Mills Indian Community
Ms. Lucy DeWildt, Health Director, Bay Mills (Ellen Marshall Memorial Center)
Ms. Sandra Witherspoon, Chairperson, Grand Traverse Band Ottawa & Chippewa Indians
Ms. Sonya Zotigh, 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. RD Curtis, Tribal President, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
Ms. Deanna Foucault, 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
Mr. Daryl Wever, Health Director, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Ms. Regina Gasco, Tribal Chairman, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
Ms. Jodi Werner, Health Director, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa
Mr. Bob Peters, Chairman, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Potawatomi Indians (Gun Lake Band)
Ms. Phyllis Davis, Tribal Council Member, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Potawatomi
Ms. Mariah Austin, Tribal Council Member, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Potawatomi
Ms. Dorie Rios, Tribal Chairperson, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians
Ms. Rosalind Johnston, Health Director, Huron Potawatomi Inc.- Tribal Health Department
Mr. Matthew Wesaw, Tribal Chairman, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
Ms. Priscilla Gatties, Interim Health Director, Pokagon Potawatomi Health Services
Mr. Tim Davis, Tribal Chief, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Mrs. Karmen Fox, Executive Health Director, Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center
Mr. Austin Lowes, Tribal Chairperson, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
Mr. James Benko, Health Director, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians - Health Center

CC: Keri Toback, CMS
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Asha Petoskey, Acting Area Director, Indian Health Service - Bemidji Area Office
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